

Report to the School Board

September 8, 2025

By Elementary School Principal Dave Riebel

Strategic Priority 1: Student Success

- A Great Start



The Elementary School has enjoyed a smooth start to the 2025-2026 school year. Thank you to all parents for making their Meet and Greet conferences with teachers. The home and school partnerships make for a positive year of learning.

The first days of Elementary are filled with routine building. Thank you to all students and staff for helping the school flow so smoothly.

- Final results from the Spring 2025 MCAs

Two traditional documents for review of the 2025 MCA results in grades 3,4,5 that were recently released by MDE: MCA over time = a look at our grade 3-5 results from 2015 through 2025 to view our trends.

N,S,E,W 2025 comparison = a look at the 2025 results from the four districts that surround Lewiston-Altura.

We continue to see above state average results from the grade 3-5 students thanks to the combined efforts of our PK-5 staff. As we get used to a new reading series this year, we will see what the new curriculum has an effect on our MCA reading results.

Strategic Priority 2: Effective Staffing

- Productive Workshop Week

There are several items to highlight from our before school workshop time:

- Thank you to Sarah Berndt and Kayleen Scheck for leading the new teacher classes.
- Thank you to Tori Todd and Michelle MacPherson for bringing in Kristy Walz from SE Service Cooperative to lead a staff mental health session entitled “Building hope, resiliency and strengths.”
- All language arts teachers took part in a “Getting Started” training for the our new language arts curriculum.
- Our certified staff took an online English Language Learner training of their choice via Project Momentum platform through Southeast Service Cooperative.
- Ms. Lori Ostrander attended some Read Act training last spring in order to provide training to our paraprofessional staff who may work with students within language arts instruction. Ms. Ostrander then used that training to lead our district paraprofessional staff in four sessions: Theoretical Frameworks of reading, Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, and Vocabulary and Comprehension. Thank you Lori for your facilitation and sharing of knowledge.

- Early Childhood Family Education

Planning and preparations are underway for our fall session of ECFE classes. We are offering a morning and an early evening class. We begin with the families that were a part of the classes last spring and are looking to add more. Ms. Lynn Hagmann will again be our ECFE facilitator with Ms. Lombard as the child teacher.

Strategic Priority 3: Finance

- Thanks

Thank you to the members of St Paul’s Lutheran Church for the coordination efforts and the generous donations of school supplies for students and for supplies for staff members. We are blessed to have your generosity.



- New students adding to the nest!

We have welcomed 16 new students from 11 families to our elementary grades. We have had 3 students from 3 families depart for other schools.

Strategic Priority 4: Facilities

- Thanks for your volunteering!

Thank you to the PLAY group for their entrance hallway decorations.

Thank you to Ms. Heftman, Ms. Schulz, Ms. Todd, Ms. Kennedy and Mr Ziebell for their efforts in weeding, trimming and beautification of the landscape areas in front of our school.



- Safety Drill practices:

The fall safety drill practices took place last week setting students up to understand how to react in the case of a fire, a storm warning, a bus emergency and an evacuation of the building. Our walk throughs are intended to set up automatic, calm and safe responses and get repeated throughout the fall.

Tuckpointing

The Elementary School makeover continues as the tuckpointing crew makes their way around the exterior of the building.

Strategic Priority 5: Community Engagement

It was great to see all the families attending the annual Back to School Celebration at the Crossings Center. Lots of haircuts were completed and lots of ice cream disappeared on a beautiful evening.

Go Cardinals!

