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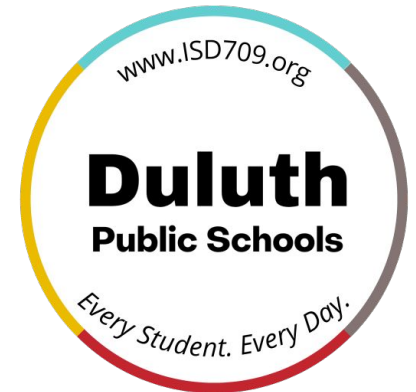
Duluth

Public Schools

Every Student. Every Day.

Superintendent's Report

June 16, 2026



OUR MISSION

Every student, every day will be empowered with learning opportunities for growth, creativity and curiosity, in preparation for their future in a global community.

OUR VISION

Duluth Public Schools provides an academically engaging, safe and inclusive environment with high expectations and responsible use of resources.

OUR CORE VALUES

Learning



Developing a love of learning through life-long inquiry.

Excellence



Having high standards for all through accountability, integrity and authenticity.

Equity



Creating conditions of justice, fairness and inclusion so all students have access to the opportunities to learn and develop to their fullest potential.

Collaboration



Working in partnership with staff, families, students and community.

Belonging



Providing a welcoming and accessible environment where everyone feels safe, seen and heard.

Topics

- 2026 Student Representative Reports
 - Osiris Garcia Henderson- ALC
 - Tamia Bowles - Denfeld
 - Kalina Mattila - East
- Year End and Graduation Updates
- Budget Updates
- Duluth Leadership Team Work Session Update
- Cabinet Work Session Update
- First Street Building Naming Update
- Other

Student Representative Reports

Year End and Graduation Updates

Budget Update

General Fund Budget Reductions

Tonight, we will seeking approval of our 2026-27 budget.

- **Current Situation:** Navigating a \$4 million budget gap for the 2026-2027 school year
- **Contributing Factors:** Significant cost increases, including a 15% rise in insurance premiums, and funding formulas not keeping pace with inflation
- **Actions Taken:** District reduced administrative and operational costs by over 16% and reduced school site staffing by 5% (48 teachers and support staff)

Financial History & Future Outlook

- **Budget Cuts to Date:**
 - 2024-2025: \$2.6 million
 - 2025-2026: \$5 million
 - 2026-2027: \$4.2 million
- **Projected Future Cuts:**
 - \$5-7 million gap expected for 2027-2028, regardless of potential referendum outcome
 - Potential for additional \$5-7 million cuts for 2028-2029 if the potential referendum does not pass

Seeking Community Feedback

Launching a community survey to seek feedback on a potential operational levy:

- **Purpose:** To gather community feedback regarding the district's capital plans and potential referendum needs
- **Objective:** Understand priorities related to operational levies, staffing, and student supports

Survey Focus Area

- [Introductory Video](#)
- **Operational Levy Support:** Evaluating community sentiment on increasing levies to maintain staffing and student programming
- **Student Supports & Outcomes:** Identifying perceived value of funding for direct student services
- **Financial Tolerance:** Determining tax impact thresholds for the community (assessing willingness to support different monthly tax levels for various district outcomes)

Duluth Leadership Team Work Session Update

DLT Work Session Update

8:30 - 8:45	Opening Reflection
8:45 - 9:20	What have we accomplished?
9:20 - 10:10	What do we need to do?
10:25 - 10:55	Team Building Activity
10:55 - 11:45	Budget Realities and Referendum
11:30 - 11:45	Interview Structures
11:45 - 12:00	Next Steps & Closure
1:00 - 3:30	Elementary Instructional Leadership Team
1:00 - 2:00	Secondary Instructional Leadership Team

Cabinet Work Session Update

Cabinet Work Session Update

1. Welcome and Opening Activity (*15 minutes*) 8:30
2. Reflection and Celebration (*25 minutes*) 8:45
3. 2025-26 Operational Plan Close Out (*45 minutes*) 9:15
4. Break (*10 minutes*) 10:15
5. 2026-27 Operational Plan Reset (*45 minutes*) 10:30
6. Lunch (*30 minutes*) 11:30
7. Action Card Development (*75 minutes*) 12:00
8. Cabinet Team Development (*90 minutes*) 1:30
9. Wrap-Up and Closing Activity (*15 minutes*) 3:00

First Street Building Naming Update

First Street Building Naming Update

The initial name proposed to the board was Duluth Central Education Services and Ethel Ray Nance Welcome Center.

After discussion at the Human Resources / Business Services Meeting, we decided to pause in moving forward with a naming for this month's meeting to allow more time to ensure for a full and inclusive process.

Considering the name that include Central, we also wanted to reach out to the alumni association's for their thoughts on the use of the word in the title. We contacted the association co-founder and board chair, who sent it to their board. She did not receive any negative feedback and we are conducting a poll on their FaceBook group page.

Questions