



**Independent School Dist. No. 857**  
**100 County Road 25**  
**Lewiston, MN 55952**  
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*Gwen Carman, Superintendent*  
*Cory Hanson, High School Principal • Dave Riebel, Elementary/Intermediate Principal*

*Lewiston - Altura Schools: Building A Caring, Adaptable, Respectful, Determined, Successful Community*

**Superintendent's Report to the School Board**  
*Respectfully Submitted by Gwen Carman*  
*April 10, 2023*

**Meeting Agenda Item Notes**

**Amended 2022-2023 Budget** Attached to the Board Agenda, are two budget documents – an overall summary of the recommended amended budget, and a summary of the status of the pandemic related funds our district has received. These documents reflect (as we have been discussing), our budget is tight and the pandemic funds have provided significant ‘relief’ the past 3 years to cover not only the increased expenses resulting from the pandemic (e.g., distant learning technology, additional custodial and nursing time) but also general operating funds.

**Strategic Planning Framework:** Attached is the agenda is a draft framework for a potential mission, vision, priorities and goals. Note that this shows an amended/shorter Vision Statement to “Growth, Kindness, Respect for All.” In discussing this with the principals and our mental health service providers, we felt it was important to shorten it so that it would be easier for everyone to remember and display on walls, printed documents, letterhead etc.

We will also update on the Action Team Planning Process at the meeting.

**Facility Improvements and Operating Levy Process** At the meeting, we can discuss the April 3<sup>rd</sup> Community Meeting and your impressions or thoughts. Attached is an informational mailing that will go to all residents prior to the post cards going in the mail. You will also see a final draft of the community survey that will need your final approval before post cards are mailed out on Tuesday.

Bree and I met with Bobby Falcon, administrator for the City of Lewiston on April 4<sup>th</sup> after our meeting. We felt was important that be aware of some of the comments that were made by participants about the City. Subsequently, I agreed that the district would be part of a workshop session the City Council is scheduling for us after their regular 6:00pm meeting on Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of this is for us to share the status of our long range planning and be sure they know we want to work collaboratively. At the our Board meeting, we can discuss what Board members would like to attend this with me.

**Excess Equipment and Materials Auction** We have been working with Grafe Auction to facilitate an online auction for excess equipment and materials in all of our buildings. The tentative schedule is for the various ‘lots’ (an item or items) to open for bidding approximately June 13<sup>th</sup> and close approximately June 20<sup>th</sup>. The dates can fluctuate as we get closer if necessary. We are developing the necessary plans for sorting (move, auction, dispose) at each building. Grafe personnel handle the promotions, organization of items, coordinates buyer payments, and disposes of items that don’t sell.

At the Board meeting I will have contract options with Grafe for your consideration. I also would like you to consider my recommendation that any profits be designated for Elementary Playground Improvements.

### OTHER UPDATES

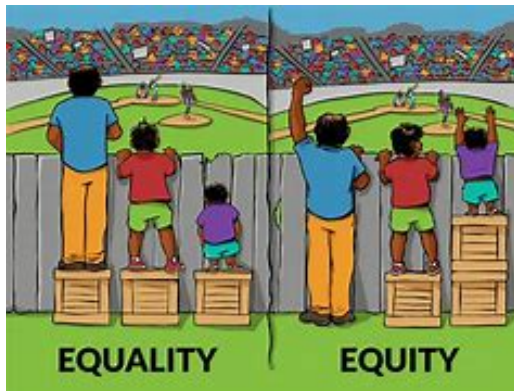
**AED Grant Approved:** Thank you to Brian Menk for receiving a grant from The MSHSL Foundation to purchase an AED for the stadium/track area. This will be an important safety addition for our students, staff and community members. Thank you to all schools who applied for grants to assist with programming in the area of leadership, health and safety and reducing barriers to participation in MSHSL activities.

**Medical Emergency Team:** Thank you to School Nurse Michelle MacPherson for organizing and facilitating CPR and related training for 18 staff who volunteered! Many of these are first time participants! They will join the current members of our medical emergency response teams in each building. These members will assist in the event there is a medical emergency that requires additional assistance and/or a 911 call. We will hold a drill in each building within the next few weeks so each members understands their specific responsibility.

I was so proud of the number of staff who volunteered to do this!. We are paying the training fees, but their time completing the online modules is volunteer. Thank you to Matt Essig, Lewiston First Responder, for all providing on-site training.

**April 2022 Wind Storm Damage Totals** On April 12, 2022 we had a major wind storm (and hail earlier in the day) that blew through the track and field areas behind the high school, and we had hail damage on some of our vehicles and roof vents. The claims are now all finalized and repairs done or equipment replaced. The total paid for by insurance was \$260,092. We paid a \$5000.00 deductible. Thank you to the many staff who have been involved in this long process, including but not limited to Joe Banicki, Brian Menk, the track coaches and team (clean up) and the business office staff.

**Lewiston Chamber of Commerce** If you are able, I encourage you to attend the meeting on Wednesday, April 19th at noon at the Rec Café. There will be a presentation by Joel Hennessy and his vision and plans for housing and commercial development in Lewiston.



A reminder of the importance of considering equity in the work we do:  
Every student deserves our best and what s/he needs to achieve.