Cloquet Public Schools
Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness (CACR)

Monday, February 9, 2026 at 5:45 PM
Garfield Board Room
302 14th Street
Cloquet, MN 55720
302 - 14th Street, Cloquet, MN

I. **Roll Call**
II. **Upcoming Meetings/Events**
III. **Consider Approving the Board Agenda**
1. The Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness (CACR) Meeting Agenda 2
IV. **Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness (CACR)**
1. Consider Approving the 2024-2025 Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness (CACR) Summary and the 2025-2026 Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness (CACR) Plan 3
V. **Adjournment**

* If any one board member wishes to remove an item from the consent agenda for discussion, that item should be added to the board meeting agenda prior to its approval.

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Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness

Cloquet Public Schools
2024-25 Summary
2025-26 Plan

Presentation to the school board Feb. 9, 2026

Prepared by the District Advisory Committee (DAC)

DAC Chair and CACR Coordinator:
Bekki Morrison

“Cloquet Public Schools serves approximately 2600 students in the communities of Cloquet, Scanlon and the Fond du Lac nation in northeastern Minnesota. Our district is comprised of early childhood programs,community education programs, two elementary schools, a middle school, a high school and an area alternative learning center. We strive to provide programming that meets the academic, cultural, emotional and social needs of the students we serve. As a district in greater Minnesota, we are members of several collaborative efforts with neighboring schools and governmental agencies with the aim of providing high quality supports for students and community.”

-Dr. Michael Cary, Superintendent

Mission Statement:

"Linking school and community to provide quality lifelong learning and success for all."

Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness Plan

What is it?

Previously the World's Best Workforce Plan. Established in 2013 to ensure school districts enhance student achievement through teaching and learning supports. Renamed CACR in 2024.

CACR Purpose

Supporting students in academic achievement as well as preparing them to be active members of their community after graduation.

Goal Areas Included:

1) All children are ready for school.
2) All racial and economic achievement gaps between students are closed.
3) All students are ready for career and college.
4) All students graduate.
5) Students are prepared to be lifelong learners.

Previous goal about 3rd grade reading was dropped in 2023-24.

More about Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness Plan

In other words...

The CACR strategic plan is a multi-year, detailed document that illustrates how a district will carry out its goals or initiatives in those 5 goal areas. The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) recommends that districts and charter schools develop goals that are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely (SMART).

How is Progress Measured?

Each district and charter school creates its own plan to prepare all students for school and align curriculum with classroom instruction, so that students are career- and college-ready at graduation. The success of each plan is measured locally using, among other possible data sources:

- School readiness assessments like Fastbridge
- State or local assessments like STAR and MCA
- Graduation rates.
- College entrance exams like ACT
- Postsecondary outcomes, including employment.

Equitable Access to Excellent and Diverse Educators

Under Minnesota's Comprehensive Achievement and Civic Readiness (formerly World's Best Workforce) requirements, districts must periodically review and evaluate "students' access to effective teachers who are members of populations underrepresented among the licensed teachers in the district or school who reflect the diversity of enrolled students" and examine "the equitable distribution of teachers and strategies to ensure children in low-income families, children in families of People of Color, and children in American Indian families are not taught at higher rates than other children by inexperienced, ineffective, or out-of-field teachers."

Data Source: MN Report Card

District Demographics

% of staff by race/ethnicity	Staff (2023)	Students
American Indian	2.9	24.8
Asian	0	.04
Black or African Am.	0.8	.06
Hispanic/Latino	0.8	1.8
White	90.2	68.7
2 or More Races	0.4	3.6
Unknown	4.9	—

Licensing Tiers (2023)

Tier	MN	ISD 94	CMS	CHS	CAAEP	Wash.	Chur
Tier 4	80.8	86.3	90.4	80	66.7	82.5	97.2
Tier 3	13.4	11.1	9.6	16	22.2	17.5	0
Tier 2	4.1	2.1	0	4	11.1	0	0
Tier 1	1.7	0.5	0	0	0	0	2.8

Key Indicators of Progress

The district monitors the following key indicators of progress to determine district and school site progress in striving to prepare our students to be active members of their community after graduation.

