



ADMINISTRATION REPORTS SEPTEMBER 2025

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES & HUMAN RESOURCES

by: Shawn Kirkeide

Wellness

Our Wellness Team is off to a fantastic start this year, offering a variety of opportunities to support staff well-being. Current and upcoming initiatives include:

- **Flu Shot Clinics** available this fall.
- **Fall Step Challenge**, open to all employees, encouraging the formation of teams of eight to collectively walk the 2,448 miles of Route 66. Runs from September 22-November 2.
- **Indoor Walking Programs** offered at CIHS and IMS.
- **Weightlifting Opportunities** available at CMS.

Additionally, beginning this month, the monthly newsletter will feature a new section titled “**Mental Health Matters.**” This section will provide employees with practical tools, informative highlights, and resources to promote mental health and overall well-being.

These initiatives are directly aligned with Strategic Plan Result Statement 3.8: *Enhance workplace well-being for all staff.* For further details, please see the September Newsletter.

FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

by: Christopher Kampa, CFA

Finance

At the next board meeting, the preliminary tax levy will be set, and we are pleased to report that we are projecting a slight decrease in property taxes, continuing the positive trend from last year’s reduction. In addition, the annual audit is underway, and early indicators suggest another financially successful year for the district. These outcomes reflect our ongoing commitment to strong fiscal management and responsible stewardship of taxpayer resources.

Transportation

The transportation team reports a smooth start to the school year, with routes running well across the district, including Early Childhood. New buses are arriving and being prepared for service, keeping the shop busy. While October is officially [School Bus Safety](#) Month, September brings a strong emphasis on safety as schools teach bus safety lessons in the classroom. In addition, the safety team

is preparing for emergency preparedness training at the upcoming Inservice, with emergency evacuation drills planned for October.

Food Service

The first few weeks in Food Service have gone exceptionally well! We extend a big thank you to our Custodial and Technology teams for ensuring our kitchens were ready to go with reliable internet, hot water, and everything needed for smooth operations. Our school staff have also been outstanding, helping students adjust, find their way to the lunchroom, and feel comfortable in their new routines. The Food Service team has done an excellent job managing first orders, setting clear plans, and warmly welcoming students back. Thanks to great teamwork—and despite the challenge of finishing construction—we're excited to be using the new walk-in coolers, freezers, and a dish machine at CPIS. We look forward to finishing September strong!

Building & Grounds

The Building and Grounds team worked hard over the summer to ensure all facilities were ready for the start of the school year, and we are pleased to report a smooth opening. In addition to preparing classrooms and common areas, the team successfully repaired the gym floor that had heaved during the summer, allowing students and staff to fully utilize the space again. Their efforts in addressing maintenance needs and ensuring our buildings were safe, clean, and welcoming have set a positive tone for the year ahead.

Technology

The start of the school year is always an exciting time for technology, though it can bring challenges as some issues only surface once teachers and students return. Over the summer, we partnered with TechCheck and Extreme Networks to replace half of the district's network switches, an upgrade that enhances both security and functionality. While stronger security can occasionally create minor hurdles, the school year has begun smoothly from a technology standpoint, and our team continues to address the small challenges that arise.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

by: Christina Thayer Anderson

Celebrating National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week

This week marks *National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week*, a time to recognize the incredible work happening in Adult Education programs across Minnesota. We are proud to share that this past June, we celebrated our largest graduating class since pre-COVID—an inspiring reminder of the perseverance and commitment of our learners.

Our adult learners are remarkable. They are parents, full-time employees, and community members, several of whom commute long distances to participate in our programs. Their dedication reflects not only their own drive to improve their futures, but also their commitment to building brighter opportunities for their families.

Here in Cambridge-Isanti, our Adult Education team of just three teachers—alongside an incredibly dedicated group of volunteers—makes this work possible. Thanks to their efforts, and the determination of our learners, we are not only seeing record graduations locally but also contributing to the statewide momentum of Adult Education, which now exceeds even pre-pandemic enrollment numbers.

