



Nome Public Schools
Superintendent Report
Jamie Burgess
February 10, 2026

Board/Leadership Areas of Focus for FY2026:

Family/Community Engagement

The District held its first ever Safety Town Hall on Thursday February 5th at Old Saint Joe's. The meeting was fairly well attended with about 35 staff, family and community members in the audience, as well as additional attendees participating in KNOM's livestream of the event through its Facebook page. A copy of the handout for attendees is attached for Board information. Both Marjorie Tahbone and Sigvanna Tapqaq were in attendance representing the School Board. The Leadership Team will be discussing feedback from audience members at its February 9th meeting and developing an action plan; in addition, safety will be a standing agenda item going forward for the Leadership Team. It is clear that some changes to our current crisis response plans are needed, including a review of our communication protocols, as well as a clear timeline for each school with regards to training and drills. A printed copy of the ALICE lesson plans is now available in the front office of each school and the District Office for public review. We will also hold a leadership work session on an upcoming Saturday to finalize some work with all of our principals and provide an update to the School Board.

Parent/Family Conferences will occur this coming Friday and Monday – this is a long-standing opportunity for our families to engage with their child's teachers and we look forward to a good turnout.

Culturally Relevant Curriculum

It is clear that in order to make progress on written curriculum, additional support will be needed. The District will be reviewing current grant allocations in order to contract with Joni Earp for the remainder of the year (and likely for FY27 as well) to support curriculum writing in conjunction with discussions around focus for Professional Learning Communities, which should ideally focus on data-informed discussions by teachers on student achievement, tying directly to assessments and curriculum. NES has existing pacing guides for its reading and math curriculum; work by NES staff overseen by Ms. Earp to ensure cultural relevance is incorporated will help move this process along at the elementary level, combined with continued work at the secondary level.

Value and Grow Staff

The District has selected Ms. Rachel Ventress to attend the Innovative Schools Conference in New York. This conference will be a wonderful growth and learning opportunity for her as a long time staff member, as well as with her position in Anvil City Science Academy and as Head Teacher for our homeschooling program.

The District will set a meeting with UAF-NWC and the Katirvik Cultural Center to begin planning for a fall Culture Camp. We have not held one for several years due to challenges with the calendar. Unfortunately with the passing of Tom Gray, the Mosquito Bar camp will not be



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an option at this time, so we will work with our partner organizations to provide a good cultural orientation and professional development opportunity for staff.

Tribal Consultation

See attached report.

Financial Update

We were finally able to hold the facilities walkthrough with City Council members on February 4th. Board members Darlene Trigg and Jon Gregg joined the event, along with Maintenance Director Jonathan Duarte and members of the media. While the overall feedback on the event was positive, the City Council is still reluctant to convey any indication whether or not they will provide the request contribution. As a result, we are unable to offer non-tenured teacher contracts at this time. We will reach out to schedule a budget work session with the City or a budget presentation in the near future in the hopes of reaching an agreement in the near future.

AASB Fly-In

I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to attend the AASB Fly-In this past weekend. The Law Day was focused on School Safety, which is a very timely topic for our district. I will share some of those insights with my school leadership team as we work to improve in this area. Sigvanna Tapqaq and I have appointments with our legislative representatives as well as an opportunity to check in with other members to share our legislative priorities and to build relationships. The Coalition of Education Equity also shared an update on the recently filed lawsuit against the State of Alaska, which seeks for updates to the District Cost Factor in the foundation funding formula, and inflation-proofing of the BSA. We also received some excellent data to share with legislators to push back on several narratives from the Governor and DEED

Education and a fiscal plan are at the forefront of legislators' agendas this session – we may see some action in the areas of pension reform, education funding reform, as well as some other bills which will impact our schools. The Tribal Compacting movement is also likely to get some renewed discussion. I will continue to share updates from CEE and other sources on bill movements and budget discussions. The Superintendent Fly-In will be at the end of March, and I will revisit our legislators to check-in regarding status of legislation.

Pete Hoepfner from the AASB Board of Directors shared a document for School Board members to provide guidance when they must act as a quasi-judicial body in cases such as expulsion hearings, grievance appeals, etc. The document is attached, and I will send a copy to each Board member for their own reference files.

FY27 Calendar Note

A minor error was discovered on the FY27 calendar – the running tally of student/teacher days appearing beneath each month was off by 1 day, necessitating the removal of the Unpaid Vacation day in April. There was no impact otherwise to the calendar. The finalized calendar is



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attached for your reference and will be distributed to staff and submitted to the State for final approval.

NOTES ON ENROLLMENT NUMBERS BELOW – 3 drop-outs are pursuing GEDs. 3 of our original MEHS transfers have returned to the district. We are seeing a surge in students shifting to Extensions.

