



C.E. Jacobson Elementary Update

October 22, 2026

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KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Tiger Culture Team
 - Continuous Improvement Team
 - MTSS Update
 - PTO/CEJ Halloween Dance: Schoolwide and Family Engagement
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Tiger Culture Team

- Staff Morale and Celebrations
- Student-Facing PBIS
- Parent & Family Engagement
- Planning for 'Science Days'

A strong school culture doesn't happen by accident; it is built intentionally through everyday actions, clear expectations, and meaningful connections. To drive this vision, our committee is focusing on four key pillars:

- **Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS):** We are refining our school-wide framework to proactively teach, model, and reinforce positive behaviors. By setting consistent expectations across all grade levels and settings, we foster a safe, predictable environment where every student can thrive.
- **Student Incentives and Recognition:** Beyond academic achievement, we are actively celebrating students who make positive life and school choices. Through school-wide recognition systems, incentives, and leadership opportunities, we are reinforcing character, empathy, effort, and responsibility.
- **Staff Morale and Celebrations:** Teachers and support staff are the heart of our school. To ensure our educators feel valued and energized, we have implemented regular morale boosts, peer-to-peer recognition programs, and dedicated moments to celebrate professional and personal milestones. A supported staff directly translates to a better classroom experience for our students.
- **Family and Community Engagement:** Education is a partnership. We are designing engaging, accessible school events and activities aimed at bringing families into the building outside of traditional conferences. These events create opportunities to build authentic relationships, strengthen communication, and deepen trust between home and school.

When students feel recognized, staff feel appreciated, and families feel connected, our entire school community succeeds. We are grateful for the board's continued support of our efforts to nurture a positive, thriving culture, and we look forward to sharing our progress with you throughout the year.

Continuous Improvement Team

Our elementary continuous improvement team consists of school leaders, PLT (professional learning team) leaders, and other building leaders. Our main purpose right now is to complete a CNA (comprehensive needs assessment) that is related to just the preschool and elementary school.

- We are using the CNA tools from the MN Department of Education along with supporting documents and guidance from Resource Training & Solutions
- We are also using this time to work through our "School of Excellence" application as it is closely related to the CNA process.

- This committee work is extremely important and will foreshadow the work of our school district as we set out on our initiatives, work toward our goals, and ultimately have a positive impact on our students' lives, their learning, and their achievement.

MTSS Update

Our school remains committed to supporting the whole child through a robust **Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)** framework. By continuously analyzing student academic, Social-Emotional Learning (SEL), and behavioral data, we ensure every student receives targeted instruction, early intervention, and individualized support tailored to their specific needs.

Data-Driven Decision Making at Every Level

Data is at the center of our daily practice. We regularly review academic assessments, SEL screeners, and behavioral data to track progress, identify gaps, and establish meaningful goals across all levels of our building:

- **Individual Students:** Identifying specific learning, skill, or behavioral goals and pairing students with targeted interventions.
- **Small Groups:** Grouping students with similar academic or SEL needs for focused, skill-specific instruction.
- **Classes & Grade Levels:** Analyzing cohort-wide trends to refine core (Tier 1) instruction and align resources effectively.
- **Building-Wide:** Setting school-wide growth targets and culture goals to foster an inclusive, supportive environment.

Intervention & Special Education Highlights

- **Intervention Teams:** Our interventionists and specialists are actively planning, programming, and delivering tailored services directly to students. Whether through push-in support or small-group instruction, our team works continuously to meet students exactly where they are on their learning journey. This requires a strong partnership between intervention teachers and general education teachers.
- **Special Education Team:** Our Special Education staff is working tirelessly to manage and address an increasing range of extensive student needs. Their dedication to creating individualized, high-quality programming ensures that our students with diverse learning needs receive the comprehensive care and support required to succeed.

Looking Ahead

Through the coordinated efforts of our MTSS data teams, interventionists, and Special Education staff, we are building a responsive system that adapts to the evolving needs of our student body. We appreciate the Board's ongoing investment in our staff, resources, and programs as we work together to maximize growth for every learner.

Schoolwide and Family Engagement

We are excited to partner with our PTO and staff to provide a fun, engaging family event on October 28th, the CEJ Halloween Dance! This free admission event is a partnership between parents, community members, and those who donate their time and materials to make this happen. Traditionally, this is a favorite event for our students!

- D.J. & Music - a professional D.J. has volunteered his services this year
 - Admission is free, but PTO provides concessions to raise funds
 - Students can dance, do art activities, games, Halloween-themed activities, and have photo opportunities
 - Students may attend in costumes
 - Families and students of all ages are encouraged to attend
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