

H. New Business

H.1. Donations - See attachment

H.2. 2026–2027 Calendar Discussion

The attached calendar is for discussion only and is not a proposed or final draft.

We have been exploring ways to strengthen professional development and create a more consistent schedule for staff collaboration. The draft calendar has been shared with the teachers' union, administrative team, and Professional Development Committee.

The suggestion is to add two additional staff development days, similar to our current model. Because our district exceeds the minimum number of student contact days required by the state, we have the flexibility to make this adjustment.

These additional days would allow time for Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and committees to meet more effectively. Finding time during the regular workday has become increasingly difficult due to staff meetings, intervention meetings, and other daily responsibilities.

In past districts where I served, similar calendar adjustments led to stronger school improvement processes, and it was recognized at state-level conferences for its impact on school improvement. This type of structure supports more focused staff development and continuous improvement across the district.

H.3. Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness (CACR) Plan

See attached plan. Mrs. Gustafson and Mrs. Cuchna will present key data earlier in the agenda.

Highlights from the report include:

- Activity participation has increased, though ineligibility rates remain an area for continued attention.
- Enrollment remains steady, with growth expected due to new housing developments and local business expansion.
- Mobility remains high, with approximately 25% of students entering or leaving the district last year.
- English Learner (EL) enrollment continues to rise, now (25-26) exceeding 350 students receiving services.
- Discipline trends show a decrease at the secondary level and a slight increase at the elementary level.
- ParentSquare usage is higher at the elementary level, reflecting strong engagement among families of younger students.

This plan aligns closely with the district's Strategic Plan and provides a strong foundation for ongoing improvement in student achievement and civic readiness.

H.4. Playground Grant

The district has again applied for the playground grant, which we've pursued over the past three years. This year, we were grandfathered in from a prior award year, allowing access to available funds.

- The grant will cover approximately \$50,000, or half of the cost of purchasing the playground equipment.
- The project is included in the LTFM plan, and Freshwater has committed an additional \$15,000 in support.
- The new playground will feature a pour-in-place surface for improved safety and accessibility.
- The total estimated cost is \$85,000, with remaining funds to be raised through local efforts. This means fundraising for approximately \$60,000.
- The existing playground is in significant need of replacement. Our preschool programs are at capacity, serving students who often receive special education and/or multilingual learner (MLL) services which we receive state aid to provide services to. The new playground will enhance safety, accessibility, and learning experiences for these students.

I recommend moving forward with the equipment purchase to secure the grant and working to secure contributions through continued fundraising to close the remaining gap.