



Dr. Klint W. Willert, Superintendent
Sonja Ortman, MS/HS Principal
Jennifer Moravetz, Elementary Principal
Len Burzynski, Maintenance Director
Lisa Pease, Coordinator of Curriculum, Teaching & Learning, and Continuous Improvement

Jacque Kennedy, Business Manager
Rick Zollner, Activities Director
Josh Stukel, Technology Director
Kim Tuin, Food Service Director

Elementary School Board Report

Monday, August 25, 2025

- **Portrait of a Graduate (POG)**

- Our Elementary Leadership Team, along with the Middle School/High School Leadership Team, met on Monday, August 18th, and Tuesday, August 19th, to continue our work on the Portrait of a Graduate (POG). This was a very productive work session, and our teams are committed to continuing this important work throughout the school year. Staff are excited about POG and the opportunities it creates for our students and the broader community.

- **Back to School Family Connections Conferences**

- Back to School Family Connections Conferences will take place on Wednesday, August 27, 2025 from 10am - 7:30pm. This year, our back-to-school conferences will include a strong focus on building family connections. Teachers will meet individually with students and their families prior to the start of the school year to begin forming positive relationships and open lines of communication. These conferences provide an opportunity for families to share any important information that will help us support each student's success. By starting the year with these intentional connections, we aim to strengthen trust, foster collaboration between home and school, and ensure every child feels known and supported from day one.

"Inspire life-long learners. Build Character. Prepare them for their future."



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- **Book for Kids**

- During our upcoming Family Connections Conferences, all families have the opportunity to receive free books to take home. These books come from our collection of materials connected to the previous literacy series (Journeys). Rather than letting these resources sit unused or be thrown out, we are putting them directly into the hands of students and families to encourage at-home reading and build family literacy connections.

- **Elementary Flag Pole**

- I am so excited to share the addition of the new flagpole to the elementary playground in partnership with the American Legion. The flag pole is located on the northwest end of the elementary playground. This addition will create a meaningful space for students to honor our country and practice citizenship. The school community will gather around the flagpole for the Pledge of Allegiance, fostering a sense of unity, pride, and shared purpose among all students.

- **Communication Board**

- The new communication board has been installed on the elementary playground. This board provides students with visual supports and symbols to help them express themselves and interact with peers and staff during play. It will be especially helpful for students with limited verbal communication, but it is designed for use by all children. The communication board promotes inclusion, accessibility, and positive social interactions for every student during recess and outdoor activities.

- **New SPED Classroom**

- This summer we added a new Special Education classroom to better meet the needs of our students. This project involved constructing a wall within the elementary library to create an additional instructional space. The new room will serve as the dedicated classroom for Ms. Morgyn Carson and her students, providing a more structured and

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PIPESTONE AREA SCHOOLS District No. 2689

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supportive learning environment. This addition allows us to maximize our existing space while ensuring that our students in special education have access to the resources and learning conditions they need to be successful.

- **Volleyball Net**

- We have added a new volleyball net to the elementary playground. It is located on the west side of the playground and provides students with an additional opportunity for physical activity, teamwork, and play during recess.

- **New staff at the Elementary**

- Anne McGee - Elementary Counselor
- Emma Hoff - Colony Teacher
- Cierra Hoff - 1st Grade Teacher
- Lindsey Horner - 3rd Grade Teacher
- Shawn Ranek - ML Teacher
- Haley Langswierdt - Title Teacher
- Sandi Ford - Paraprofessional
- Lisa Koehn - Paraprofessional
- Hope Langsweirdt - Paraprofessional

Current Enrollment for the Upcoming School Year

Preschool 3/4 year old	43	Preschool 4/5 year old	43	JK	32
Kindergarten	68	1st Grade	85	2nd Grade	91
3rd Grade	76	4th Grade	84	5th Grade	83
Colony	14				Total Enrollment: 613

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