



PIPESTONE AREA SCHOOLS District No. 2689

Dr. Klint W. Willert, Superintendent
Sonja Ortman, MS/HS Principal
Jennifer Moravetz, Elementary Principal
Len Burzynski, Maintenance Director
Lisa Pease, Coordinator of Curriculum, Teaching & Learning, and Continuous Improvement

Jacque Kennedy, Business Manager
Rick Zollner, Activities Director
Josh Stukel, Technology Director
Kim Tuin, Food Service Director

August 17, 2026 Board Report - Lisa Pease

- 1.) Synergy Training: On August 4, 2026, the principals, office staff, and I received a full-day training with the Synergy trainers. Synergy is the student information system that our district utilizes. Last year we looked at the possibility of changing to a different vendor. Instead of changing vendors, we decided it would be in our best interest to have some in-depth training as the majority of our office and certified staff, have never had Synergy training. At our Back-to-School Inservice all of our certified staff will also receive a 4-hour training.
- 2.) Capti Training: On August 5, 2026, two middle school ELA teachers, an Elementary Title Teacher, Mrs. Moravetz, Mrs. Ortman, and I participated in a Capti Data Review Facilitation Training. This training went in-depth on analyzing the Capti data, which will be helpful in creating multi-tiered systems of support for our struggling readers.
- 3.) Reading Assessment Done Right: On Friday, August 7, 2026 I attended a reading assessment workshop at SWWC in Marshall. The presenter was Stephanie Stollar, who is the author of the book *Reading Assessment Done Right*. The book is a practical guide that empowers teachers to use evidence-based reading assessments to screen, diagnose, and monitor student progress effectively.
- 4.) New Teacher Inservice: Our New Teacher Inservice will be held this Wednesday, August 19, 2026. The new teachers will meet with their respective principal, the teacher's union co-presidents, the tech office, Jennifer Dunn from HR, Kyle from Pipestone County Star, and their teacher mentors. Kim and her Taher team will be providing lunch at 12:15pm, which you are invited to attend. We will be in the MSHS Library on the south end. Following lunch, our Admin team will be taking them on a Community Tour around Pipestone.
- 5.) Back-to-School Inservice: Our Back-to-School Inservice will be held from August 24 - 27, 2026. This year our Open House will be on Tuesday, August 25, 2026 and our Welcome Back Breakfast will be on Wednesday, August 26, 2026. You are all invited to attend the breakfast, which will be from 7:45 - 8:15 am in the MSHS Commons. The New Teacher KIWANIS Lunch will also be on Wednesday. Teachers will have time on Monday to prepare for the Open House and later in the week will have synergy training, Appegy training (our new website), required Blood-Borne Pathogens and Seizure Training, Type III Vehicle Training, and Mandated Reporter Training.
- 6.) READ Act Cohorts: There are 3 elementary teachers that will begin their LETRS cohort this fall. They have 2 years to complete their training. We also have 14 middle school and high school teachers, along with Mrs. Ortman, that will begin their STRIVE cohort this fall. This cohort will complete their training by the end of the 2026-27 school year.

7.) Local Literacy Plan/District Literacy Lead: Our 2025-26 Data Submission and 2026-27 Continuous Improvement Plan was submitted to MDE in June by Emily Speer, who was our District Literacy Lead. With cuts to our Title funding, the district needs Emily to serve as a full-time Title teacher, so Lisa Pease will now be the District Literacy Lead.

- Our district uses DIBELS for our Universal Screener for grades K-3. Here is the data reported in our Literacy Plan for the 2025-26 school year:

Grade	Number of Students Universally Screened: Fall	Number of Students at or Above Benchmark: Fall	Number of Students Universally Screened: Winter	Number of Students at or Above Benchmark: Winter	Number of Students Universally Screened: Spring	Number of Students at or Above Benchmark: Spring
Kindergarten	62	28	63	44	64	56
1st	83	27	84	40	83	58
2nd	87	49	88	52	85	54
3rd	74	42	75	42	75	42

- In the 2025-26 school year, all 4th and 5th grade students took the Capti assessment and in grades 6 - 12, only the students that showed reading difficulties after taking the NWEA were assessed. In the 2026-27 school year, all students in grades 4 - 12 will be assessed 3 times per year.
- Pipestone Area School District (2689-01)'s literacy goal(s) for the 2026-27 school year:
 - Goal #1: All secondary ELA, SPED, and ML teachers will receive Strive training during the 2026-2027 school year.
 - Goal #2: At the EOY DIBELS Assessment, 80% of students in kindergarten and first grade will be reading at or above grade level.
- Link to the MDE Local Literacy Plan Report webpage:
 - <https://pub.education.mn.gov/MDEAnalytics/DataTopic.jsp?TOPICID=580>
 - Choose 2025-26 School Year
 - Choose Pipestone Area Schools or any other district in the state of MN