

Superintendent Comments
Board Workshop
March 10, 2025

1. Finance Update
Lisa Rider will provide an update related to the FY26 (next year) budget. We have been able to tighten up some assumptions since we introduced the FY26 budget earlier that predicted a \$3m deficit. A projected deficit exists, but it has come down considerably. **One piece of information that we will need going forward is the board's position on using any existing fund balance in next year's budget.** I am not a proponent of using too much of the reserves, but I do believe we can help soften the impact. Last year, the budget had a projected deficit of \$500,000 and we were fortunate to end up with a \$1,000,000 surplus. Last month we amended the budget for the current year and I believe we will be in the black again this year, though not to the same degree.
2. Course Catalog
The high school course catalog will be presented at the meeting. It is important to realize that the budget discussion may force changes to the class offerings. This is an informational item and will not require a vote at the next meeting.
3. K-5 Math Adoption
Emily Seefeldt will present information on the process of selecting a math curriculum for the upcoming year, along with the choice that was made. This is an informational item and will not require a vote at the next meeting.
4. 3M Map/Heart of America
3M, through Heart of America, is in the process of installing a bunch of new equipment and remodeling a space for a Mechatronics program along with Robotics. The overall unveiling is scheduled for April 4th, and the space is set to be fully operational at that time. Several teachers just returned from Tennessee where they received training on the program.
5. 2026-27 School Calendar.
Emily Seefeldt will provide information on the creation of the 2026-27 school calendar. This will require a vote at the next meeting.
6. Response to the Resolution of Non-Concurrence
We have not had time to create a draft of the response. It will be ready in time for the regular board meeting.

7. 2025 Three Year Policy Review.

The policies below are part of the regular three-year review cycle.

- 404 Employee Background Checks
- 415 Mandated Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults
- 417 Chemical Use and Abuse
- 501 School Weapons Policy
- 508 Extended School Year
- 517 Student Recruiting
- 525 Violence Prevention
- 527 Student Use and Parking of Vehicles
- 529 Staff Notification of Violent Behavior by Students
- 533 Wellness

8. BSU Advisorship

The negotiations committee met and discussed the parameters surrounding the position. I am waiting for a response from MSBA about the logistics of adding the position. I hope to have some clarification from MSBA by Monday.

9. Jefferson Building

I spoke with Becky Norton in her role as Red Wing City Council Person. She connected me with some people who may be able to help us revise the RFP proposal that was used in the past to better reflect the current situation. It may be possible to have it in time for the March meeting, but it is more likely to be one more month.

10. Cell Phone Policy Review

The legislature has required that schools have a cell phone policy in place by March 15th. We do have a policy in place, so the requirement has been met. Several board members have inquired about a change in the existing policy, so that is the source of the questions.