Attendance

Attendance intervention strategies and results by building.

Behavior

General behavior referral data for each site as reported in Infinite Campus. This includes any type of behavior referral including behavior *and reward* documentation. A detailed behavior report is maintained at the site level and analyzed regularly.

Kindergarten Readiness

Early Childhood data from FASTBridge screener.

Achievement Gap

Achievement gap data in reading and math, desegregated by subgroup according to the MN Report Card.

Key Indicators of Progress

The district monitors the following key indicators of progress to determine district and school site progress in striving to prepare our students to be active members of their community after graduation.

Career & College Readiness

Cloquet High School data for post secondary participation according to the MN Statewide Longitudinal Education Data System (SLEDS).

Graduation Rate

Cloquet School District graduation data from Minnesota Report Card. Includes a combination of Cloquet High School and Cloquet Area Alternative Education Program (CAAEP) graduation rates.

MCA Scores

Reading, Math and Science MCA proficiency scores by subgroup for each school site can be found in their individual building Student Achievement Goal reports linked at the end of the full report.

ACT Scores

Cloquet High School and CAAEP ACT data from Minnesota Report Card can be found in their individual building Student Achievement Goal reports linked at the end of the report.

All Students Ready for Kindergarten

Cloquet Public Schools is working to ensure that all students are ready for kindergarten. We work actively and intentionally to foster collaboration between school, community, county and district level programs to encourage and support common systematic best practices. In addition to establishing and implementing common systemic best practices and measures for school readiness, the district seeks to increase program enrollments and participation in collaboration with the BRIDGE committee. BRIDGE fosters the collaborative effort between grade levels (Pk-3) each year.

All Students Ready for Kindergarten

Keep goal same

2024-25 Goal

Cloquet School District's Early Childhood programs will have 80% of students score above the 25th% on their composite FASTBridge screener by the spring of 2025.

Results

GOAL NOT MET:

Early Reading 71%
Early Math 71%

2025-26 Goal

Cloquet School District's Early Childhood programs will have 80% of students score above the 25th% on their composite FASTBridge screener by the spring of 2025.

Closing the Achievement Gap

Cloquet Public Schools views closing the achievement gap as a shared team effort. All schools, subgroups, and grade levels will strive to close the achievement gaps, which are evident based on race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status and ability. All best practice strategies and action steps take advantage of district plans, programs, staff and resources, as well as community collaborations, to drive achievement forward and seek continued growth.

Closing the Achievement Gap

Cloquet School District's American Indian students are outperforming the statewide average for American Indian students MCA testing in Math and Reading. There is, however, a gap in scores between American Indian and white students within the district. The goal is to reduce the gap analysis in both areas by 1.5%.

2024-25 Goal A

A) 28% of Cloquet American Indian students are proficient in Math compared to 48.8% of Cloquet white students. This is a gap of -20.8% The gap will reduce by 1.5% to -19.3% for the 2024-25 school year.

2024-25 Goal B

B) 38% of Cloquet American Indian students are proficient in reading compared to 58.4% of white students. This is a gap of -19.7%. The gap will decrease by 1.5% to -18.2% for the 2024-25 school year.

Results

GOAL NOT MET:

A) **Math: (Gap: -21.1%)**
American Indian students: 27.4%
White students: 48.5%

B) **Reading: (Gap: - 20.1%)**
American Indian students: 37.8%
White students: 57.9% proficient

Closing the Achievement Gap 2025-26 Goal

Through differentiated instruction, progress monitoring, co-teaching, and collaboration with classroom teachers, the Integrated Learning Teacher for grades 5 and 6 will implement targeted teaching strategies for at-risk students while closing the achievement gap between marginalized students.

Goal Areas

5th-grade student goals. Using Read Basix screening data, we aim to increase the percentage of 5th-grade students scoring above 250 on the Word Recognition and Decoding, Morphology, and Reading Efficiency subtests by 20% by June 2026.

6th-grade student goals. Using Read Basix screening data, we will increase the percentage of the 6th-grade student body scoring above 250 on the following subtests: Word Recognition and Decoding by 15%, Morphology by 10%, and Reading Efficiency by 25% by June of 2026.

