

# Superintendent's Report

Regular Board Meeting • Monday, August 24, 2026 • 5:00 PM • Dr. Jenna Leadbetter, District Superintendent

Our word for SY 2026–27 is **Rooted** — rooted in purpose, rooted in each other, rooted to grow.

## WHERE WE STAND

**632**

students district-wide

**101**

educators and staff

**80+**

new students this fall

**90%**

of authorized capacity

- Enrollment continues to climb — 135 in-person PreK–8 (120 excluding PreK), 145 online K–8, and 352 online 9–12 — with the enrollment window still open.
- FY26 closed with an operating shortfall driven by enrollment coming in under budget. Fund balance and cash reserves remain above recommended minimums.
- The online program continues to carry strong margins and remains the district's primary revenue driver.

## GRANTS

| GRANT                                  | AMOUNT     | STATUS              |
|----------------------------------------|------------|---------------------|
| MnMTSS Infrastructure Development      | ~\$238,000 | Awarded             |
| PrairieCare                            | ~\$15,000  | Awarded             |
| Small, Rural School Achievement (SRSA) | \$9,107    | Awarded             |
| Full-Service Community Schools (FSCS)  | —          | Pending decision    |
| Building and Cyber Security            | \$15,000   | Submitted — pending |

## MNMTSS — LAUNCHING DISTRICT-WIDE

- Our District Leadership Team self-evaluation scored 80% of MnMTSS essentials already in place — strongest in assessment (100%) and multilayered practices and supports (90%).
- System infrastructure, at 70%, is our clear growth area and the focus of this year's work.
- SY 2026–27 priorities are strengthening that infrastructure and developing system-wide team protocols, targeting 90% of teams consistently using shared data, agenda, and action-planning protocols by June 2027.
- SY 2027–28 takes the work to the school level, with each school's leadership team completing its own self-evaluation and action plan.
- The full District Leadership Team begins the COMPASS System Leadership Pathway on Wednesday, September 23.
- Two board members serve on the District Leadership Team.
- The 0.5 FTE In-Person MnMTSS Lead position remains open and is actively being recruited.

## WHAT'S NEW THIS YEAR

- Infinite Campus is live district-wide, with staff training continuing throughout the year.

- Our new district website launched in August, meeting state and federal requirements.
- ParentSquare anchors a stronger family communication model, alongside weekly principal newsletters.
- I Love U Guys safety training rolls out district-wide, intentionally paced so it does not stack on top of our other launches.
- District-wide special education training on roles, responsibilities, and due process is underway.
- A new state mandate requires mental health instruction for grades 4–12, led by Student Support Services and the principals.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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- CCS holds a CharterSource membership. We elect only the offerings that fit our current priorities rather than participating in all of them.
- CharterSource Operations Institute — \$750 annually, covering the entire district.
- CharterSource Financial Management Cohort — \$2,750, focused on revenue, financial planning, and sustainable budgeting.
- MACS New (& Nearly New) Charter School Administrators Cohort — \$39 member rate, meeting throughout the school year.

## 2026 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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- MACS has published thirteen New Law Primers on 2026 session changes affecting charter schools. I have forwarded the full set to you; the items below are the ones affecting CCS this year.
- Compensatory Revenue Relief Funding — relevant to FY26 results and FY27 planning.
- Health Insurance Reporting — the required state survey is being completed with our broker, Benefit Innovations.
- Criminal Offense of Grooming by School Personnel — staff handbook and training implications.
- Qualified Paraprofessional Definition — affects paraprofessional hiring and training.
- School Bus Safety Kit and USDOT Number Requirements — being verified with our transportation provider.
- School Safety Related Grants — relevant to our Building and Cyber Security Grant application.
- PreK Readiness Screening and READ Act literacy provisions — program-level work led by the principals and Teaching and Learning.
- Land Trust Ballot Question — appears on the November 2026 ballot.

## ADVOCACY AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

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- MACS is launching a Parent and Caregiver Advocacy Cohort — three virtual sessions between October and November — ahead of the upcoming legislative budget session.
- The series trains parents and caregivers on key charter school issues, navigating the legislature, and developing their own advocacy story.
- I am working to recruit at least one CCS parent or guardian to participate, and I welcome board members' help identifying families who may be interested.

## AUTHORIZER AND ACCOUNTABILITY

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- Pending board action on Exhibit G, the full charter contract amendment — revised admissions and lottery policy, along with the bylaws — is targeted for the September 28 board meeting.
- The Osprey Wilds website statutory compliance review is underway and due September 15.
- The FY26 Annual Report is due to the authorizer and school community November 1 and requires board approval before submission.

## LOOKING AHEAD

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|                     |                                                                               |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>August 27</b>    | First day of school — both schools                                            |
| <b>September 15</b> | Renewal submission and website compliance due to Osprey Wilds                 |
| <b>September 17</b> | MACS Board Meeting, Annual Meeting & Public Policy Forum — St. Paul, full day |
| <b>September 18</b> | CharterSource Financial Management Cohort enrollment closes                   |
| <b>September 18</b> | MACS New Administrators Cohort registration closes                            |
| <b>September 23</b> | COMPASS System Leadership Pathway, Session 1 — full MnMTSS team               |
| <b>September 24</b> | MACS New Administrators Cohort — Wilder Foundation, St. Paul, full day        |
| <b>September 28</b> | Next regular Board meeting                                                    |
| <b>Oct – Nov</b>    | MACS Parent and Caregiver Advocacy Cohort — three virtual sessions            |
| <b>November 1</b>   | FY26 Annual Report due                                                        |