BEMIDJI AREA SCHOOLS
BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

DATE: **OCTOBER 19, 2026**

TO: **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

FROM: **COLLEEN CARDENUTO, DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM AND ADMIN SERVICES**

SUBJECT: **REQUEST TO ACCEPT GRANT**

COMMENTS:

Title of Grant:	Outdoor Storybook Walk
Type of Grant:	Bemidji Education Foundation/Northwest MN Foundation
Grant Preparer:	Lindsay Potter
Amount of Grant:	$4,500
Purpose:	We are hoping to create a permanent outdoor storybook walk at Northern Elementary on our nature trail. The pedestals would be placed along the trail and each one would contain a page from a story in order to stop and read. As you keep walking you get to read another page from a storybook until you get to the last page of the story at the end of the trail. The pedestals also open and lock shut so that stories can be interchangeable! The closest permanent storybook walk is in the Twin Cities area so we would be the first location in Northern Minnesota to have one to share with our school families and our community!
District Responsibility:	Access to the nature trail after school hours or on a non-school day. Approval of the positioning or the pedestals along the trail before they are permanently placed.