

# Superintendent's Report

May 13, 2026

J. Sterling Morton High School District 201

Dr. Michael Kuzniewski, Superintendent

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## District Overview and End-of-Year Momentum

As we enter the final weeks of the 2025–2026 school year, I would like to commend our students, staff, and families for their continued commitment and resilience. Across all campuses, we are seeing strong engagement, consistent attendance efforts, and meaningful participation in end-of-year activities. This period reflects both the culmination of the year's work and an important time to ensure that all students finish strong academically.

Administrators report a focused and productive learning environment as we move through final instructional units, assessments, and preparations for graduation and promotion ceremonies. Tonight we say goodbye to our student BOE members Adrian and Megan. We welcome the

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## Student Achievement and Instructional Focus

Instructional efforts during May remain centered on closing the academic year with rigor and targeted support:

- Teachers are administering final assessments and preparing students for successful course completion.
  - Intervention strategies, tutoring, and credit recovery options continue to support students in meeting graduation and promotion requirements.
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## Student Life, Engagement, and Recognition

May is one of the most active and celebratory times of the school year, providing students with a variety of opportunities to engage and be recognized:

- Campus activity reports highlight strong participation in athletics, student organizations, and co-curricular programming.

- Students are participating in regional, state, and national events, including:
  - Midwest and Boys' Rugby competitions
  - Special Olympics State Track Meet
  - Educators Rising National Conference
  - FCCLA National Leadership Competition

These experiences promote leadership, collaboration, and school pride while allowing students to represent District 201 at a high level.

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## **Student Health, Safety, and Attendance**

The health and well-being of our students remain a top priority:

- Health Services reports from the Freshman Center, East Campus, and West Campus reflect the ongoing work of our nursing staff in supporting student wellness and attendance.
- The Monthly Truancy Officer Report highlights continued monitoring and intervention efforts to address absenteeism and improve student engagement.

Together, these supports play a critical role in removing barriers to learning and ensuring student success.

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## **Family and Community Engagement**

The district continues to value strong partnerships with families and the community:

- End-of-year events, celebrations, and campus activities have provided meaningful opportunities for family engagement.
  - We remain committed to maintaining open communication and fostering relationships that support our students beyond the classroom.
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## **Personnel and Organizational Work**

At the district level, we continue to focus on staffing, recruitment, and organizational planning:

- The Personnel Report reflects ongoing efforts to ensure high-quality staffing across all campuses along with administrative and non-bargaining salaries for 26-27.
  - Staff engagement in professional development opportunities at both the state and national levels continue to strengthen instructional practices.
  - We are well into the Morton West principal selection having utilized stakeholders from parents, students, staff and district curriculum staff.
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## Facilities, Operations, and Summer Planning

Preparation for summer operations is well underway:

- The proposed **Morton West Masonry Project** represents an important investment in maintaining and improving district facilities.
  - Summer planning includes maintenance projects, infrastructure updates, and preparation of instructional spaces for the upcoming school year.
  - Operational teams are coordinating efforts to ensure all projects are completed efficiently with minimal disruption.
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## Looking Ahead

As we conclude the school year, our focus will remain on:

- Final assessments and grading processes
- Graduation ceremonies and student transitions
- Budget planning and staffing for the 2026–2027 school year
- Summer programming and facility readiness

We are proud of the progress made this year and look forward to a strong finish.

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## My Agenda Items for Tonight

### Agenda Items to Highlight

### **Agenda Item 9.3 – Superintendent’s Report Attachments**

Included in your Board packet are Student Activity Reports and Health Services Reports from each campus, along with the Monthly Truancy Officer Report.

### **Agenda Item 9.8 – Principals’ Reports**

Our principals will provide brief updates this evening. Detailed written reports are included in the Board packet for your review.

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## **Consent Agenda**

### **Agenda Item 11.1 – Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from both the closed and open sessions of the April 8, 2026, Regular Board Meeting are included for approval.

### **Agenda Item 11.4 – Student Discipline**

Student disciplinary cases, including changes of placement and expulsions, are listed with corresponding recommendations for Board action.

## **Action Agenda**

12.2. First Reading of PressPlus 121:

12.4. Approval of Student Board Member Election Results for 26-27 School Year

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## **Closing**

I would like to thank the Board of Education for its continued leadership and support. I also extend my sincere appreciation to our staff, students, and families for their dedication to the District 201 community. It is an honor to serve this district during such an important time.