

Teaching and Learning - Board Report

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April 8, 2025

Positive Talking Points:

Pillar #1: Teaching, Learning, and Relevance

- April 21st is our Spring PD day. That day is being reserved for teachers to complete much of the work we have been working towards. This includes:
 - Curriculum documentation - cleaning up past years' documents and identifying which of the documents are our curricular documents (there have been several documents over the past 6 years)
 - Canvas course pages and professional development
 - Professional learning opportunities in AI and other items
- The elementary made some key decisions in regards to curriculum and resources:
 - Social Studies will change for next year. We will no longer use Studies Weekly. In K-2, with the Social Studies emphasis in CKLA, we are opening the day by removing the 30-minute requirement of instruction each week. In place of it, we will be creating customized activities that engage students in experiencing the topics needed to meet the Social Studies requirements. Using CKLA alone is more Social Studies than Studies Weekly provided. In grades 3+, we will keep our schedule but will work on changing what we do.
 - The standards-based report card is moving forward. Now, the training begins to reflect on what grading means and how we achieve a grade.

Pillar #2: The Whole Student

- We are readying for our final intervention session this year (it is hard to believe we are nearing the end already).
- Testing season is in full swing. All testing will be completed by the end of April.
- ACT scores are back for students but will not be given to the district for several weeks.

Pillar #3: Communication and Community Engagement

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Pillar #4: District Workforce

- Act 20 Update: One of the requirements within Act 20 is that all 4K-3 teachers are trained in a DPI approved program on the science of reading. So far, all of our K-3 teachers have been enrolled in Cox Campus and engaged in monthly training provided by CESA 9 to support the monthly Cox Campus topic and how it ties to CKLA. Training will continue through next year (3 additional sessions), culminating with an online assessment through Cox Campus. Once the assessment is passed, teachers will receive a stipend for their time. This training will be followed up with coaching from CESA 9 during the 2025-2026 school year. In other words, we are going to go beyond the DPI expectation, ensuring our teachers are supported and understanding how this new learning can impact students through lesson development.

- We will be hiring our new Mentors for the 2025-2026 school year in early May - completing the New Teacher Mentor process that was changed earlier this year.

Pillar #5: Operational Excellence

- We are moving, rather quickly, to contracts with vendors for one year. Sometimes, there is a small discount for a multi-year purchase, and with a declining enrollment, we often end up not using all of the seat licenses. This move will allow us to budget more effectively (we essentially eliminate the \$300,000 one-year expenses for smaller annual expenses). It also allows us to be more flexible in our curriculum/resource planning.

