



CENTER CASS SCHOOL DISTRICT 66

Challenge. Inspire. Empower.

LAKEVIEW JR HIGH SCHOOL

PRAIRIEVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

ELIZABETH IDE SCHOOL

Tom Tiede- Director of Transportation/Buildings & Grounds

November 2025 Board Report

Buildings & Grounds

It seems that the transition from getting the schools started and the year “off its feet” to planning for the following summer's work happens quicker and quicker. Dr. Wise, WOLD and I continue to work and fine tune concepts for improving the parking, traffic flow and overall safety and effectiveness for the constant flow of traffic in and out of the PV/LV campus. Dan and the team at WOLD should have an update for the board at December's meeting about next steps and what the next summer's options will look like for the first phase of improvements.

In addition to the parking lot work, tonight I ask the board to approve the bid process for the replacement of the remaining sections (1,2,3) of roofing at Lakeview to be completed this summer of 2026. Due to our continued diligence on maintenance and past positive IR scans of the existing roof, we are calling for a “retrofit” of the current roof sections, which essentially allows us to re-use the existing dry roof membrane and insulation and add on a new modified section on top. This solution is the most cost effective and “bang for the buck” as it will provide us with a 30 year warranty of the material without doing a full removal and replacement. We will approve the low bid contractor at the December board meeting for a June 2026 start.

On a smaller scale, we are continuing to develop plans to improve Gym1 at Lakeview with more firm plans and costs at the December meeting. Plans will include flooring replacement, Lighting, Audio & Video upgrades & capabilities, as well as a retrofit scoreboard system or the implementation of a new scoreboard system using the new A/V upgrades.

Transportation

During the week of October 20th, we took part in **National School Bus Safety Week** in which drivers took time to re-teach facets of school bus safety and where we capped off Friday 10/24 as our “Driver Appreciation Day.” We are so thankful for TEAM66 & Building PTO's that teamed up to spoil our drivers with a breakfast during the week as well as the countless cards, pictures, letters and other tokens of appreciation given throughout the week from students, teachers and parents alike. Thank you to all who participated in making it a very special week and thank you to our dedicated group of drivers.

Tonight you will see a small presentation of some considerations to talk over and explore over the next month or more involving potentially adding & enforcing a “walk zone” to our schools. As I have mentioned in many previous meetings over at least the last 5-6 years, finding, recruiting & retaining school bus drivers has been a challenge not only for us and our immediate neighboring communities but also a challenge nationwide as we continue to face a shortage of new interested drivers. Despite raising pay, our last two drivers were actually already district employees in house who stepped up to help. While the goal is always to find additional drivers, and will still remain the goal, we need to as a district recognize that in order to continue to provide transportation for our students with special needs, early childhood students & those furthest from their school buildings, that we may need to limit the transportation offerings for those closest to their school of attendance. This practice is widely used throughout the state and something we have been able to stave off until now due to the dedication of our staff, clever routing and maximizing our resources. While I hope to have the transportation fully staffed now and for the foreseeable future, it would be ignorant of us to not face the real possibility of a shortage and have a plan to implement if and when that plan is needed. Feedback from tonight and the coming weeks will then allow fine tuning of the possible walk zones and also influence the fleet plan for 2026-2027 at the December BOE meeting.