



Superintendent Board Report

Date: August 27, 2026

Report By: Lauren Laws

Good Things: T4 Has Arrived!

After a three- to four-year wait, we are excited to welcome T4, our new activity bus, to the Aztec Municipal School District fleet.

T4 gives the district a smaller transportation option for athletic teams, student organizations, and activity groups that do not require the space of a full-size bus (It has 20 seats). This will allow us to better match the size of the vehicle to the number of students traveling while preserving our larger activity buses for groups that need the additional capacity.

The bus looks outstanding in our Aztec Tigers colors and branding, and we are excited to see T4 on the road transporting our students to competitions, activities, and other opportunities. Its arrival is a great addition to our transportation fleet and another source of Tiger pride!



A Strong Start to the 2026–2027 School Year

The 2026–2027 school year is officially underway, and our schools are once again filled with the energy and excitement that come with welcoming students and staff back. The intentional preparation completed throughout the summer helped provide a positive opening across the district.

During these first weeks, our focus has been on supporting students, establishing strong routines, addressing enrollment and operational needs, and ensuring that the Board's Strategic Plan begins to move from planning into action. I am grateful to our teachers, administrators, support staff, families, and community partners for helping us begin the year with a shared commitment to student success.

First-Ever Tiger Summit

On August 13, Aztec Municipal School District hosted its first-ever Tiger Summit at Fred Cook Stadium. The event brought together students, families, employees, community organizations, and local businesses to celebrate the beginning of the school year and connect families with the many opportunities and resources available throughout the district.

More than 60 booths represented our schools, district departments, athletics, student activities, Career and Technical Education programs, parent organizations, and community partners. Families received school supplies, registration assistance, program information, and opportunities to connect directly with staff members.

The event also included a family scavenger hunt, donated prizes, food vendors, and the official introduction of our new district tiger mascot. During the Tiger Summit, families submitted possible names for the mascot. Those suggestions were later narrowed down for a community vote, and the community selected Clutch as the official name of our new tiger mascot. We are excited to welcome Clutch as a new symbol of district pride, connection, and Tiger spirit.

The Tiger Summit was possible because of the commitment of our employees, Board members, community partners, local businesses, parent organizations, vendors, and volunteers. Their willingness to give their time and resources helped create a meaningful experience for our families.

District leaders have debriefed the event, celebrated what worked well, reviewed feedback from staff and participants, and identified opportunities to improve the Tiger Summit in future years. Next we will meet with our site leaders to gain feedback from each site. The event demonstrated what can be accomplished when our schools, departments, families, and community come together around students.

Enrollment Update

As of August 27, 2026, Aztec Municipal School District has an enrollment of 2,073 students. This compares with a verified 2025–2026 end-of-year enrollment of 2081, representing a decrease of eight students.

Enrollment will continue to fluctuate during the opening weeks of school as registrations are completed, student records are transferred, and schools verify attendance. District and school leaders are closely monitoring enrollment by school and grade level to identify changes that may affect staffing, class sizes, programming, and future funding.

The district's transition from PowerSchool to Synergy and ParentVUE has required families and staff to become familiar with a new student-information system. Our technology staff, school secretaries, registrars, administrators, and other employees have worked diligently to assist families, resolve registration concerns, and ensure that student information is entered accurately.

AMSD Enrollment 2026/2027 SY			
		EOY 25/26	08/27/26
AZTEC HIGH	9	170	178
	10	154	165
	11	146	139
	12	142	164
VISTA NUEVA	9	10	8
	10	23	13
	11	21	32
	12	22	19
C.V. KOOGLER	6	147	153
	7	159	154
	8	162	165
PARK AVENUE	4	160	138
	5	148	154
LYDIA RIPPEY	PreK	60	47
	KF	58	65
	1	67	54
	2	83	65
	3	68	81
MCCOY AVENUE	PreK	43	43
	KF	53	63
	1	57	49
	2	71	53
	3	57	62
Total Enrollment		2081	2064

We will continue monitoring enrollment and will provide the Board with updated information monthly.

Title III Monitoring Successfully Closed

On August 25, I received formal notification from the New Mexico Public Education Department's Language and Culture Division that Aztec Municipal School District had successfully completed all corrective actions associated with the district's English Learner and Title III Technical Assistance and Focused Monitoring review.

Following the December 2025 review, the district worked to address each identified finding. This work included placing required initial and annual parent-notification documents in student files, completing staff training on the English Learner identification process, developing a comprehensive English Learner program plan, establishing a standardized process for monitoring students who have exited English Learner services, and submitting Title III reimbursement requests.

