WOODRIDGE
SCHOOL DISTRICT 68

memo

To:	The Board of Education and Dr. Patrick Broncato, Superintendent
From:	Curt Saindon, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services/CSBO
Date:	October 23, 2026
Subject:	Solar Performance Report for Phase I Schools – Year 2

Attached is the Annual Solar Performance Report from Performance Services, Inc. (PSI), summarizing our Year 2 results for the Phase I solar array installations at Sipley, Willow Creek, Murphy and Jefferson. As Phase II was just completed and brought online this past spring and summer (at Edgewood, Goodrich and Meadowview between March and June), we do not have any annual performance statistics for those schools yet (they will be part of the PSI Year 3 Performance Report presented to the Board next Fall). I am presenting this information at the October Board Meeting for your review and if the Board has any questions I can forward them along to Brian Ondyak and Charlie Nahrwold from PSI and they can answer them at the November Board Meeting, as they will be here presenting on BESS options and potential next steps. Included below are my summary comments and please don't hesitate to let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Regarding the Year 2 Performance Report, here are some essential takeaways…

1. Measured Savings exceeded Projected Savings by almost $50K, coming in at $159,298 versus $109,444 projected. At that rate, we expect payback for Phase I to be completed in Year 6 (2029), when we have received all State Renewable Energy Credit Rebates.

2. Weather data (actual versus projected) had minimal impact on this variance, and accounted for only about 10% of the overall variance.

3. Actual solar production was slightly less than predicted at Willow Creek, Murphy and Jefferson, but slightly higher than predicted at Sipley, while total actual production of 1,254,102 kWh was slightly less than the 1,318,559 kWh projected (4.9% off). Cumulatively for both Year1 and Year 2, total actual production of 2,472,205 kWh was slightly less than the 2,628,797 kWh projected (5.9% off). As our maintenance program continues to be improved, thereby reducing downtime and production inefficiency, we expect that actual production will exceed projected production in future years.

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4. Even though production was slightly less than projected, savings was noticeably higher than projected (by $49,854, or 45.5%) because the market value of a kWh of electricity ended up being significantly more than initially projected. This was the result of rapidly rising electric utility costs due both to increased transmission and capacity charges, as well as increased electric supply costs. Much of these increases can be tied to both an aging grid infrastructure (increasing costs for grid upgrades and replaced transmission equipment) and rapidly increasing demand related to the proliferation of AI Data Centers and New Construction electricity requirements (demand for electricity is skyrocketing and is expected to double over the next few years).

5. The first eight pages of this report highlight the results discussed above, and the last eight pages of the report (the Appendix) provide additional data and statistical details supporting those conclusions.

I have also included the Acceptance Letter that I will be signing and sending back to PSI after this Board presentation is complete. We look forward to a continued partnership with PSI as we move from the initial construction/installation of Phase I and II into the actual operation of these solar arrays, to both realize savings and reduce our carbon footprint. You might remember that we projected savings about $125K to $150K per year for Phase I, and about another $100K to $125K per year for Phase II (about $250K in total annual savings, once all seven solar arrays were up and running). Even with about 5% underproduction (very common in the early years of an array) we have exceeded that amount noticeably. As long as electric energy supply rates and ancillary charges remain high, the value of every kWh we generate from these arrays will continue to grow and be more valuable. Our total savings is directly tied to the cost of electricity and the value of every kWh we generate, and right now that is benefitting us greatly. We expect to save over $250K per year going forward from our solar arrays, and that amount should grow as time goes on. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.