

Superintendent's Report **November 16, 2026**

Strategic Planning

Right before parent-teacher conferences, we released our annual family survey. We currently have approximately 107 substantive responses, compared with just under 90 total responses last year. The survey remains open, and we will continue encouraging participation through the Christmas concert season.

We would particularly like to increase participation from our Spanish-speaking families. At the time of this report, approximately 15 responses have been submitted through the Spanish-language survey. Preliminary results continue to generally support the district's strategic priorities of Pride, Relationships, Dedication, and Elevating. Pride is the clearest area showing measurable improvement. Relationships continue to be viewed as one of the district's strengths, while measures connected to supporting student learning and community partnerships have remained relatively stable. Families who are aware of our community partnerships increasingly see them as meaningful for students, while awareness of those opportunities remains a possible area of improvement.

Safety and a positive school environment remain the highest-ranked priority, selected by approximately 71% of respondents, followed by academic performance at 51%. Strengthening relationships and expanding learning through community and business partnerships were each selected by approximately 40%. The survey remains open, so these results should be considered preliminary.

There is a disproportionate amount of written feedback related to extracurricular activities, although the comments do not point toward one consistent direction. There is a noticeable interest in additional real-world learning, career-connected opportunities, and partnerships with businesses and community organizations. Once the survey period concludes, we will complete a fuller review of the results and use that information as part of our continuing strategic-planning work.

Networking Event

We will host a community networking breakfast on November 18 from 7:00–8:00 a.m.
The event will provide an overview of our community partnerships, Career and Technical Education programming, robotics, and work-based learning opportunities. The goal is both to share what is already happening and continue identifying ways local businesses and organizations can connect with our students. We will also preview plans to bring Chris Gordon to LPGE in the new year to speak with students about resilience, unity, and the idea that "We're All One."

School Board Development

I am currently gathering proposals from PartnerEd for School Board development beginning with the new Board year. This is the same organization that worked with our administrative team last year.



Our administrative team found that work valuable in strengthening how we operate together, clarify roles, and approach difficult conversations and decisions. Denise Pontrelli has been my primary contact as I review potential options and pricing structures that could be brought to the Board for consideration in January.

Buildings and Grounds
During the extended periods of rain, the elementary building experienced leaks in several areas. Staff are continuing to inspect the sources of the leaks and make temporary repairs where possible.

I am also working with Ehlers to explore potential financing options for more significant roofing work, including the district's ability to levy for qualifying expenses. The goal is to develop a long-term approach that addresses the roofing needs while minimizing the effect on taxpayers and maintaining a relatively stable levy as we move into future years. This work is still preliminary, and I will bring more detailed information to the Board as potential costs and financing options become clearer.

We are evaluating potential HVAC projects at the elementary school. Because the secondary HVAC project came in under budget, approximately $200,000 remains available for eligible HVAC work. Those funds are restricted to HVAC-related improvements. In order to use the remaining funds, the qualifying project must exceed $100,000. If we do not identify an eligible project, the remaining funds will not be available for other district purposes. I will bring additional information to the Board once we have a clearer understanding of the options, scope, and estimated costs.

Measles
The measles outbreak in Todd County continues to grow. As of the most recent Minnesota Department of Health update, 115 cases have been confirmed in Todd County. At the time of this report, LPGE has not had a confirmed measles case within either school building.

KARE 11 has continued covering the outbreak, and the district has received occasional media inquiries. We have declined to comment. Our response has remained: educate families, monitor for potential symptoms and exposures, report suspected cases through the appropriate public-health channels, and direct broader questions about the outbreak to MDH.

We are aware that measles can occur in vaccinated individuals, although vaccination continues to provide strong protection.

Unless we receive different direction from public health or have a confirmed exposure affecting LPGE, we will continue with our current response of education, monitoring, and coordination with public-health officials.