

Board of Education Work Session

Friday, September 11, 2026 7:00 AM

Kindred High School Conference Room 109, 255 DAKOTA ST, KINDRED, ND 58051-4225

I. Call to Order - Jesse Cook

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. 2026-2030 KPSD#2 Strategic Plan Review

III.A. Discuss any proposed adjustments to the current plan

IV. Strategic Plan Committee Reports

IV.A. Academic Engagements and Student Achievement

IV.B. Professional Learning

IV.C. School Culture and Community Outreach

IV.C.1. District/Parent Advisory Committee

IV.C.1.a. Members

IV.C.1.b. Purpose

IV.C.1.c. First Meeting Date

IV.C.1.d. Other

IV.D. Long Range Planning and Resource Management

IV.E. Other

V. Next Steps

VI. Adjourn

(5) FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Families are children's first and most influential teachers. Strong partnerships between schools and families foster student achievement, attendance, social-emotional well-being, and long-term success. Kindred Public Schools will cultivate authentic, two-way partnerships with families by providing meaningful opportunities for engagement, communication, education, and collaboration that support every student's learning and development.

Family Partnerships (A)

Goal

- We will establish meaningful partnerships with families that promote student learning, well-being, and long-term success.

Objectives

- Increase opportunities for two-way communication between families and school staff.
- Expand opportunities for families to participate in school decision-making through advisory groups, surveys, and district committees.
- Ensure all families have equitable access to information, resources, and school activities.
- Strengthen family-school partnerships that support student attendance, academic achievement, and positive behavior.

Progress Monitoring

- Review national annual family engagement survey results.
- Monitor participation in family engagement opportunities.
- Evaluate family perceptions of communication, belonging, and partnership through stakeholder surveys.

Parent Education and Learning (B)

Goal

- We will provide accessible parent education opportunities that empower families to support student success.

Objectives

- Offer resources on topics identified through family feedback.
- Develop flexible learning opportunities through a variety of settings and mediums.
- Collaborate with community organizations and local experts to provide family learning opportunities.
- Provide resources that support learning at home across all grade levels.

Progress Monitoring

- Monitor participation rates in parent education opportunities.
- Collect participant feedback following family learning events.
- Continually assess family needs and interests to guide future programming.

Family Engagement Framework (C)

Goal

- We will implement a district-wide framework for family engagement that is embedded throughout the school experience.

Objectives

- Develop district expectations and best practices for family engagement.
- Incorporate family engagement strategies into school improvement planning.
- Provide professional learning for staff focused on effective family partnerships.

Progress Monitoring

- Review implementation continually through school improvement processes.
- Include family engagement indicators within district climate surveys.
- Monitor progress toward family engagement goals during annual strategic plan review.

2026-27 KPSD#2 Strategic Plan Committees

Academic Engagement & Student Achievement Committee

Co-Chair	Ashlee Cournia
Co-Chair	Cody Kittelson
Member	Kent Packer
Member	Laura Lehmann
Member	
Member	

Professional Learning Committee

Co-Chair	Amanda Swenson
Co-Chair	Eric Burgad
Member	
Member	
Member	
Member	

School Culture Committee

Co-Chair	Trista Briscoe
Co-Chair	Kent Packer
Member	Parker Metz
Member	Kaci Stage
Member	Kris Lindemann
Member	

Long Range Planning & Resource Management Committee

Co-Chair	Brad Ambrosius
Co-Chair	Justin Lehmann
Member	Melanie Moffet
Member	Mike Kolness
Member	Alaynee Van Ornum
Member	Gina Musland

Academic Engagement & Student Achievement Committee

Strategic Planning Subcommittee - Meeting #1 Agenda

Kindred Public School District #2

Meeting Date: _____ **Time:** _____ **Location:** _____

Facilitators: Administrator & Cognia Leader

Purpose of the Committee

The Academic Engagement & Student Achievement Committee will help move the district's strategic plan from goals into actionable priorities. The plan calls for students to engage in a comprehensive curriculum with varied academic experiences while meeting or exceeding individual learning goals toward district standards and benchmarks.

The committee will focus specifically on the four areas identified under **Academic Engagement and Student Achievement**: (1) 21st Century Skills/4C's, (2) NDMTSS, (3) Enrichment & Acceleration Opportunities, and (4) Evaluation of Instructional Programming & Curriculum.

