



# PIPESTONE AREA SCHOOLS

District No. 2689

Dr. Clint W. Willert, Superintendent

Sonja Ortman, MS/HS Principal

Jennifer Moravetz, Elementary Principal

Len Burzynski, Maintenance Director

Lisa Pease, Coordinator of Curriculum, Teaching & Learning, and Continuous Improvement

Jacque Kennedy, Business Manager

Rick Zollner, Activities Director

Josh Stukel, Technology Director

Kim Tuin, Food Service Director

## January 26, 2026 Board Report - Lisa Pease

- 1.) January 19, 2026 Inservice/Work Day: Elementary staff and 6th grade ELA teachers met with a Benchmark Advance trainer for half of the day to have some professional development regarding reading comprehension components and lessons. We have one more training session that was included with our purchase. Mrs. Moravetz is working with her Leadership Team Members to determine the topic of their next session. We are also looking into scheduling some "demo days" where each grade level will have an opportunity to meet with a trainer to plan and carry out a lesson and then debrief the lesson together. Implementing any new ELA curriculum is a heavy lift as there are so many components that are included for implementation. The middle/high school teachers were given time to complete their grading and work on finalizing their report cards. The paraprofessionals finished up their last Literacy Training for Paraprofessionals.
- 2.) NAEP Update: I met with the NAEP representative last week and we have all of the pre-work completed for the assessment that will take place on March 5, 2026. Parents of 8th graders were notified via email on January 14, 2026 of the assessment. If parents wish to opt their child out of taking the assessment, they will need to notify Mrs. Ortman in writing by February 5, 2026.
- 3.) eduCLIMBER: We have completed our onboarding process and have 4 virtual sessions scheduled for training our staff. EduCLIMBER only allows up to 30 participants for the virtual training sessions; however, we will receive a recording of the training session. Teachers will be given time to view the training sessions during upcoming Wednesday Early Dismissals beginning in March. This will be a valuable tool moving forward as it will be a "one-stop shop" to be able to see the progress of each child.
- 4.) Reading MCA-IV: I attended a virtual workshop through the Southwest West Central Service Cooperative with presenters from MDE last Wednesday to learn more about the transition from the Reading MCA-III to the MCA-IV, which will be given this year. They provided information on the similarities and differences between the two assessments as well as information on how the new anchor standards will be assessed. I will be setting up a meeting with the ELA teachers to share this information with them.

*"Inspire life-long learners. Build Character. Prepare them for their future."*

5.) DIBELS Testing: The DIBELS Middle of the Year assessment window closed on Friday. The only grade that had completed their assessments at the time I was writing my report was the kindergarten class. This is the second year we have implemented UFLI (a phonics program) and the first year of implementing WIN (What I Need). As you can see from the chart below, the academic gains from the beginning of the year to the middle of the year have been tremendous! The other grade levels (Grades 1 - 3) are seeing similar gains as well, so I want to give kudos to our teachers for the work that they are doing day in and day out in their classrooms. They are definitely making a difference!



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