



Long Prairie-Grey Eagle Schools

A Small School with Big Opportunities for Each and Every Student!

Superintendent's Report 11/17/2025

Strategic Planning

1. **2026-27 School Calendar:** We are gathering input from stakeholders, the District Leadership Team, and the Professional Development Committee. A staff survey will launch soon. We're exploring how fall parent-teacher conferences (morning and evening) might work, and considering adding an end-of-year professional development day focused on analyzing assessment data from the fall along with two additional professional development days.
2. **Parent/Guardian Input Survey:** After Thanksgiving, we'll send a survey to parents/guardians to establish a baseline for our strategic plan. We will also get feedback from our stakeholder group and leadership teams (elementary, secondary, district).
3. **Open Enrollment:** On November 3 we hosted several benefit vendors so employees could explore health insurance and other options. While the session ran long, it delivered good information. Special thanks to Barb Graves for organizing the fair and collecting enrollment forms.
4. **Professional Development:** We're bringing back the LPGE Professional Conference Day in February. Soon we'll survey teachers to identify topics of interest. After the topics are set, we'll invite staff experts to present. We paused this event last year to focus on READ Act requirements but are now resuming the staff development committee's work.
5. **Pillars & Teachers of Excellence:** We're collecting staff nominations to recommend to Sourcewell at the district, elementary, and secondary levels. A staff survey goes out on the 13th. Let's recognize those who make our district excellent.
6. **District Leadership Team Development:** We're working with PartnerEd to enhance team effectiveness and better serve our students and community. This training builds on "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teams" and will support tangible strategies and commitments ahead.
7. **All-State School Board Recognition:** Congratulations to Board Chair Linda Gohman on being selected for the 2026 All-State School Board. Her recognition brings positive attention to our district and underscores the strength of our leadership team.



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Legislative - Federal Items

- **Department of Education Staffing & Program Delays** - Staff reductions at the U.S. Department of Education have slowed down federal program approvals and grant processing. The major impact for our district has been the freezing of 21st Century Grant Funds
- **Possible Reorganization of K-12 Oversight** - Lawmakers are discussing shifting certain K-12 and Special Education responsibilities away from the Department of Education. If approved, this could change how schools access funding and technical support for federal programs, adding new administrative hurdles for districts.
- **Nutrition & School Meal Policy** - National commissions are reviewing processed food and nutrition standards. Future policy shifts at USDA or in Congress could update school meal requirements or affect grants tied to nutrition and wellness.
- **Teacher Qualification Concerns** - Proposed changes to federal and state rules around licensure may impact teachers serving “out-of-field” in Special Education. If approved, some currently licensed teachers could lose eligibility to remain in those positions.

Legislative - State Items

- **Compensatory Aid** - Changes in how low-income student counts are measured, relying more on direct certification, pose a serious funding risk for FY2027. LPGE could lose \$300K-\$400K in Compensatory Aid if paper forms aren't utilized for counts
- **Blue-Ribbon Commission & Special Education Funding** - The state's Blue-Ribbon Commission is reviewing special education costs to identify possible savings. Many districts are using MA Billing and ADSIS grants recover funds lost in other areas, these also draw from the same place as special education funding. This will likely drive up costs while the commission is tasked to find reductions.
- **Paid Family Medical Leave & ESST Implementation**
The rollout of Paid Family Medical Leave and Earned Sick and Safe Time (ESST) continues to add cost and administrative complexity for schools. Both require adjustments in staffing, scheduling, and bargaining, as well as increasing staff absenteeism.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 357-3605 or email me at dludvigson@lpge.k12.mn.us.

Daniel Ludvigson, the Superintendent of Long Prairie-Grey Eagle Public School