

## Waterville-Elysian-Morristown Public Schools #2143

Waterville High School 500 East Paquin St., Waterville, MN 56096 (507)362-4432 www.wem.k12.mn.us

## **Achievement and Integration Progress Update**

We recently reported to MDE about our A & I grant. We had three goals to accomplish in a three year span. Our first goal was to improve ACT test scores from a 19.8 in 2023 to a 22.0 by June 30, 2026. We did not meet our goal or even our baseline by students scoring a composite score of 17 in 2023 and that lowering to a composite score of 16.7 last year. We are going to monitor what we do for ACT prep, work with this year's juniors to come up with a plan to make sure that scores improve in some fashion and build into our school day, a way to assist these students in preparing for and accomplishing a goal of doing well for college prep.

Our second goal was to raise the students' feelings of being safe at school, from the 81% baseline to a 100% in the three-year span. From the School Perspectives survey given last year, it looked like 85% of the students did feel safe at school. Even though we are moving in the right direction, we are not gaining as many percentage points as we need to meet the goal. It is something I would like to find out from our student body, but feel school board approval would need to be agreed upon for a survey to be sent out to students.

Finally, our third goal was to hire and maintain a staff with some diversity going from 3% to 5% by the next school year. It was told to me that we have had a couple of part-time employees with a diverse background a few years ago, but they have since left the district with no new employees making up this category for us. We will continue to monitor applications and promote a culture of diversity allowing all types of staff to be hired across the district.

Brandon Tagg
WEM High School Principal