

## **FEBRUARY 2026 - FROM THE BUSINESS OFFICE:**

Back in the winter of 2022, I was chosen by the Minnesota Department of Education to be a member of their Advisory Committee on Financial Management, Accounting and Reporting. This was for a 3-year term which ended for me in December of 2025. I learned so much while I was on that committee. I was also able to make some great contacts in the MDE Finance Department while working with folks like Deb Meier, Mary Weigel and Molly Koppes. Not only did I have a say and input on UFARS codes that were implemented, changed or deleted, I was also involved with the evolution of all of the finance codes associated with our multitude of Covid ESSER/GEER dollars that were allotted to school district in Minnesota. Being able to be a voice for smaller districts in the State was one of my goals when I was chosen, and I appreciated being a member of the committee and would not hesitate to serve again if I am asked.

Since the last board meeting, I have spent time with fellow staff members on our security team training at Sourcewell on our reunification plans, specifically for special ed and table top exercises for our district-wide plan. I will be involved in another training on February 25<sup>th</sup> with Vanessa Wielenberg and Nicole Cuchna where we will have an opportunity to learn “Train the Trainer” information. I anticipate this will give further information to enhance the presentation I gave to our staff and entities such as Aksamit Transportation, Law Enforcement, etc. on our PD Day in January. By having Vanessa and Nicole train with me, we will be able to continue to serve our staff and students going forward.

Another item of priority in our office is putting together ACA information on all of our payroll staff. When I asked Cindy to give me a synopsis of what she is working on, here was her response:

Google definition - ACA stands for the [Affordable Care Act](#) (often called "Obamacare"), a comprehensive 2010 U.S. health care reform law. It aims to make affordable health insurance available to more people, expand Medicaid, and support innovative medical care delivery methods.

I have to enter data with what we offer employees for insurance and what the rates are to make sure we offer affordable rates to our employees. We have to create the 1095 reports that are given to the state to show who has coverage, who waived coverage and any cobra coverage we carry.

Working with benefits is definitely an area where accuracy and timeliness are top priority!

As always, please call or stop in if you have any questions for me or any of the other folks in the District Office. We enjoy your visits.

*Sherrri Evenson*