



Menahga Principal's Board Report

Lisa Parrish and Michelle Koch

February, 2026

CELEBRATIONS:

Congratulations to our Honor Roll and our Perfect Attendance Students. Please see the handout presented at the meeting.

Sourcewell's Pillar of Excellence:

Christina Albin-

"Christina's supportive leadership has built a strong, dependable transportation team. Drivers trust her, families appreciate her communication, and staff rely on her steady coordination. She models professionalism, patience, and grace in a role where every detail matters."



Sourcewell's Pillar of Excellence:

Katie Walsh-

"Katie embodies what it means to be a Pillar of Excellence through her kindness, collaboration, and innovative spirit. She is a trusted colleague who continually seeks ways to improve systems for the benefit of both students and staff. Her leadership was evident when she proposed and developed a digital version of the district's PCA information, taking full initiative to design user-friendly forms and organize district-wide due dates. Her colleagues fondly call her the "Spreadsheet Guru" for her technical expertise and willingness to share her skills to make everyone's work more efficient."



Sourcewell's Educator of Excellence

Megan Huus-

"Megan consistently goes above and beyond to meet the diverse needs of her learners, creating engaging, real-world opportunities that spark curiosity, build confidence, and foster a strong sense of responsibility. A standout example of her innovation is the Entrepreneurial Coffee Shop Project, a grant-funded initiative she helped design and bring to life with her fifth-grade students. Megan's outside-the-box thinking, passion for student success, and commitment to expanding opportunities for learners are truly unparalleled."



Sourcewell's Educator of Excellence

Randy Thompson-

"Randy takes time to get to know each students' interests, strengths, and goals and uses that knowledge to guide them toward career pathways that fit their futures. Through strong relationships, creative planning, and a passion for student success, Randy demonstrates daily his commitment to exceptional teaching and impactful learning."



Elementary Update and High School Update:

Second semester is off to a strong start in both buildings and is going very well overall. Classrooms are engaged, routines are solid, and students have settled nicely into the second half of the year. Progress reports have been sent home or are currently being distributed, providing families with an important checkpoint on student growth and learning.

It's hard to believe how quickly February is flying by. As we move through the heart of winter, we continue to focus on maintaining momentum, supporting students academically and socially, and keeping communication strong with families.

Winter Assessment Reports

aMath and aReading assessments have been completed. Data is being reviewed and student needs assessed.

Menahga School Board Student Representative

As of the publication of this report, we have two students interested in supporting the Menahga School Board as a student representative. They are reflecting on two questions. Mr. Hedstrom and I will review the responses and have a decision to bring to the board as soon as we can!

- *Why do you want to serve as the student representative on the Menahga School Board?
In your response, describe what Menahga Schools mean to you and why student voice is important in our community. Share one area of school life (academics, activities, school climate, student support, etc.) where you believe student perspective can help guide school board decisions.*
- *How would you represent the voices of Menahga students at the school board level?
Explain how you would gather input from a wide range of students and communicate their ideas, concerns, and celebrations to the board. Include an example of how you have shown leadership, responsibility, or service within the Menahga school community.*
- **Important Dates:**
 - a. Feb 11th -Jump Rope for Heart
 - b. Feb 11th-Coronation/Winter Activities Pepfest

- c. Feb. 11th-20th SnowDaze
- d. Feb 12th -Special Olympics @ Camp Confidence
- e. Feb. 16th -President's Day-No School
- f. Feb. 17th -No School/PT Conferences Spring Showcase
- g. Feb. 17th -Random Act of Kindness Day
- h. Feb. 18th -School Bus Driver Appreciation Day
- i. April 1st-Menahga Career Expo

Menahga Principal Goals for 2025-2026

In alignment with the District Strategic Plan, we would like to collectively propose the following goals for the 2025-2026 school year.

Goal 1: Strengthen Literacy and Academic Achievement

Ensure all students achieve at high levels by implementing evidence-based reading instruction aligned with the Minnesota READ Act, closing racial and economic achievement gaps, and building staff capacity in differentiated instruction to support the diverse needs of learners.

- Academic interventions currently happening in K-12
- Walk throughs happening in all classrooms
- Lisa Parrish and Andria Bristow are attending monthly Literacy Meetings at Sourcewell and communication updates to shape future planning for Menahga Public Schools
- Capti Training is scheduled for literacy teachers in 4th-12th grade on January 19th, 2026
- Three hours of Bridges curriculum development time scheduled for January 19th, 2026
- First round of observations for all probationary staff are complete
- Second round of observations for probationary staff are beginning

Goal 2: Expand Career Pathways and Authentic Learning Opportunities

Increase student engagement and readiness for college, career, and life by developing cross-curricular, career-connected learning experiences; expanding community and business partnerships; and providing authentic, hands-on opportunities such as senior capstone projects and internships.

- The Committee met and planned accordingly for further advancement
- Expansion through "Career Play" in Kindergarten
- Expansion of Entrepreneurship in 5th Grade- Coffee Shop
- Career Pathways Week in November, including Elementary
- 2025-2026 Career Pathways Committee Training scheduled with Sourcewell

Goal 3: Support the Whole Child and Invest in Staff Development

Provide comprehensive supports that meet the academic, social, emotional, and behavioral needs of all students, while ensuring every student has a positive connection with a caring adult. Strengthen staff recruitment, professional development, and training—including emerging tools such as AI—to sustain a future-focused and supportive learning environment.

- New staff taking part in Sourcewell's New Teacher Academy, moved to MPS

- New staff taking part in Mentorship with Kerry White
- AI Training for PreK-12 certified staff on November 14th
- Capti Training is scheduled for literacy teachers in 4th-12th grade on January 19th, 2026
- Data meetings and coaching cycles being implemented with Teaching and Learning Coordinator
- Monitoring of ADSIS interventions in K-12
- ACT testing coordination in process for grades 11 and 12

Menahga School District Enrollment

Grade Level	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	March	April	May	
PreK	41	41	39	39	38				
K	85	85	84	84	82				
1	62	61	60	61	61				
2	73	73	73	72	72				
3	74	73	73	74	73				
4	82	81	81	80	80				
5	67	65	65	66	66				
6	76	75	75	75	75				
7	77	75	74	73	78				
8	80	79	79	80	84				
9	76	76	75	75	74				
10	93	92	92	92	90				
11	70	65	65	64	63				
12	73	72	72	73	73				
Total	1029	1013	1007	1008	1009				
OpenEd			131	129	129				
Total			1138	1,137	1,138				

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Parrish and Michelle Koch