1. Welcome & Committee Purpose

- Welcome and introductions
- Review the role of the Academic Engagement & Student Achievement Committee.
- Discuss how this subgroup connects to the overall Strategic Planning Committee.
- Establish the expectation that the committee will:
 - Review progress toward strategic plan goals.
 - Identify priorities for the current school year.
 - Recommend the actionable next steps.
 - Identify evidence/data that can be used to measure progress.
 - Provide updates to the district leadership committee.

The Strategic Plan calls for each strategic initiative committee to meet **at least once per quarter**, with an administrator and Cognia leader serving as co-chairs and reporting progress to the district leadership committee.

Academic Engagement & Student Achievement Committee

2. Review the Academic Engagement & Student Achievement Priority

Guiding Question:

What do we want Academic Engagement and Student Achievement to look like across K-12 by 2030?

Review the overall Strategic Plan expectation:

Students will experience a comprehensive curriculum and work toward individual learning goals, district standards, and academic proficiency.

Briefly discuss:

- Where are we currently doing well?
- What has already started?
- Where do we see the greatest opportunities for growth?

Academic Engagement & Student Achievement Committee

3. Focus Area #1 - 21st Century Skills / 4C's

The Strategic Plan identifies **Collaboration, Communication, Creativity, and Critical Thinking** as a structure for teaching and learning and calls for a district-wide framework that embeds the 4C's.

Discussion Questions

- What do the 4C's currently look like in K-12 classrooms?
- Are expectations consistent across grade levels/buildings?
- How can technology be leveraged appropriately for collaboration, creativity, and multiple ways of demonstrating learning?
- What opportunities currently exist through STEAM, innovation, and project-based learning?
- What would a realistic district-wide 4C's framework look like?

Possible First-Year Priority:

Develop a common understanding of the 4C's and begin identifying where they already exist within curriculum and instruction.

Academic Engagement & Student Achievement Committee

4. Focus Area #2 - NDMTSS & Data-Driven Instruction

The district's goal is to provide **high-quality, data-driven instruction, intervention, and enrichment** that meets the needs of all learners. Progress is expected to be monitored through student progress/growth data and continued staff development.

Discussion Questions

- Where are we currently with NDMTSS implementation K-12?
- What data are we currently collecting?
- How effectively are we using benchmark and progress-monitoring data to make instructional decisions?
- Are Tier I, intervention, and enrichment clearly connected?
- What areas of NDMTSS need greater consistency across classrooms, grade levels, or buildings?
- What professional learning or resources are needed?

Potential Evidence/Measures

- Benchmark data
- Progress-monitoring data
- State assessment data
- Intervention data
- Student growth
- MTSS implementation/fidelity evidence

Committee Question:

Academic Engagement & Student Achievement Committee

What are 1-2 measurable NDMTSS priorities we should focus on during 2026-27?

5. Focus Area #3 - Enrichment & Acceleration

The Strategic Plan calls for enrichment and acceleration opportunities that meet the needs of all students, including continued WIN Time K-5, exploration of Gifted and Talented models, examination of enrichment options, continued review of student data, and examination of Tier I Math and ELA curriculum.

Discussion Questions

- What enrichment/acceleration opportunities currently exist for K-12?
- How are we identifying students who need enrichment?
- How can WIN Time provide both intervention and enrichment?
- Are there opportunities we can add without creating major staffing or financial demands?
- What should our next steps be regarding Gifted & Talented models?
- What opportunities exist for advanced coursework at the secondary level?

Committee Question:

How do we ensure MTSS is not viewed only as intervention, but as a framework for meeting the needs of students across the entire achievement continuum?

Academic Engagement & Student Achievement Committee

6. Focus Area #4 - Curriculum Review & Instructional Programming

The Strategic Plan calls for a documented process for evaluating instructional programs and curriculum, including development of a six-to-eight-year curriculum review cycle and establishment of a local curriculum review/adoption committee.

Discussion Questions

- What curriculum areas have recently been reviewed or adopted?
- What curriculum areas should be reviewed next?
- What should a district-wide 6-8 year curriculum cycle look like?
- What criteria should trigger a curriculum review?
- How should student achievement data factor into curriculum decisions?
- How will we determine whether the newly adopted curriculum produces the desired results?

Potential 2026-27 Deliverable:

Create a draft K-12 Curriculum Review Cycle identifying content area, last adoption/review, anticipated review year, implementation year, and estimated resource needs.