All Students Career and College Ready

Data Source

http://sledsmn.gov/

Cloquet Public Schools maintains a path for all students to be career and college ready. Cloquet High School has implemented a personal finance class to help prepare students for life after high school. Cloquet High School has also started pre-apprenticeship programs in conjunction with the Carpenters' and Millwrights' Unions and the Electrical Training Alliance. The district is also organizing and facilitating more College/Career Ready assessments including PSAT & ACT (Grade 11), and ASVAB. The district vision is to develop a system for conducting senior interviews with every senior each fall to assist with post-secondary planning, college application process, and credit tracking. The district uses participation numbers to measure progress for each initiative.

Cloquet District Graduates Entering the Workforce

	2022	2023	2024
Enrolled in College	44%	43%	41%
Employed	43%	42%	40%
Unknown	13%	15%	19%

2024-25 Goal

75% of students taking the Personal Finance course will pass the course with a grade of 70% or higher.

Results

GOAL MET:

79.1% passed with 70% or higher

2025-26 Goal

75% of students taking the Personal Finance course will pass the course with a grade of 70% or higher.

Keep goal same

All Students Graduate

Data Source

Mn Report Card

Cloquet Public Schools strives to have all of our students graduate from high school. Our goal has been to have our district graduation rate reach and maintain 90%. We also strive for all subgroups to achieve and maintain an average above 85%.

A few years ago, our alternative high school, Cloquet Area Alternative Education Program (CAAEP), worked with the MN Centers of Excellence to increase their graduation rate. The goal was to reach the state threshold for graduation of 67%, and in 2023, they reached an 82.8% graduation rate. Students come to CAAEP from a variety of surrounding school districts and are generally behind in credits, so graduation in the traditional four years is quite difficult. The program uses strategies generated from the work with the MN Centers of Excellence as well as strong support from our American Indian Education program districtwide to grow graduation rates.

Districtwide, staff will continue to work collaboratively, using various district programs, building level programs and classroom best practices to maintain our graduation rates. We will use the Minnesota Report Card Four-Year Graduation Rate data and the MDE Graduation Rate report to measure progress.

District 4 Year Graduation Rate

Demographic Description	2022 Four Year %	2023 Four Year %	2024 Four Year %
All Students	86.3	90.5	94.2
American Indian/Alaskan Native	69.4	91.7	88.9
White, not of Hispanic origin	89.6	89.6	96.8
Special Education	85.1	79.2	91.4
Free/Reduced Priced Lunch	72.3	87	90.4

2024-25 Goal

The Cloquet District will maintain or surpass a 90% graduation rate for the 2024/2025 school year.

Results

GOAL MET

2024 data: 94.2% graduated

2025-26 Goal

The Cloquet District will maintain or surpass a 90% graduation rate for the 2024/2025 school year.

Keep goal same

Prepare Students to be Lifelong Learners

Data Source

Mn Report Card

Preparing students to be lifelong learners requires more than meeting graduation requirements; it requires intentionally exposing students to a wide range of experiences that help them explore interests, build transferable skills, and envision multiple pathways for their futures. Cloquet School district is committed to this work by providing meaningful learning opportunities that extend beyond the traditional classroom and connect learning to real-world applications. Through experiences such as college and career fairs, military pathway introductions, field trips, College in the Schools courses, Career and Technical Education offerings, and guest speakers, students are encouraged to ask questions, reflect on their goals, and take ownership of their learning. These opportunities help students develop the curiosity, adaptability, and decision-making skills necessary to continue learning long after they leave our schools. Many of these opportunities can be found listed in the district and building programming sections of the full report.

Prepare Students to be Lifelong Learners

2024-25 Goal

Each year, students will demonstrate grade level proficiency in reading and math with 80% of students meeting grade level standards.

Results

GOAL NOT MET:

48.2% of Cloquet students were proficient in math (state average 45.2%)

53.1% of Cloquet students were proficient in reading (state average 49.6%)

2025-26 Goal

90% of Cloquet High School Seniors will be accepted into MN postsecondary schools via Tier 1 or higher of the Direct Admissions program through the Office of Higher Education.