

Superintendent's Report

Month: February 2026

Administrator: Dedrick Martin

Update:

Regional Economic Development Visibility:

Over the past several weeks, I attended both the *State of the Economy* event hosted by Southwest Michigan First and the *Strength of the Region Luncheon* sponsored by Jaqua. At both events, the Career Connect Campus was prominently highlighted as part of the approximately \$9.5 billion in regional investment currently underway across Southwest Michigan, reinforcing the Campus's growing visibility and significance within the region's economic development efforts.

State Superintendent Engagement – Governmental Immunity:

I was one of three superintendents invited to meet with the newly appointed State Superintendent to discuss the importance of maintaining governmental immunity protections for school staff, administrators, and board members. The discussion focused on recent external pressures to expand personal liability for schools and school officials in response to tragic incidents occurring within our state and nationally. We emphasized the importance of preserving existing legal protections for educators who act responsibly and in good faith, while noting that current law already provides accountability in cases of gross negligence. The State Superintendent was receptive to these concerns and expressed an understanding of the need to balance accountability with appropriate protections for those serving in public education.