The Language and Culture Division confirmed that all required corrective actions have been completed and that all findings from the review are now cleared.

This outcome reflects the district's commitment to accountability, compliance, continuous improvement, and appropriate support for English learners and their families. I appreciate the employees who worked diligently to strengthen our processes, complete the required documentation, and ensure that the district successfully addressed each area identified by the state.

Strategic Plan Implementation and Board Reporting

With the Board's Strategic Plan approved and shared with district leaders, our focus has shifted from planning to implementation. Schools and departments are beginning to align their work with the Board's goals and guardrails, with student outcomes remaining our central focus.

District leaders are working to establish clear baseline data, identify the measures that will be used to monitor progress, and connect school and department priorities to the Strategic Plan. This work will help us remain focused, evaluate the effectiveness of our efforts, and make informed decisions based on student needs and district data.

Safety and Student Preparedness

Student and staff safety continues to be a district priority. Schools and departments have reviewed beginning-of-year safety procedures, updated applicable portions of their Safe School Plans, and worked to ensure that employees understand their responsibilities during an emergency.

Students are also participating in Tip Test 101 training. Schools have been asked to train at least 80% of their listed student enrollment by September 4, with 100% participation encouraged. The training is intended to help students understand how to report safety concerns appropriately and how those reports are reviewed and addressed.

Transportation and dismissal procedures have also been closely monitored during the opening weeks. As families and students adjust to new schedules and routes, staff members have worked together to address concerns and support students in arriving at school and returning home safely.

Communication and Community Engagement

Tiger Talk continues to provide families and community members with short, timely updates about district events, programs, and accomplishments. Weekly episodes have highlighted the opening of school, the Tiger Summit, registration information, student activities, athletics, and opportunities for community participation.

District event information is being gathered from the AMSD Event Calendar, Aztec High School activities and athletics calendars, and Koogler Middle School activities and athletics calendars. Bringing this information together in one place helps families remain connected to events occurring across the district.

We will continue evaluating and strengthening our communication practices to ensure that families, employees, Board members, and community partners receive accurate, accessible, and timely information.

Looking Ahead

The opening of a new school year is always an important reminder of our shared purpose. Every classroom, school, department, and employee contributes to creating the conditions in which students can learn, belong, and succeed.

I am encouraged by the energy and commitment demonstrated throughout the district during these first weeks. We have begun the year with a clear direction, strong community support, and a continued focus on our True North: improving outcomes and experiences for every student.

Thank you to the Board for your continued leadership and support of our students, employees, families, and schools.

Fundraisers Approved

In accordance with district procedures, the following fundraisers have been reviewed and approved since our last Board Meeting. These activities support school programs while ensuring compliance with district guidelines and student safety expectations.

Date Approved	Date of Fundraiser	Estimated Amount Projected	Requesting Organization	Description	Intended Use of Funds
08/04/26	08/17/26	\$1,500	KMS	We are raising funds to support student activities, family engagement, academic and behavior incentives, and staff appreciation. These efforts will strengthen school morale, community involvement, and opportunities for students and staff.	Funds will support student activities, family engagement, academic and behavior incentives, staff appreciation, and school-wide morale.
08/04/26	11/12/26	\$3,000	KMS	Selling Additional Bingo Cards for greater chance to win, Selling cotton Candy	Funds will replenish the Student Activity Fund, supporting student and family events, academic and behavior incentives, staff appreciation, and school-wide morale.
08/04/26	10/15/26	\$1,500	KMS	Sell additional beaded necklaces to increase your chances of advancing to the final round.	Funds will support student activities, family engagement, student incentives, staff appreciation, and school-wide morale.
08/04/26	09/08/26	\$1,500	KMS	Selling Tattoos for Homecoming week	Funds will support student activities, family engagement, student incentives, staff appreciation, and school-wide morale.
08/04/26	09/11/26	\$1,500	Vista	Through the Volunteer Incentive Program, students will earn \$15 per volunteer hour to support attendance incentives. Planned activities include downtown	Funds will cover admission and facility rental for the fall attendance incentive trip to the skating rink.

