Lakeview Junior High School
April '26 Board Report

Goal One – Education

We are pleased to share that our staff has successfully completed a series of professional development sessions focused on learner characteristics and the executive functioning skills necessary for students to become leaders of their own learning. This work represents an important step in strengthening our instructional practices and deepening our understanding of how to best support student growth, independence, and ownership.

As part of the presentation team, I had the opportunity to engage closely with staff throughout this process. I was consistently impressed by the level of professionalism demonstrated by our teachers and their thoughtful questions, reflective conversations, and active engagement made each session meaningful and impactful. Staff approached this learning with a clear commitment to improving outcomes for students and fostering environments where learners can take greater responsibility for their progress.

This series was made possible by providing opportunities for staff to extend their learning beyond the district. By attending external professional development and bringing those insights back to share with colleagues, our teachers helped build collective capacity across the school. This model of shared learning continues to strengthen collaboration and ensures that new strategies and ideas are implemented with consistency and purpose.

Investing in the ongoing growth of our staff remains essential. By continuing to build our educators' understanding of learner characteristics and executive functioning, we are better positioned to provide high-quality instruction and create learning environments where all students can thrive. This work directly supports our goal of developing confident, capable students who are equipped to take ownership of their learning.

Goal Two – Essentials

I am excited to share highlights from the recent musical production of *Guys and Dolls* at Lakeview Junior High. This event was a wonderful showcase of the incredible talent, dedication, and collaboration of both our students and staff. Our student performers truly shined on stage, demonstrating confidence, creativity, and a high level of performance skill. Beyond the spotlight, many students played essential roles behind the scenes, designing and creating the backgrounds, managing lighting and sound, and serving as part of the stage crew. Their collective efforts brought the production to life and created a memorable experience for all who attended.

This production would not have been possible without the leadership and commitment of our staff. A special thank you goes to Mrs. Rickert for her vision and direction, Mr. Ohlsen for his endless hours of hard work and support, and Jessica Rost and Joy Defors for the countless hours they dedicated to making the production a success. Their passion and commitment to our students were evident in every aspect of the performance.

We would also like to extend our sincere appreciation to our custodial team, parent volunteers, and teachers who all played an important role in making this production possible. This musical was truly a team effort and a testament to what can be accomplished when a school community comes together. It was an amazing experience for our students and a proud moment for Lakeview Junior High.

Thank you for your continued support of the arts and opportunities that allow our students to shine.

Goal Three – Environment

We are pleased to share the completion of a meaningful addition to the front of Lakeview Junior High through the Eagle Scout project of Caleb Plagman. As part of his project, Caleb designed, organized, and oversaw the installation of two benches that now provide a welcoming space for students, families, and visitors to gather.

It has been especially rewarding to witness the full journey of this project, from Caleb presenting his idea to the Board of Education, to the planning and coordination involved, and ultimately to seeing the finished benches in place at the front of our school. His initiative, leadership, and follow-through are commendable and reflect the very qualities we strive to develop in our students.

The benches not only enhance the physical environment of our school, but also contribute to a greater sense of community and belonging. They offer a simple yet meaningful space for connection and reflection, helping to create a more inviting atmosphere for all who enter Lakeview Junior High.

Projects like this highlight the positive impact students can have when they take ownership and seek opportunities to contribute to their school community. It is inspiring to see students like Caleb looking for ways to leave a lasting mark and improve the learning environment for others.

We extend our sincere appreciation to Caleb for his dedication and to all who supported him in bringing this project to life.