



HOWARD LAKE • WAVERLY • WINSTED

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HLWW School Board Members:

The superintendent report for the October 6th, 2025 school board meeting includes the following highlights tied to our four strategic plan focus areas:

Student Achievement and Well Being

- FastBridge testing is now complete for the fall testing window and our staff are busy analyzing the data to help make informed decisions about how to best meet the needs of their students. This is year 2 of implementation of this testing and as with any new assessment data, the understanding of what it tells us about our students continues to be something that our PLC teams work together to be able to interpret most effectively.
- We have an exciting week ahead of us as it is Homecoming Week in HLWW schools. The student energy promises to be high throughout the week and we look forward to high levels of participation in the activities planned for the week. Progress continues to be made on the hall painting project throughout the high school and I have even joined in on a couple of occasions to support the work of our art classes, something that I have enjoyed immensely.

Effective Resource Management

- We continue to closely monitor our enrollment data and will be looking to analyze class size data in the coming weeks to prepare for initial budget planning conversations with the board in mid-November following the completion of the 2025 financial audit.
- Our administrative team has been vetting vendors who provide facility audit services and we will be bringing up to 3 potential vendors for review to our Facility Committee on October 20th. The plan would be to consider a recommendation to the full school board at one of our November meetings.

Family Partnership and Community Engagement

- As was shared in last week's Friday's 5 update, I had the opportunity to convene a group of stakeholders in a newly formed FFA Leadership Council

aimed at helping to support the work of the FFA program during this important time of transition that the program is experiencing. This group includes representatives from each of the key stakeholder groups that are essential to this foundational program for HLWW schools, specifically: parents/alumni, school board, students, staff and administration. I was so impressed with the collaborative spirit that this group engaged in as we discussed the immediate future as well as identified key steps to ensure the future success of these learning experiences for our students. I look forward to our continued work together and I am confident that this group will undoubtedly be able to create a bright future for the FFA program.

Staff Development and Support

- We will have our first late start of the year on Friday and our teachers will be focusing their staff development time working in their PLC teams to engage in analysis of assessment data including FastBridge data and classroom assessment data, as they reflect on what they have learned about their students in these first few weeks of school. Utilizing the collaborative process is essential to help our staff collaboratively identify strategies to help our students.
- At a recent District leadership team meeting a number of staff reported some very positive applications of the recent training that was held during workshop week involving utilizing AI as a tool to create differentiated learning opportunities for students based upon their unique learning needs. Additionally, staff reported how AI has helped them to create relevant and engaging lessons for students when a particular approach did not seem to be reaching the intended outcomes. This utilization of AI as a teaching tool was exactly the focus of the learning and I am so impressed with these examples of application of their learning and such great examples of our staff continuing to embrace learning themselves and serving as role models for our students.