



Independent School Dist. No. 857
100 County Road 25
Lewiston, MN 55952
(507) 523-2191

Gwen Carman, Superintendent
Cory Hanson, High School Principal • Dave Riebel, PK - Elementary Principal

Building A Caring, Adaptable, Respectful, Determined, Successful Community of Learners

Belief Statements (internal operations- beliefs to drive decisions):

- **LIFELONG LEARNERS:** We believe in the value of education for all ages.
- **ACCOUNTABILITY:** We believe we are accountable for our actions and outcomes.
- **COMMUNITY CENTERED:** We believe our schools are the central hub of our community and essential for building strong communities.
- **ADAPTABLE:** We believe in being responsive to an ever-changing world.
- **RESPECTFUL:** We believe in everyone's right to safety, respect, and dignity in our schools.
- **DIVERSE:** We believe in fostering the value of each other's individual differences, perspectives, and life experiences.
- **STUDENT FOCUSED:** We believe that we are all responsible for the success of students.

Goals

1. **STUDENT SUCCESS:** Provide all students with the education they need for success: academically, emotionally, and socially.
2. **EFFECTIVE STAFFING:** Hire, maintain, train and support staff to be as effective as possible.
3. **FINANCE:** Be financially healthy and sustainable.
4. **FACILITIES:** Have facilities that are safe, modern and conducive to 21st century education.
5. **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:** Engage with parents, community members and business owners.

Superintendent's Report to the School Board

Respectfully Submitted by Gwen Porter

November 10, 2025

Meeting Agenda Items Notes

Facilities Updates Luke Pfothhauer will be present at the meeting. There is also a written update summary attached in the packet.

BID TIMELINE (These bids will be for the bulk of the construction to happen Summer 2026.)

- Pre-bid meeting for Wednesday, December 3rd at 10:00am:. This meeting is facilitated by Gary Lovitz.
- Bid-Opening: December 16th at 2:00pm, in the HS Cafeteria.

Revised FY26 Budget Julie Grant, Business Manager and admin/dept heads have been working on an amended budget to reflect any adjustments from the budget approved in June 2025. Final amended budget recommendations will be put on the agenda on Monday. Julie will be present at the meeting to present and answer questions.

CACR Report I will be doing the annual/required public presentation for our Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness Report. This will include an overview of our MCA data – which we have discussed previously, as well as data specific to the CACR plan.

OTHER ITEMS

Paid Family Medical Leave This will take effect on January 1, 2026. I have been in multiple meetings/conversations about this and how it will impact the district. The information and details continue to evolve.

MSBA Leadership Conference: January 15-16, at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Please let me know if you want to attend.

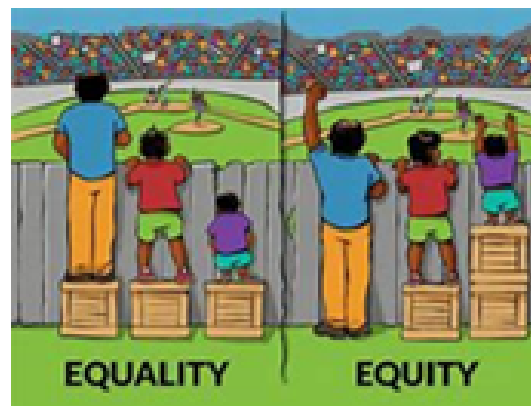
Local Business Meeting We have invited Lewiston and Altura business owners to a meeting on Thursday, November 20th at 3:30pm. This will be our 3rd meeting, since last spring. We will be updating them on the CTE space renovations, our personal skill development grading plans to more intentionally prepare students to be successful employees, opportunities for them to visit classrooms and/or students visit their locations, and a Career Fair Day (February 26th) that we are planning and hoping they will participate in. The Fair will be for students in grades 5-12.

Senior Citizen Dinner We are having this annual dinner on Thursday, December 4th. The doors will open at 10:45am, the meal will be served starting at 11:30am. The high school choir and band will perform starting at 11:00am. We are estimating the cost per meal to be \$7.00. We are going to ask for free-will donation at the door. If the amount of revenue we take in is significantly less than our expenses, I will pursue additional funding from outside resources. Let me know if you would like to help serve this meal.

Lewiston Chamber of Commerce: Activities Director/Dean of Students Ryan Eppen is going to be the guest speaker at the meeting on Wednesday, November 19th at noon at the Heartland Country Club. This is an important opportunity for Mr. Eppen to thank local businesses for their sponsorship of our athletic programs and how we use the funds.

Enrollment

Grade Level	May 29, 2025	Sept 4, 2025	October 6, 2025	November 1, 2025
Kdg	38	29	28	28
1st	26	39	38	38
2 nd	36	28	28	28
3 rd	38	36	36	36
4 th	25	41	41	41
5 th	39	29	28	28
6 th	38	44	44	44
7 th	38	36	36	36
8 th	37	39	39	39
9 th	55	45	45	45
10 th	58	55	54	54
11 th	48	58	58	58
12 th	56	48	48	48
Total	532	527	523	523



Equity is important in all of our decision making.