Academic Engagement & Student Achievement Committee

7. Prioritize Our Work for 2026-27

Rather than trying to address every strategy at once, identify the committee's top 3 priorities for this school year.

For each priority, determine:

Priority	Current Reality	2026-27 Target	Evidence/Metric	Action Steps	Person(s) Responsible
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#1

#2

#3

A useful lens for selecting priorities is the Strategic Plan's commitment to data-driven decisions, continuous improvement, student engagement, and growth in learning.

8. Data & Evidence Needed for Meeting #2

Determine what information should be brought to the next meeting.

Possible items:

- FastBridge benchmark/growth data
- State assessment data
- Current MTSS/intervention structures
- WIN Time structures
- Current enrichment opportunities
- Current K–12 curriculum inventory
- Curriculum adoption/review history
- Current STEAM/project-based learning opportunities

Academic Engagement & Student Achievement Committee

- Evidence/examples of the 4C's in classrooms

9. Next Steps & Meeting #2

Before concluding:

Our 2026–27 Committee Priorities

1.

2.

3.

Information/Data Needed:

Assignments Before Next Meeting:

Next Meeting: _____

Professional Learning Committee Meeting
Amanda Swenson & Eric Burgad
9-9-26

Technology Integration: Timeline- January 2027; August 2027

- Tech slam PD in January 2027
- 6-12 or K-12 AI Operational System
 - Investment in Magic School or something similar
- Infinite Campus Learning Management System
 - Early stages of IC; hard to know our direction yet

Peer Mentoring: Timeline-August 2027

- SEEC Beginning Teacher Network; maybe not the best for us, but an option
 - <https://www.ndseec.com/page/beginning-teacher-network>
- Mr. Kittelson's system (build our own)
- Peer observation; happening now in the MS
- Cognia checklist; happening now K-12

Professional Development Plan: Timeline-In Progress; Decisions for MS & HS

- Elementary Needs Assessment:
 - 26-Standards-Based Grading & Reporting Practices (In progress)
 - 17-Science of Reading & Literacy Instruction Across Grades (In progress)
 - 15-MTSS-Academic & Behavior Intervention Systems
- MS Needs Assessment:
 - 5-MTSS: Academic & Behavior Intervention Systems
 - 4-Curriculum Mapping (January 2026)
 - 4-SEL (August 2024)
 - 4-Instructional Technology & AI Integration in Teaching and Learning (August 2025)
- HS Needs Assessment:
 - 10-Student Engagement Strategies and Active Learning Design
 - 10-Staff Wellness, Burnout Prevention, and Workplace Culture Development
 - 9-Classroom Management and Relationship Building Strategies

Mentoring Meetings

Created by our Cognia Team

August

- Intro new staff, intro ourselves
 - Who are we (Cognia Team) We are here for you!
- Melanie/HR questions (As needed depending on what has been covered)
 - Leave time (how to check it, what can carry over, taking leave)
 - Explain paychecks and show website
- Classroom Management/routines
- School Wide Behavior Plan
- Set up gradebook (include Powerschool/Schoology Integration)
- Misc. Information (field trip requests, attendance procedures)

September

- Open discussion- How has it been going? What do you need to know? How can we help? Who can help?
- Parent communication- start conversations with any concerns you have

November

- Report Cards (how to do them, sending home, writing comments)
- Planning for PTCs (how to run them, sign up genius accounts, tips)
 - How to approach hard parent conversations
- Classroom Management (how's it going, what do you need help with)

January

- How is it being back?

April

- Credits for licensing (where to find them, how many do I need, getting approval)
- Credit reimbursement (how much, forms, how to hand it in)
- How to end the year successfully
- Doing requisitions
- Turning in receipts (\$50 to Melanie, \$50 to PTO)
- Getting classrooms ready for summer

Additional Ideas

- Set up learning walks (once a month)- watch 20 minutes of another classroom and reflect
- Chair Leads should do 1:1 weekly check-ins (discuss lesson plans, curriculum, answer any additional questions) Maybe pull back on this some as the year progresses

School Culture & Community Outreach Committee

1. Purpose & Vision

- What do we want this committee to accomplish?
- What does a strong, welcoming school culture look and feel like?
- How should students, families, staff, and the broader community experience our school?

