



HOWARD LAKE • WAVERLY • WINSTED

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3/11/24

Board Members,

Please see the report below for the School Board Meeting on 3/11/24

Strategic Plan: We have closed the survey window! I have not seen the final reports; however, Ms. Gilman has reported a good response rate for the surveys. Additionally, we had good participation from the various stakeholder groups during our Listening Sessions. Also, we have around 45 individuals invited (most have confirmed) to participate in our planning sessions beginning on 3/14. Ms. Gilman will be taking us through her Stakeholder report as well as initial planning steps during the first session.

Staffing: We continue to look at planning for staffing next year. As with all things, costs are rising! We are continuing to find efficiencies in our workforce and to look for ways to better manage time and work flow while also providing a great experience for all of our students.

Budget: Megan has completed the budget revision and created some projections for the coming years. We continue to be grateful for the trust given us by our citizens, especially regarding the operating levy. We will need to continue to be prudent with our resources and careful in any new programs we decide to undertake. Also, we are looking at ways to increase our revenues through grants, renegotiated leases and more.

Advocacy: With the Legislative session now in full swing, advocacy groups are working for the benefit of schools. MSBA's platform centers on increasing the funding formula another 2% this year, fully funding unemployment insurance and the Read Act, expanding LTFM fund uses, providing clarity for SROs, allowing greater flexibility for high school credit attainment and changes to MCA score reporting. If any of these issues are important to you, please connect with our local officials. You can educate yourself on these topics by visiting [MSBA's webpage](#). MREA is pushing for changes to teacher compensation, adjusting various legislative actions from 2023 (unemployment, SROs, Read Act), increasing aid to districts while reducing mandates. You can view the full MREA effort by clicking [HERE](#).