

September 14, 2026 Board Report

- Thank you for your incredible support and partnership! Below you will find the Superintendent's Monthly Board Report.

Back to School!

- A huge thank you to everyone who helped make our Back to School process such a smooth and successful one! We had incredible attendance at our Open Houses, with some sites welcoming nearly 100% of our families. We've also heard that this was one of the busiest Open Houses we've had in years—and it was wonderful to see so many students, families, and staff together!
- Our students and staff are now settling into their school routines, and it has been so much fun to see our students learning, working hard in their classrooms, and getting involved in activities. There is already so much energy and excitement throughout our schools!
- We're keeping that momentum going this weekend as our staff will be walking together in the Heimatfest Parade, and we'll also be hosting our annual Run of the Mill race. September is already flying by, and we're excited for all that this month has in store!

Reminder: Minnesota's Permanent School Fund will be on the November ballot

- The Minnesota Permanent School Fund (PSF) has supported public education since 1858. When Minnesota became a state, millions of acres of public land were placed into a permanent trust to help fund public schools.
- Today, the trust includes more than 2.5 million acres of land and 1 million acres of mineral rights. Most of these lands are in northern Minnesota. The fund earns money from activities like timber harvesting, mining, land leases, and other natural resource uses. That money is invested by the State Board of Investment so it can continue supporting students for generations to come.
- Over time, many of the original trust lands in southern Minnesota were sold for farming and development. Today, the remaining lands include forests, grasslands, farmland, mineral resources, and wetlands.

Proposed 2026 Constitutional Amendment

- In 2026, the Minnesota Legislature passed a bipartisan proposal to update how money from the Permanent School Fund is distributed. Voters will decide on the amendment in November 2026.
- If approved, the amendment would:
 - Increase the annual distribution from about 2–2.5% of the fund to 4.5%.
 - Increase funding to an estimated \$33 per student each year.
 - Provide more stable and predictable funding for schools.
 - Not raise taxes—it only changes how the existing fund is distributed.

Who Benefits?

- Every public school student in Minnesota would benefit, including those in:
 - Traditional public schools
 - Charter schools
 - Tribal schools
- Funding would go directly to school districts and schools with **no strings attached**, benefiting communities across urban, suburban, and rural Minnesota. The proposal is based on recommendations from a multi-year review of the fund and is designed to update it using modern financial best practices.

***Information source- MSBA

In the upcoming months, we will share more information regarding this topic as it is our goal to make sure everyone is well informed!

Important Dates and Upcoming Events

- Monday, September 14 - Regular Board Meeting, 5:30pm
- Wednesday, September 16 - JMS Curriculum Night
- Thursday, September 24 - Preschool Picture Day
- Friday, September 25 - JES Kindergarten Picture Day & JES Retake Day, Preschool Picture Day
- Monday, September 28 - Workshop Meeting, 5:30pm
- Monday, September 28 - Friday, October 2 - Homecoming Week
- Friday, October 2 - JHS Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, 5:00pm, JHS Auditorium
- Saturday, October 3 - JHS Homecoming Dance, 8:00pm
- Tuesday, October 6 - Friday, October 9 - FMSC at the CERC
- Wednesday, October 7 - Walk/Bike/Roll to School Day!
- Monday, October 12 - Regular Board Meeting, 5:30pm
- Monday, October 12 - JHS Choir Concert, 7:30pm
- Thursday and Friday, October 15-16 - No School: MEA
- Friday, October 23 - JHS Band Concert - 7:30pm, JHS Gym
- Monday, October 26 - Board Workshop Meeting, 5:30pm
- Thursday, October 29 - JMS & JHS Invitation Conferences, 3:30-7:30pm
- Friday, October 30 - JMS Invitation Conferences / Digital Learning Day Grades 5-8 and JES Professional Development (No School JES)

Enrollment Update

- As of September 1, 2026: 1820 students - EC through grade 12.