2. Current School Culture

- What are we already doing well?
- What are some cultural strengths we want to preserve?
- Where are there opportunities for improvement?
- Are there groups of students or families who may feel less connected or included?

3. Community & Family Engagement

- How do we currently communicate with families?
- What prevents families from participating or feeling connected?
- How can we make outreach more accessible and welcoming?
- What community organizations, businesses, or local leaders could be valuable partners?

4. Student Voice

- How can students have a meaningful voice in school culture?
- What are students telling us about belonging, safety, activities, and relationships?
- Should we establish a student representative or student advisory group?

5. Staff Culture & Buy-In

- How can staff contribute to and shape the committee's work?
- What support do teachers and staff need to strengthen school culture?
- How can we avoid creating initiatives that feel like "one more thing" for staff?

6. Traditions, Events & School Spirit

- What existing events/traditions bring people together?
- Are there opportunities for new events that build belonging?
- How can we better connect school activities with families and the wider community?

7. Communication & Outreach

- What communication channels are most effective?
- Are our messages reaching all families?
- Could we improve newsletters, social media, school website communication, or community outreach?
- How do we communicate accomplishments and positive stories more consistently?

8. Equity, Inclusion & Belonging

- Do all students and families have opportunities to feel that they belong?
- Are there barriers—financial, cultural, language, transportation, scheduling, etc.—that affect participation?

- What can the committee do to make participation more inclusive?

9. **Community Partnerships**

- Who in the community could we build relationships with?
- What could local businesses, nonprofits, civic organizations, or colleges contribute?
- How can the school contribute back to the community rather than making outreach one-directional?

10. **Priorities & Next Steps**

- What are the **1-2 biggest priorities** we want to tackle this year?
- What would success look like?
- What is one achievable project we could complete in the next 60–90 days?
- Who will take ownership of each next step?

Board Questions

What do you view as the highest priority for us to focus on this year?

Is it part of this list?

LONG RANGE PLANNING and RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes: 9/9/26

Members Present: Gina Musland, Melanie Moffett, Mike Kolness, Alaynee Van Ornum

Members Absent: Justin Lehmann

1) Review of Strategic Plan

- a) Motto/Mission/Vision/Belief in relation to long range planning & resource management
- b) “Long Range Planning & Resource Management Section”

2) Facilities

a) Short range needs & Long Range Needs

i) District

(1) Enrollment Needs

- (a) Developments in all communities
- (b) Initiative: Investigate hiring a firm for a demographic / community/ enrollment projection

(2) Computers

- (a) 6-12 Devices are obsolete; Currently on year 7- usually last 5 years.
- (b) Looking into promethean panels for grades k-5; Currently all classrooms 6-12 have them.
- (c) HS/MS Bell System is at end of life and will need replacement.
- (d) Initiative: Create a technology purchase plan for the next 1-4 years based on priority needs of the district.

ii) HS

- (1) Get with principals / chair teams to assess future needs for next meeting

iii) MS

- (1) Get with principals / chair teams to assess future needs for next meeting

iv) ELEM

(1) Playground

- (a) Committee? Estimates from 2025-2026
- (b) Cody/Parker will be in charge of forming a playground improvement committee to be put in place prior to the end meeting of this committee.
- (c) Quotes from 2025 will need to be redone.

- (2) Get with principals / chair teams to assess future needs for next meeting

- v) Committee as a whole was tasked with speaking with principals, chair team leaders, and other stake holders to figure out other needs that may need to be addressed in a long range plan prior to next meeting.

3) Resources

a) Short range & Long Range Needs

i) Financials

ii) Staffing

(1) Para retention and recruiting discussed. No planned initiative for this at this moment.

iii) Buildings

iv) Activities

(1) Stadium Lights

(2) Bleachers

(3) Softball field

(4) Scoreboards

(5) Team Room

(6) Locker Rooms

4) SUMMARY OF INITIATIVES

a) Develop a technology purchase plan for the next 1-4 years in the district.

b) Look into firms to facilitate a demographic/enrollment projection survey on the community to help drive discussion.

i) As a part of this, if expansion is needed at a later date land purchase needs to be looked into with location and what to do with the land the primary discussion.

c) Conduct a facility needs assessment on all buildings and activities facilities.

d) Task Elementary Principals to form a “playground committee” to push along progress on improvement in this area.

5) Next meeting:

a) Needs to meet quarterly

b) 12/2/26 @ 3:15pm HS Board Room