



Elementary Board Updates

October has been another busy and exciting month at WEM Elementary! We continue to focus on building a positive school culture, strengthening relationships, and creating opportunities for students to learn, grow, and celebrate their successes.

School Culture & BUCS Pride

We have held two PBIS assemblies this fall, focusing on our BUCS Pride expectations in the cafeteria and on the playground. We celebrated our first Students of the Month in September and look forward to recognizing our October Students of the Month on October 30!

One of my favorite additions this month has been our **Positive Office Referrals!** Teachers can recognize students who consistently demonstrate our BUCS Pride values: Safe, Kind, Positive, Responsible, and Respectful. Students receiving a referral come to the office, where we make a phone call home together to share the good news with their families. It has been such a fun way to celebrate students and strengthen our school-home connections!

Student Safety & Community Partnerships

Our students have had some wonderful opportunities to learn about safety this month. Transportation Director Tauston Lamont provided bus safety education, and on October 22, the Morristown Fire Department joined us for Fire Prevention education. We appreciate these community partnerships and the time they invest in keeping our students safe!

Homecoming & School Spirit

Homecoming Week was filled with excitement, school spirit, and plenty of BUCS Pride! Our elementary students enjoyed participating in dress-up days, the parade, and the pepfest. It was especially fun to see our youngest Buccaneers celebrating alongside our older students and feeling connected to the larger WEM school community.

Teaching, Learning & Student Support

We continue to prioritize strong Tier 1 instruction and consistent literacy practices across our classrooms. Our work with the Minnesota READ Act remains an important focus as we support teachers in strengthening literacy instruction and meeting the needs of all learners.

We are also excited to be launching our **Learning Lab**, an after-school targeted services program designed to provide additional literacy support while incorporating social-emotional learning opportunities. This program will offer students additional time to build skills, confidence, and connections in a supportive environment.

Teacher observation cycles have also begun, with an emphasis on reflection, collaboration, and continued professional growth.

Family Engagement & Communication

Our weekly *Buccaneer Bulletin* continues to provide families with school updates, celebrations, and helpful information. We've also introduced a Literacy Corner to share simple, practical ways families can support reading and learning at home.

We are looking forward to fall parent-teacher conferences on November 10 and 12. These conversations are an important opportunity to celebrate student successes, discuss academic progress, and strengthen our partnerships with families.

Staff Voice & Collaboration

This month, staff were invited to complete a fall survey focused on school culture, communication, leadership support, and resources. Their feedback is valuable as we continue working together to make WEM Elementary a place where both students and staff feel supported, valued, and excited to be!

As I reflect on these first couple of months, I continue to be impressed by the dedication of our staff, the enthusiasm of our students, and the support of our families and community. There are so many great things happening at WEM Elementary, and I am grateful to be part of it!