FY25 Enrollment for Same Month = 662

ENROLLMENT REPORT - 2/8/26

Students Enrolled End of FY25	650
Students Graduated FY25	42
New Kinders Fall 2025	52
New to District	21
Returning Students	40
Total Students Withdrawn	62

WITHDRAWAL REPORT	
Enrolled at Mt. Edgecumbe High School	1
Moved Out of State	7
Moved within State	48
Dropped Out	13
Early Graduates	0
TOTAL WITHDRAWN	69

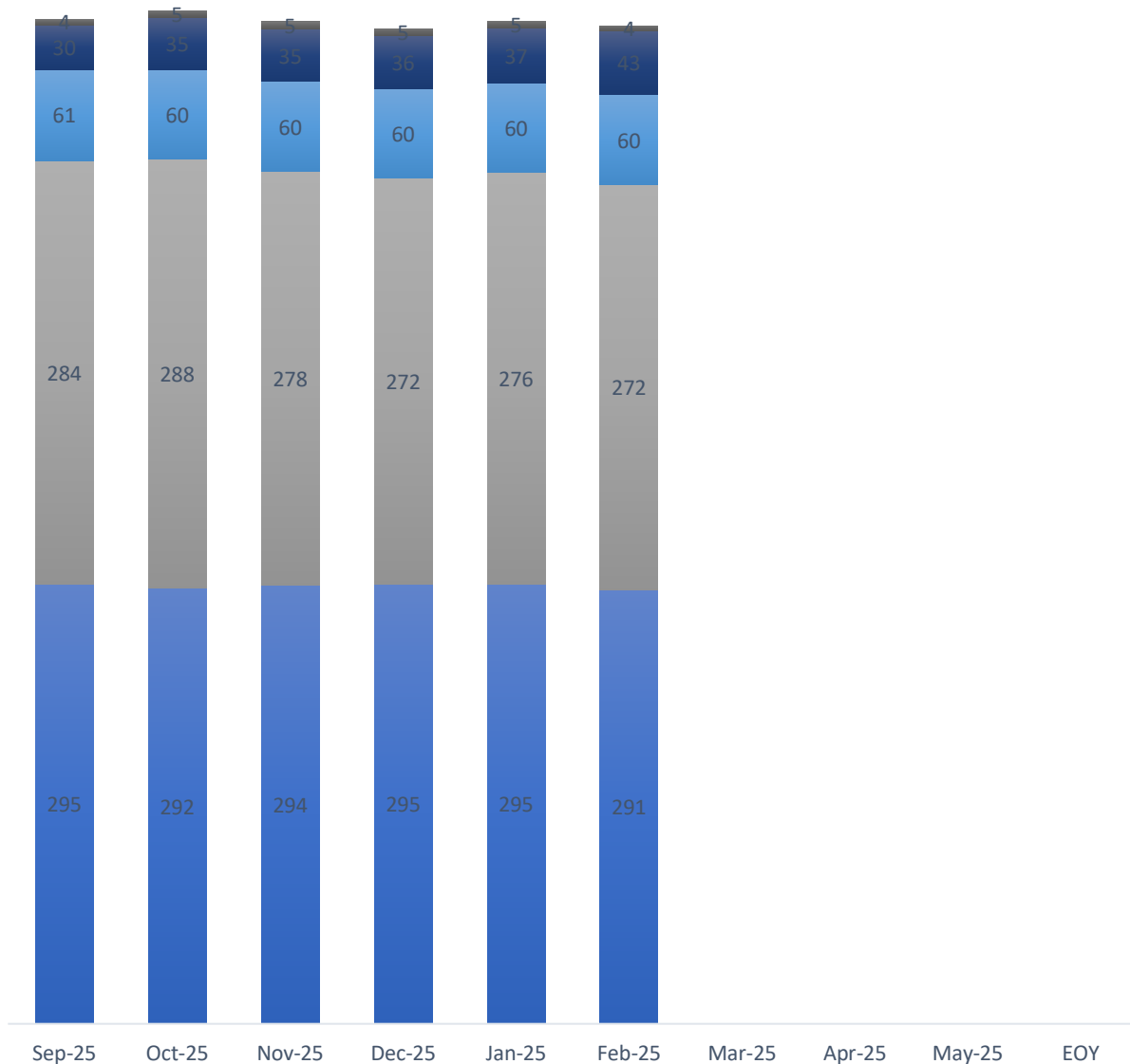
CURRENT DISTRICT ENROLLMENT 2/8/26	
Nome Elementary School	291
Nome-Beltz Middle/High School	272
Anvil City Science Academy	60
Extensions Correspondence Program	43
Pre-K for SPED Svcs. Only	4
TOTAL ENROLLMENT	670



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FY26
Enrollment

- Nome Elementary School
- Anvil City Science Academy
- Pre-K for SPED Svcs. Only
- Nome-Beltz Jr/Sr High School
- Extensions Correspondence Program





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