

Superintendent's Report

Regular Board Meeting

April 25, 2023

Tonight's Topics

- Student Representative Reports
- Strategic Planning Update
- Legislative Update
- Bond Rating Update
- District-Wide Graduation Rate Update

Student Representative Reports

Elsa Priest - East High School

Lauryn Molitor - Denfeld High School

Destiny Williams - Area Learning Center

Joniya Metcalf - Area Learning Center

Preliminary Strategic Directions

Supporting Every Student

Advancing Equity

Improving Effective and Efficient Systems

Preliminary Strategic Directions

Supporting Every Student:

Duluth Public Schools will utilize a multi-tiered system of supporting students to improve instructional practices to best meet the needs of every learner. Educators will work together to determine students' learning, behavioral, and social-emotional strengths and challenges. Strategies will be implemented to create positive learning environments. Students will be provided extra support to grow and improve through intervention and enrichment.

Preliminary Strategic Directions

Advancing Equity:

Duluth Public Schools will be a place where everyone feels a sense of belonging and accomplishment. We are committed to strengthening relationships and building trust with all communities. To accomplish this goal, we will create an Equity Implementation and Accountability Plan to increase our ability to think, behave, work, and lead with an equity mindset. As part of the plan, all staff will receive ongoing diversity, equity, and inclusion training.

Preliminary Strategic Directions

Improving Effective and Efficient Systems:

Duluth Public Schools will engage in ongoing effort to improve support services, processes and resource allocation. We will focus on recruiting, hiring, growing, and retaining highly effective and dedicated staff to educate, support and inspire our students to reach their full potential. We will provide clean and safe environments for children and create physical settings that are appropriate for learning. We will create a budget that meets the educational needs of our students. To do so, we will implement a budget forecasting model that aligns our resources with our district priorities.

Strategic Planning Updates

Next Steps:

In our next board work session on May 8th, we will finalize our Mission, Vision and Values.

We plan to approve the Strategic Roadmap at our May board meeting. We planned to come at this meeting, but were delayed due to a weather cancelation.

Legislative Updates

District lobbying efforts remain very important at this time. The House Omnibus Bill passed late last week and the Senate is finalizing theirs at this time. There are a wide range of policy provisions at this time that are of interest to us all.

Bond Rating Update

Moody's Investors Service has upgraded the district's Issuer Rating two levels to A3 from Baa2!

The transparent and responsible fiscal stewardship of the district and school board is being recognised in such a way. Moving up two levels in a Moody's rating only happens through hard work and thoughtful financial management over time.

District-Wide Graduation Rates

All Students	2020-21	2021-22
State	83.8	83.3
District	71.47	76.66

District-Wide Graduation Rates

District-Wide Graduation Rates

- All Students increased 5.6%
- American Indian Students increased 1.48%
- Hispanic or Latino increased 11.95%
- Black Students increased 1.91%
- Two or more Races increased .42%
- White Students increased 5.85%
- Free and Reduced Lunch increased 3.18%
- All of these, except American Indian, Hispanic/Latino and Black students have returned to pre-pandemic levels or better.