

# Report to the School Board

February 10, 2025

By Elementary School Principal Dave Riebel

## Strategic Priority 1: Student Success

- LA CARES assembly – January = Assertion

We welcomed an exciting guest to our January assembly. Ms. Jeanne Svobodny, former Dover-Eyota elementary school principal and published author came to present her children's book to our school. Ms. Svobodny was able to describe the process needed to write and publish a book, followed by an all school reading of her book "Annie's 4<sup>th</sup> of July". Lots of connections to assertion were found and highlighted by students within the story. Two hard cover copies of the book were donated to our elementary school library for check out. Thanks Jeanne!



- Parent Teacher conferences

Thank you to all of our parents who selected a time slot and met with homeroom teachers and visited specialists during the February Parent-Teacher conferences. These mid-year discussions help set the path to a positive remainder of the year for students. We continue to enjoy near perfect or perfect attendance in these classroom conferences.

- Book Fair

An exciting routine of our February conference nights is for students and families attending the Scholastic Book Fair before or after their conference. Besides getting books into the hands of our students, our school library benefits from free books via a rewards program based on BookFair purchases.



## Strategic Priority 2: Effective Staffing

- January 24 professional development day.

The majority of our elementary staff worked on Module 7 of 9 in our Read Act trainings. We are scheduled to complete the final two modules during our upcoming February and March PD days.

The elementary school paraprofessional staff participated in a half day inservice with presentors from Winona Home and Community Options (HCO). The presentation had two goals for their presentation; To understand what behavior is and The role of the support staff during a behavior and how to support alternative behaviors.

- Elementary Principal's Institute:

Mr. Riebel was appreciative of being able to attend this year's MESPA principal's institute which had the theme "Better Together", on Feb. 5-7. The chance to listen to motivating speakers, attend sessions on culture, technology, collaboration, state initiatives, student issues, and staff issues were on the agenda. One of the most valuable parts of institute is to simply connect, share, barrow and talk with fellow elementary principals.

## Strategic Priority 3: Finance

- Budget process under way

Elementary staff were asked in January to submit their grade level/departmental budgets by looking at the needs of their students in the upcoming 2025-2026 school year. The next step is to combine these grade level and department budget requests into a building wide preliminary budget for Ms. Carman and Ms. Schreiber.

## Strategic Priority 4: Facilities

- You can see it in the halls!

A shout out to our Elementary Staff!! Below is picture walk up and down the hallways of the elementary highlight the learning taking place within the classrooms. In the main hallway, we continue to highlight the LA CARES attributes of our students and staff. Thank you to the many helpers that highlight the positives that happen everyday in our building.



## Strategic Priority 5: Community Engagement

- February is I Love to Read month with many activities in our building.
- Read Across America Week aligns with Dr. Suess's birthday and will be a part of our schedules on March 3-7.