

Superintendent's Report to the Board of Education

Submitted: June 19, 2025

ADMINISTRATIVE WORK

Summer is a season of reflection and planning. As we close out the 2024–25 school year, we are finalizing year-end reports and actively preparing for a strong start to 2025–26. Summer school is wrapping up with just four days remaining. This year, 77 students enrolled in grades K–8, while 26 high school students participated in the summer credit recovery program.

Our District School Improvement Team met for a full-day session on June 9 and has finalized goals for the upcoming school year. In addition, we have outlined the schedule for all half-days and committed to maintaining monthly mentor-mentee meetings. These meetings support intentional conversations around student learning, assessment practices, and grading philosophies.

We are excited to share next year's district theme: **"Grow" or "Aggies Grow Together."** This message, which builds upon our continuing focus on family, was inspired by two of the Seven Mindsets: *Everything is Possible* and *We Are Connected*.

Our math curriculum committee has met every Tuesday throughout June to map out the new program, develop pacing guides, address instructional gaps, and revise our clear learning targets. Their work has laid a strong foundation for implementation this fall.

All administrative and director evaluations have been completed. With board approval, non-union contracts and DEA (teacher) wages are in place for 2025–26. We have also begun contract negotiations with DESPA (support staff).

The summer newsletter is in the works and will be arriving in mailboxes soon. It's packed with celebrations and important updates for our school community.

We are still in the hiring process for a few remaining positions, including Middle School English Language Arts and Elementary Special Education. At this time, all support staff roles have been filled. New hire orientation is scheduled for **August 5–7**.

BUDGET

As shared last month, we anticipate the state will raise per-pupil funding to \$10,000 for 2025–26. While this is encouraging, we are projecting a slight decline in enrollment due to a smaller incoming kindergarten cohort and our graduating class. Despite this, our fund balance is expected to remain relatively stable.

During Monday night's budget hearing, Raelynn Johns and/or David Stibich will present the *Revision II Budget* for 2024–25 and the proposed budget for 2025–26. As required by law, the board must vote on the proposed budget by June 30.

Please note: our year-end fund balance appears elevated due to earmarked funds for future projects. Once those projects are completed, the fund balance will naturally decrease in the 2025–26 cycle.

FACILITIES

While this summer is light on construction, important work is underway. On June 12, the GMB/Christman team began their facility assessment. We anticipate sharing results with the board at the August meeting.

In July, we will contract Benjamin Tractor Repair (Williamston) to complete asphalt repairs at the high school parking lot at a cost of \$20,000. A second quote from Spray-Patch Road Repair (Madison Heights) came in at \$20,640. This project is expected to extend the life of the lot by 3–5 years and includes a workmanship guarantee from Benjamins.

We are also finalizing the insurance claim from the March 30 storm, with total damages reported at \$35,294.

Additional updates include:

- **Trades Wall** installation (June 17)
 - Installation of **perforated film and safety film** in select areas to enhance building security and visibility
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COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

On June 17, I met with Dave Hallock (Village President) and Kathy LaGrow (Ingham Township Clerk) to strengthen communication, collaboration, and long-term planning between the district and our local government entities. We plan to meet again in early August.

UPCOMING DATES

- **August 12:** Registration Day
 - **August 14:** Back to School Bash
 - **August 14:** Welcome Back, Staff
 - **August 18:** First Day of School
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ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE

As always, I'm filled with gratitude for the dedication of our staff, the trust of our families, and the support of this board. Together, we are growing a school community where students thrive.