



Independent School Dist. No. 857
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Gwen Carman, Superintendent
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Lewiston - Altura Schools: Building A Caring, Adaptable, Respectful, Determined, Successful Community

Superintendent's Report to the School Board
Respectfully Submitted by Gwen Carman
June 13, 2022

Meeting Agenda Item Notes

District Office Transitions Thank you to Sheala Hall for her continued perseverance in learning the Business Manager responsibilities. It is incredible just how much there is to learn. We are continuing to also use the support services of Region V, Bergankdv and Kristin Kelly. Also on your agenda is a recommendation to hire Kara Prosen as an Office and Finance Assistant. Kara has been an exceptional paraprofessional and we are sorry to lose her in that role, but she has a strong office background and is excited and ready to take on this expanded role with the district. The plan is for her to work part-time in June and July and full-time starting in August. As she and Sheala continue to master the work, we will be using Region V less. Kristin will also reduce her support over time. Bergankdv staff are helping Sheala and I with the audit this summer as well.

Community Engagement Meeting Summary/Next Steps InGensa staff will be at our meeting to discuss next steps. Please review the documents attached to the agenda prior to the meeting – there is a summary report, sign-in information and a list of attendees who indicated interest in serving on a Task Force. I am glad that we had such a large amount of community and staff members attend our first meeting and I think we received valuable input on a variety of topics.

Food Service Director Shared Services Agreement On the agenda is an Agreement with Cotter Schools to share the services of Vickie Speltz as Food Service Director. Cotter will reimburse our district for the total costs of Vickie's time. Vickie will also continue to drive school bus for our district. This Agreement is entirely voluntary and Ms. Speltz and I have discussed it extensively. She is excited for the opportunity to help Cotter build their food service program, and it is a financial benefit to our district.

Southeast MN United Purchasing Joint Powers Agreement Also on the agenda is an updated Joint Powers Agreement with 12 other districts. This agreement has been in place for many years and allows for cooperative purchasing of many of our food service items, which greatly reduces our costs. This new agreement updates the membership and clarifies a few details on the bidding process.

OTHER UPDATES

2022-2023 Budget Kristin Kelly and I (with Bergankdv working on the ESSER funds) are working on next year's budget's details. We will have a Special Meeting on Tuesday, June 28th at 6:00pm to approve the budget, as well as the Bus/Van Drivers' Handbook, Support Staff Handbook and contracts for staff on individual contracts.

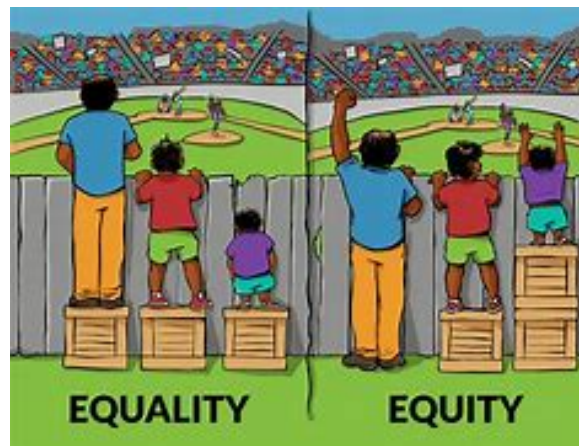
April 12th Hail Storm (3:00pm) and Wind Storm (11:50pm) Aftermath We are continuing to work through the process of repairs and materials replacement. I have been very pleased with the process overall – the insurance adjuster and our agent have both been very responsive and have approved proposed costs for repairs and replacements with little disputes. The track surface (18' gouges) will be repaired, and the company agreed to honor the existing warranty if there is any future rain seeping at the repair sites.

THANK YOU

It's been quite a year! Thank you to Principal Riebel, Dr. Hanson, all of the teachers and support staff for all they have done for our students and school district in 2021-22. It has been a year with many unique challenges. We have also had so many SUCCESSES in our work to educate and prepare students to be responsible and successful citizens!

Thank you to the School Board members for your leadership and commitment to striving for the very best for our students and our school district.

Special congratulations to all the students for their successes and accomplishments! We are proud of you!



**A reminder of the importance of considering equity in the work we do:
Every student deserves our best and what s/he needs to achieve.**