



Independent School Dist. No. 857
100 County Road 25
Lewiston, MN 55952
(507) 523-2191

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

August 11, 2025

Meeting Agenda Items Notes

2025-2026 Handbooks The Agenda includes several Handbooks/Plans for your approval. These are Language Access Plan (a new required plan), Crisis Response Management Information and Plans (a complete revision/update of the prior plan), Employee Handbook, Elementary Parent Handbook, High School Student Handbook and Coaches Handbook. Due to the amount of paper, I will not have printed copies of these at the meeting. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Facilities Updates This will be an agenda item at each meeting for the foreseeable future. Jackie Coleman and Luke Photenhauer will be online to update you on the building renovations. I will also have additional information on any projects not directly part of the voter approved projects. See the attachment from InGensa.

OTHER ITEMS

Solar Panels/MiEnergy Improvements Thank you to the office staff at each building for 'enduring' scheduled power outages on August 4, 5 and 7. These were necessary in order for MiEnergy and Solar Connections to coordinate the power hook ups. I am told it will be a couple weeks before the solar panels are fully operational.

We have discussed having a Photo/Ceremonial Ribbon Cutting. Tentatively, this will be Wednesday, September 10th at 3:30pm at the high school.

Surplus Equipment Auction Planning The Auction Link is live and closes on the 11th. Items will be picked up August 12-14.

Back To School for Teachers and Staff New teachers (3) will meet August 11-12. All teachers have their official return to school day on August 13th. Monday, August 18th we will have an all staff breakfast and program/required trainings starting at 7:30am in the High School Cafeteria. The Board and administration are sponsoring/serving a lunch for all staff at 11:00am. Bree is coordinating to make sure all details are covered.

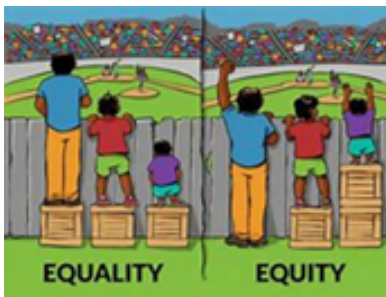
There are additional very important trainings and meetings happening August 18-21st. We will highlight these at the September meeting. Students start returning August 25th with a staggered schedule for elementary parent conferences and 'new' high school students. All students will be at school starting Wednesday, August 27th.

Back to School Celebration August 20th The 3rd Annual Back to School Celebration will be Wednesday, August 20th from 5:00-7:00pm at The Crossings Center. Please let me know if you want to take a 'shift' at the District Table with me.

Vision, Mission, Logo Revisions We are going to gather input from staff during workshop week on potential revisions to our vision, mission and logo. We will bring these to the Board in September. We feel it is important to get staff input on these prior to Board approval.

Enrollment

Grade Level	May 29, 2025`	August 8, 2025
Kdg	38	27
1 st	26	38
2 nd	36	28
3 rd	38	36
4 th	25	38
5 th	39	27
6 th	38	44
7 th	38	36
8 th	37	38
9 th	55	45
10 th	58	55
11 th	48	58
12 th	56	49
Total	532	519



Equity is important in all of our decision making.