				cleanup after the 9/11 parade, Park Avenue's Fall Into Literacy Night on 9/29, and the Aztec Chamber Fall Festival on 10/24. The program provides up to \$1,500 annually per organization.	
8/19/26	11/10/26	\$4,000	AHS Golf	We will either create a simulator golf league and/or allow folks to reserve times to use the simulator.	Additional Facility Area - \$5,000 (Working to expand practice facility on site with hitting bays)
8/19/26	08/21/26	\$3,500	AHS/KMS	Booster club would like to sell old / out of commission jerseys at home games and on facebook	Funds will be used for banquet, new uniforms, senior gifts, coaches gifts, new uniforms
8/19/26	10/20/26	\$2,500	AHS	Custom Aztec Tiger Blankets.	Custom Aztec Tiger blanket sales will support the AMSD Wrestling Travel account. This year, 200 blankets in two designs are expected to arrive before the KMS wrestling season.
8/19/26	8/26/26	\$3,000	KMS Cheer	Baskin-Robbins will donate 50% of its August 26 proceeds to the KMS Cheer Booster Club. No student-athletes will participate.	Fundraiser proceeds will help purchase shoes and warm-ups for 25-30 KMS cheerleaders.
8/19/26	9/9/26	\$4,500	KMS Cheer	The Koogler Cheer Booster Club will sell concessions at home football games on September 9, September 23, September 30, and October 7, 2026.	Items needed for the cheer season, such as pom-poms, cheer signs, cheer shoes, warm-ups, and team shirts.
8/19/26	9/1/26	\$5,000	KMS Cheer	Each cheerleader will sell \$20 name sponsorships for a Fan Club shirt. Printing costs \$59 per shirt, with proceeds after the first three sponsors benefiting the team.	Items needed for the cheer season, such as pom-poms, cheer signs, cheer shoes, warm-ups, and team shirts.

8/24/26	9/1/26	\$200	Vista	Sell drinks during the school day to both staff and students using all pepsi products in compliance with school guidelines	Funds will be used to support student and staff recognition and morale throughout the school year.
8/24/26	9/9/26	\$300	AHS	Sell rootbeer floats and orange soda floats at the peach fuzz volleyball game	Senior posters and gear for players
8/25/26	9/20/26	\$400	AHS	Paint Party- Community centered paint party to raise money for student council events, teacher and staff appreciation events, school projects, etc.	Student Council events, student and staff appreciation, school projects
8/25/26	12/17/26	\$100	AHS	Families will donate desserts for an audience auction following <i>Pick Your Poison</i> . No instructional time will be affected.	The funds from this event will go towards purchasing building materials for the sets, props, lights, and costumes of 2026-2027 theatrical productions.
8/25/26	12/17/26	\$50	AHS	Parents of students will make baked goods at home and bring them to the Introduction to Theatre Showcase to sell to audience members. The cost per item will be between \$.50 and \$5. No instructional time will be affected by this fundraiser.	.Funds will cover production rights, licensing, and scripts for the spring director's showcase and main stage production.
8/25/26	10/21/26	\$74	AHS	Students may purchase \$2 paint-filled water balloons to toss at participating teachers during lunch. AHS PlayMakers will protect the area and handle cleanup, with minimal instructional impact.	The funds from this event will go towards purchasing building materials for the sets, props, lights, and costumes of 2026-2027 theatrical productions.
8/25/26	8/26/26	\$200	AHS	Local businesses may purchase advertising through projected logos and printed program advertisements before and after performances.	The funds from this event will go towards purchasing building materials for the sets, props, lights, and costumes of 2026-2027 theatrical productions.
8/25/26	11/05/26	\$200	AHS	Parents of students will make baked goods at home and bring to each of our	Funds will cover production rights, licensing, and scripts

				production nights of Mariposa Butterfly (November 5th-7th) to sell to audience members. The cost per item will be between \$.50 and \$5. No instructional time will be affected by this fundraiser.	for the spring director's showcase and main stage production.
8/27/26	9/25/26	\$1,000	Lydia	Selling coffee, Hot Tea, and energy drinks at the student drop-off every last Friday of the month in the mornings for parents	Student field trips, student supplies for classrooms
8/27/26	9/30/26	\$1,000	Lydia	Games, Prizes, Snacks in Lydia Rippey Cafeteria	Field trips, students needs
8/27/26	12/3/26	\$2,000	Lydia	Students will be about to ship for gifts for parents/guardians/family	Field trips, students needs
8/27/26	11/13/26	\$3,000	Lydia	Ninja Warrior Course- Obstacles, excitement, school spirit and lots of funn physical obstacle course	Field trips, students needs
8/27/26	9/15/26	\$1,000	Park Ave	Students will create artwork on provided paper from square1art during art class on campus. The teacher will ship all items to square1art to be digitized and then families can buy the products with their student's artwork on it. The art class then earns a profit to be spent on art supplies.	Profits will purchase clay, paper, adhesives, pastels, and other supplies for the PAES art program.