

JOSEPH CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2

Navajo County, Arizona

Superintendent's Report to the Governing Board

Shannon Harvilla, Superintendent • July 14, 2026

Entry and Transition

I officially began as Superintendent on July 6 and have relocated to the community. My focus in these first weeks has been straightforward: listen before acting. I have been meeting individually with board members and with staff to understand how this district works, what it values, and where it needs support.

Joseph City has been welcoming, and I am grateful for the time people have given me. I intend to keep that pace of listening through the opening of school and to bring the board a more complete set of observations once I have earned the right to offer them.

Professional Development

Last week I attended new superintendent training, which provided a valuable grounding in Arizona's statutory framework, school finance structure, and governance expectations — particularly useful given that I am new to this state.

Last evening the board and I participated in board/superintendent training together. I appreciated the board's investment of time. Establishing shared expectations early, and building the working relationship deliberately rather than by accident, is time well spent.

Personnel

I am pleased to welcome two key additions to the district's leadership team:

Pamela Dean joins us as Elementary Principal and Special Education Director.

Caleb Layden joins us as Business Manager.

Both roles are central to the district's instructional strength and fiscal stability, and I am glad to have them on board as we prepare for the year.

FY27 Budget

The FY27 proposed budget is before the board for adoption this evening. It reflects reductions across Maintenance & Operations, Unrestricted Capital, and the Classroom Site Fund, driven by continued enrollment decline and the loss of local tax base.

I have reviewed the budget and its supporting documentation, and I am prepared to answer the board's questions this evening.

Opening of Schools

The first day for returning teachers is **Tuesday, July 29**. We will hold a welcome meeting in the Auditorium at **9:00 a.m.** All board members are invited and encouraged to attend — it is a good opportunity to greet staff as we begin the year together.

Looking Ahead

My near-term priorities are to complete my entry conversations, ensure we open school strong and fully staffed, and develop a working understanding of the district's financial position sufficient to give this board honest, useful guidance.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Harvilla, Superintendent