



Independent School Dist. No. 857
100 County Road 25
Lewiston, MN 55952
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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

October 21, 2024

Meeting Agenda Items Notes

FY24 Audit Clifton, Larson, Allen will be presenting the FY24 Audit results. Thank you very much to Julie Schreiber, Business Manager, for leading this process as it has been especially long and detailed. There were no 'problems' per se, but many details, adjustments and extra reporting due to the ESSER federal funds, the sale of the Altura school and other factors. In addition, Julie did not start with our district until December 2023, and so she had to do more research of various transactions.

World's Best Workforce (New Name: Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness) Annual Meeting I will be presenting this required annual report which will highlight assessment results (again) and other data. As you can see, the name of the report has changed and this year we will need to include college/career readiness goals for 2024-2025. In November, we will have teachers present to speak to their curricular and instructional work in preparing students for the MCAs. October 21st was not a good meeting date for this due to other obligations for the teachers.

Resolution Authorizing Entry into Joint Powers Agreement in the Form of a Declaration of Trust Establishing the "MN Trust" and Authorizing Participation Therein In September, the Finance Committee, Julie and I met with Steve Pumper, a representative from PMA. PMA offers cash flow analysis services, and scheduling of building bond dollars for investment and scheduling of construction payments (see attachments). Julie and I have both worked with PMA with other districts and are recommending we transition to PMA for these services. This requires Board approval of a

Resolution which would essentially make our depository for much of our state and federal funds to PMA, changing from the Minnesota School District Asset Fund.

OTHER ITEMS

Literacy Aid MOU Negotiations with EdMN/L-A A draft MOU was presented to EdMN/L-A representative. I am told they are reviewing it and will respond in the upcoming days/weeks.

Referendum Information The website www.cardinalstrong.net provides much information. An e-newsletter is available <https://secure.smores.com/n/xrms8>. In the past month, we have had numerous meetings and community events to inform about the referendum questions.

- September 18 Lewiston Chamber of Commerce
- September 19th Mr. Scheck's Senior Social Studies Classes
- September 21st Altura Parade (Walked with Levy/Bond Banner, distributed stickers)
- October 2 Lewiston Lions Club
- October 4 Homecoming Parade (Walked with Levy/Bond Banner, distributed stickers and info cards)
- October 7 Lewiston Community
- October 10 Minnwest Bank Employees Meeting
- October 10 Altura Community
- October 15 Informational Table at Staff Member Fund Raiser/HS Parent Conferences/Home Volleyball game

Upcoming

- October 22 Lewiston Senior Living – residents and staff
- October 23: Riverside Employees Meeting

As of October 15th, 158 total tax impact website calculations have been done by Ehlers:

- 19 Commercial
- 139 Residential
- 10 Agricultural/Split Parcel Individualized Requests

Veteran's Day Program Mr Scheck is once again organizing a Veteran's Day Program on Monday, November 11th to honor our local veterans, as well as educate/remind our Gr. 3-12 students the importance of honoring our veterans. The program will include student readers, the choir and band. Veterans and a guest will be provided a free school lunch as well.

Senior Citizen Lunch We are planning to have the annual Senior Citizen Lunch on Thursday, December 5th. For the first time, we will charge \$7.00 for the meal. The dinner is a collaboration with Community Education, Food Services, Facilities/Grounds, Administration and several student groups who make place mats, the choir sings, the band plays, and servers. We are planning for 11:00am performances, with the meal served at 11:30am. The meal includes turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, and a roll.

AED Donation The family of Aidan Miller donated an AED to our district on October 9th. Aidan was a PEM 16 year old student who died suddenly in 2019 due to the result of an previously undetected heart condition.

MSHLS Resolution The Activities Committee discussed voting 'yes' for a resolution to add 9th graders (with 10th, 11th, 12th graders) to the grades that the MSHL governs for interscholastic athletics and fine arts programs. This change is widely supported. This change has no practical impact on our programs.

