

Admin Reports to the Board

August 2026

Kyle Luedtke Superintendent	• On August 7 while participating on the WASB Insurance Plan Trustees and Advisory Committee the preferred vendors reported on the trends on the insurance industry. For all insurance needs the number of providers is decreasing based on your location. Health insurance coverage proposals are becoming available later and later annually. Property insurance is an area school districts are decreasing their cost by risking coverage in the state of need. Referendum passing/not passing are directly affecting school districts' approach to insurance due to cost. • For 26-27 our insurance carrier for dental and vision will be Reliance Standard. Reliance Standard already provides our life, volunteer life, short and long term disability and accident insurance. There was an 8% rate increase however this is a 2-year agreement. • I have stopped by a couple of local businesses to inquire if a representative from their company would talk about their company and industry with our careers class and assist us with mock interviews in February. The reception I have received has been favorable. • I'm in the middle of a series of suicide prevention training sessions with R.A.C.E. This program was recommended by Jerry Tischler. Emily Stauty is also participating. After the series we may incorporate a portion into an all staff training in the future.
Erin Hansford Elementary Principal	• As we continue to navigate annual curriculum budgets, we chose to make an adjustment to our current iReady Math Curriculum package in our 5 year renewal. iReady offers an adaptive practice feature called "MyPath" that customizes digital instruction and practice modules for individual students based on their diagnostic assessments. The newest version of iReady has a similar digital practice feature embedded into the universal curriculum. By not renewing the "MyPath" digital supplement, we will be saving \$20 per student in grades K-8. This type of consolidation will be a part of each content area's review process before curriculum resources are renewed in 5 year packages moving forward. • As we finalize our purchases for the Stronger Connections Grant this fall, we have been able to significantly expand our library of resources for School Counseling, Behavior Intervention, and Mental Health for students and caregivers. Chris Peterson from Love & Logic has also offered to continue providing free parenting courses online for another school year! • The NextPath platform is now up and running with all of our past and current student data housed in one place! This system will also organize and store our many individual student plans including IEP "At a Glance" summaries, 504's, English Learner outlines, Title I Compacts, ACT 20 Personal Reading Plans, and Gifted and Talented programming. Collaboration, documentation, and parent signatures can all be accessed by families through a simple email login. This system will allow various departments to coordinate much more efficiently across the district and maintain a more streamlined accountability with DPI requirements, regardless of any staff turnover. • On Thursday, the Elementary team will all be coming in for a collaborative Flex Day, focusing on curriculum pacing within quarters instead of trimesters. Grade level teams will also be mapping out common formative and summative assessment timelines, as well as initial intervention and extension plans.

	• We will have a number of local businesses and organizations joining us for Open House next Wednesday. The PTO will also be hosting a parent meeting at 6pm for any families interested in getting more involved.
Marcus Cornelius 6-12 Principal	• The football team had their first scrimmages and will have their first game on Friday and all other sports are starting up! It has been exciting to see our athletes on campus and working hard. Our athletic director, Joe Draxler, has been doing an exceptional job getting coaches set up for success and filling in with help as necessary. Our athletic night also went very well. The Coaches meeting was successful as well as many athletes and parents coming in. • We will have an open house on Wednesday, August 26 from 5-7PM. All students are welcome to come and say hello to their teachers! 6th grade orientation is at 5:30 and 9th grade orientation is at 6:30PM. • Ms. Stauty has been building curriculum and schedules for Viking Time to work on the skills needed for post secondary readiness. Working on topics such as professional etiquette in emails, interview skills, responding to employers and colleges. Careers class will also help them with actual interview experience which will reach out to community members and we also have a helicopter coming! She has also been working hard on student council run activities. • Financial Literacy Training with Jess Zarnke went exceptionally well. Donna Tietz, Kathy Mishler, Ella Rauchbauer all participated and performed exceptionally well. Everyone left with a better sense of the standards and new resources to use in their courses. • New Staff Inservice is the 18th and 19th of August. We have building tours, district tours, tech and business meetings as well as time with mentor teachers and plenty of classroom prep time as well!
Cory Schmidt Pupil Services Director	• I was fortunate to attend two trainings. One for new Directors of Special Education and Pupil Services and one for Educator Effectiveness. Both provided valuable information, resources, and connections that I can bring back to our district. • I also participated in online workshops for Kompas Care to better understand the new procedures for identifying and tracking students receiving transportation services. • As the school year approaches, I have prepared a Title IX presentation for all staff. I am excited to see all of my new coworkers and even more excited to meet our students and families.