MENAHGA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

216 Aspen Avenue SE, PO Box 160, Menahga, MN 56464

218-564-4141

"Home of the Braves"

November 23, 2026

Board Members,

It's hard to believe we are already heading into Thanksgiving. The school year seems to be flying by, and there continues to be a lot of good things happening at Menahga. I appreciate the work our staff puts in each day to make our school a great place for kids.

Financial Update

Eide Bailly will be presenting our audit this month. A big thank you to Dana and her team for their work keeping our finances in good shape. We will also be taking another look at our levy before final certification in December. As always, we want to do what's right for our students while being mindful of our taxpayers.

Strategic Plan

We will be sharing our quarterly strategic plan update. I continue to be pleased with the progress we are making in literacy, MTSS, and student opportunities. Our leadership teams are doing a nice job keeping the plan in front of us and using it to guide our work. Our core values of Integrity, Respect, Relationships, and Safety continue to be the foundation of what we do.

Facilities

We continue to work through our needs, wants, and dreams for our facilities. The Highway 71 project in 2028 is getting closer, and we have some important decisions ahead of us. We are working on gathering information from potential partners to help us put together a good long-range plan.

Menahga Online

Our online program continues to provide opportunities for students across the state. We are working closely with OpenEd and Fullmind to make sure our systems, accountability, and reporting continue to improve as the program develops.

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Students and Staff

A big congratulations to our FFA students for their success at the National FFA Convention. What a great opportunity for our kids to represent Menahga! I also want to thank our staff for their work during our recent professional development day. The learning around AI was especially interesting, and I look forward to seeing how we can use some of those tools to make our work more effective.

District Operations and Transition

We continue to review our safety procedures and policies to make sure we are doing the best we can for our kids and staff. I also appreciate the board's work in getting the superintendent search underway. We have a lot of good things going on, and my goal is to keep that momentum moving forward while helping make the transition as smooth as possible.

Closing

As we head into Thanksgiving, I am reminded of how fortunate I have been to work with the people of Menahga. We have a great staff, wonderful kids, and a community that cares about its school. Our mission of building strong partnerships to ensure all learners succeed and our vision of engaging all learners on a lifelong path to success are things I see happening every day.

Thank you for all you do for our district. I hope everyone gets a little time to slow down and enjoy family and friends over Thanksgiving.

It's a great day to be a Brave!

Jay Kjos
Superintendent
Menahga Public Schools