



HOWARD LAKE • WAVERLY • WINSTED

NATE WALBRUCH, SUPERINTENDENT

8700 CTY RD 6 SW • PO BOX 708 • HOWARD LAKE, MN 55349

PHONE: 320-543-4646 • FAX: 320-543-4630

Board Members,

Please see the report below for the School Board Meeting on 6/10/24

End of the School Year - I cannot believe the 2023 - 2024 school year is over! Our students worked very hard and learned so much throughout the year. Congrats to our staff for continuing to hone their craft and be present for our students. I am proud of our district's work and efforts throughout the year. We are excited for what the future holds for our district and wish the graduates of 2024 the best of luck on their journey!

Budget Work - Thank you for the continued and on-going discussion about the district's budget for this year and beyond. I continue to appreciate the tone we consistently use to talk about these difficult issues. Our team continues to search for the elusive balance to the budget. I do believe the reductions proposed, combined with adjustments to our overall programming starting the 25-26 school year, will put us on a sustainable, balanced footing moving into the future. There are more details to iron out, but I would be interested in the Board taking action on programmatic changes (like grade-level buildings) in the early Fall to enable plenty of time to make plans.

Negotiations - We have a tentative agreement with the paraprofessional group. Their team has been great to work with and I am grateful for their willingness to engage in direct, productive conversations throughout the process. The Negotiations Team will continue working with the remaining employee groups to settle wise working agreements. Thank you to the team for the extra time and effort they put towards negotiations!

Community Work - The end of the school year enjoys many chances to put our school and students on display! I participated in the 10th grade Como Zoo field trip, the Woitala Fishing expo, Laker Youth Softball tournament, various end-of-year concerts, and Graduation. Our students and staff continue to make our community proud in so many ways! They are a credit to the district. I also acknowledge that many of these activities require a lot of additional effort on the part of staff, students and community members.

Strategic Plan - With a finalized Strategic Plan, we will begin going to work on embedding the goals and core beliefs into the day-to-day work of the school. These efforts should be on display in reports, meeting agendas, professional development and more.