



Independent School Dist. No. 857
100 County Road 25
Lewiston, MN 55952
(507) 523-2191

Gwen Carman, Superintendent
Cory Hanson, High School Principal • Dave Riebel, PK - Elementary Principal

Building A Caring, Adaptable, Respectful, Determined, Successful Community of Learners

Belief Statements (internal operations- beliefs to drive decisions):

- **LIFELONG LEARNERS:** We believe in the value of education for all ages.
- **ACCOUNTABILITY:** We believe we are accountable for our actions and outcomes.
- **COMMUNITY CENTERED:** We believe our schools are the central hub of our community and essential for building strong communities.
- **ADAPTABLE:** We believe in being responsive to an ever-changing world.
- **RESPECTFUL:** We believe in everyone’s right to safety, respect, and dignity in our schools.
- **DIVERSE:** We believe in fostering the value of each other’s individual differences, perspectives, and life experiences.
- **STUDENT FOCUSED:** We believe that we are all responsible for the success of students.

Goals

1. **STUDENT SUCCESS:** Provide all students with the education they need for success: academically, emotionally, and socially.
2. **EFFECTIVE STAFFING:** Hire, maintain, train and support staff to be as effective as possible.
3. **FINANCE:** Be financially healthy and sustainable.
4. **FACILITIES:** Have facilities that are safe, modern and conducive to 21st century education.
5. **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:** Engage with parents, community members and business owners.

Superintendent’s Report to the School Board

Respectfully Submitted by Gwen Carman

September 9, 2024

Meeting Agenda Items Notes

Policies The agenda includes additional policies that can be approved on a first reading by the Board. These policy updates are primarily driven by statute changes and are recommended by MSBA.

MCAs Administration will give an overview of Spring 2024 MCA results. Overall, we are pleased with the results and proud of our teachers and students for the growth!

Food Service Updates and Contracting with St. John’s for Food Service Director Services L-A Food Service Director will provide updates on our Food Service programs, and her work with HVED and proposed contract with St. John’s Lutheran School.

School Board Recognition Month; Public School Board Members Have Heart! MSBA is now recognizing September as School Board Appreciation month. Lewiston – Altura students and all public school students benefit every day from the leadership and vision of school board members. School board members devote hours of their time each week to provide leadership for our school district. Thank you for all you do!

Resolution to Set Levy at Maximum: The Board must approve a final levy for pay 2025 in December. In September, the Board must approve a resolution to set the levy at ‘maximum’. Virtually all school districts do this. The formulas are

finalized by December and you are approving in September to approve the levy at the maximum allowed amount. Note that this is for the local levy; the district receives far more dollars in State Aid (and federal dollars).

OTHER ITEMS

Another School Year Begins! It is great to have our halls and classrooms busy with teachers, students and staff again! Thank you to everyone (food service, bus and van drivers, office staff, paraprofessionals and principals too!) for working hard on all of the details to make sure things go smoothly the first day and parents and students feel WELCOME! It is just great to see so many smiles!

Upcoming Meeting and Events Schedule: Please review the dates on the agenda.

Solar Panel Projects Underway Brok Johnson from Solar Connections Inc was here on September 5th to begin the final placement planning at the high school and elementary school. The high school panels will require a relocation of the discus throwing field. The grant dollars will pay for the costs to pour a different concrete pad for throwing from.

Literacy Aid MOU Negotiations with EdMN/L-A Board Negotiators (Maki, Pringle, Baer) will need to meet with representatives from EdMN/L-A to discuss the \$40,000 allocation to our district for the purpose of training for the READ Act. This funding requires a MOU with the Union on the funds use. I am in the process of getting clarifications on this from MASA, MDE and MSBA

Referendum Information The website www.cardinalstrong.net is now up with much information. An e-newsletter is also now available <https://secure.smore.com/n/xrms8>.



Thank you to the MANY volunteers and Dashir staff for getting the sod laid in front of the high school!



L-A Admin Team at the 1st Annual Cardinal Foundation Golf Tournament on Aug 10th. We finished tied for 8th out of 18 teams! 😊