As we honor this week, I want to extend my gratitude to our Adult Education staff, volunteers, and learners for their unwavering commitment to lifelong learning. Together, they are transforming lives, strengthening families, and investing in the future of our communities.

Community Outreach: Strengthening Connections and Partnerships

Now that the leaves have started to turn and we've moved into our fall routines, our summer outreach events have shifted into our buildings for family nights, conferences, competitions, concerts, and other activities. Looking back, the summer season was a powerful reminder of the importance of being present in the spaces where our families, learners, and community members naturally gather. Whether at parades, fairs, or community celebrations, our goal was to build bridges, spark conversations, and share space with one another.

We are truly thankful for the staff and leaders who invested their time and energy to be present at these events—living out our strategic plan commitment to create welcoming and inclusive environments. Your presence, care, and willingness to invest in relationships make a difference. These moments deepen trust and reinforce our shared commitment to the success and well-being of our students and families.

Together, we are building a stronger district and community—grounded in connection, partnership, and shared purpose. And as we look ahead, we are excited to continue this work throughout the school year, creating even more opportunities to live our mission to *educate, empower, and inspire every student, every day* in partnership with our community.

TEACHING & LEARNING

by: Dr. Jason Bodey

Update on End Result Statement 1.7

As part of our district-wide focus this year, we continue to make progress toward our Strategic Plan end result statement 1.7: *Ensuring Effective Implementation of the MTSS Plan at the Building Level through a Team*. Our district has committed to the [Minnesota MTSS Framework](#) (MnMTSS) as the model for implementation. While there are many MTSS frameworks available, we believe the Minnesota plan best aligns with our strategic plan's priorities, state provided resources, and provides clear guidance for building strong, responsive systems of support for all students.



This year, our new Site Continuous Improvement Plans are aligned to the five areas of the Minnesota MTSS Framework, creating consistency across buildings while still allowing schools to adapt to student needs. The district will continue to provide information and resources to staff and leaders throughout the year to support implementation. Ongoing professional learning will ensure building teams have the tools they need to apply the framework with fidelity and to strengthen

systems of support for students. By focusing on end result statement 1.7 and committing to the Minnesota MTSS Framework, we are aligning our practices district-wide and building a sustainable model that advances student success.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

by: Rachel Kasper

It has been a strong start to the school year as we welcome both new and returning students into our classrooms! Staff are focused on establishing routines, strengthening relationships, and building the skills and strategies each student needs to be ready for learning.

Back-to-school workshop week once again provided valuable time for collaboration and professional learning. This year, our Instructional Assistants met together to focus on de-escalation strategies and trauma-informed practices. They also received a “welcome back checklist” designed to spark conversations around programming, data collection, and student support plans. These discussions are helping ensure consistency and intentionality across classrooms as we begin the year.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

by: Dr. Nate Rudolph

We are off to a tremendous start to the 2025–26 school year. The energy in our schools has been inspiring, and staff across all areas have worked hard to ensure that students and families experienced a smooth and positive beginning. A special note of appreciation goes out to our Transportation, Food Service, and Buildings & Grounds teams. Their preparation, problem-solving, and commitment made this one of the smoothest school openings we have experienced. From clean, ready classrooms and reliable bus routes to nutritious meals served with care, their work has set the tone for a successful year ahead.

Alongside the day-to-day work of teaching and learning, we continue to communicate openly with our community about the upcoming referendum. Our focus remains on providing accurate, transparent information so that voters are well-informed. In addition to hosting community presentations and tours, we are also responding to requests from local groups who have asked us to present at their meetings. These conversations are important opportunities to answer questions directly, listen to feedback, and ensure our community understands the needs and opportunities before us.

The first weeks of school have been filled with optimism and a renewed focus on our mission to Educate, Empower, and Inspire Every Student, Every Day. We are grateful for the ongoing partnership of our staff, families, and community as we continue this important work together.