



Agenda Item Details

Meeting	Apr 27, 2026 - School Board & Organizational Meeting - Revised
Category	5. Administrative Reports
Subject	5.1 District Administrator Report
Type	Reports
Goals	Student & Staff Health and Wellbeing Efficient Use of Resources Student Success Increase collaborations with active partners

District Administrator monthly report

Reporting Period: March 16 – April 27, 2026

Submitted by: Dr. Beth Paap, District Administrator

District Operations & Strategic Work

Insurance & Risk Management

- Participated in Northern School District Trust meetings with representatives from the Trust's broker, USI who reviewed current offerings, cost projections, and potential structural changes to the Trust.
- USI is proposing a realignment with the Trust bylaws to refocus the Trust's purpose—moving from districts operating largely independently to a more unified, trust-based model.
- As part of this shift, USI is recommending that all Trust members adopt and offer two standardized health plan options for the 2026–27 school year:
 - High Deductible Health Plan (HDHP)
 - Preferred Provider Organization (PPO)
- Under this model, employees would have the ability to choose between these two plan options, creating greater consistency across member districts while still maintaining choice.
- USI has developed a recorded presentation outlining these proposed health benefit changes and the overall direction of the Trust. I will share this recording with the Board via email for your review.

- Met with Tricor Insurance to review district coverage and address questions related to out-of-district summer programming, ensuring clarity as student opportunities expand.
 - Continued weekly meetings with the Buildings & Grounds Supervisor to review building maintenance and safety needs.
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Systems Improvement & Efficiency

Transition to Digital Family Forms (Infinite Campus)

- Planning is underway to transition the beginning-of-year paper packet to fillable, electronic forms through Infinite Campus.
 - This shift will:
 - Improve accuracy and efficiency of data collection
 - Reduce paper use and administrative burden
 - Provide a more user-friendly experience for families
 - Target rollout: August 2026
 - Projected cost for this addition to our existing Infinite Campus access is currently estimated at \$7,500 plus set up fees. More details to follow soon.
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Facilities & Referendum Projects

- Continued oversight of referendum-related projects, as presented at the recent Committee of the Whole meeting.
 - Ongoing bi-weekly meetings with Kraus-Anderson (KA) and DSGW to monitor timelines, address challenges, and ensure project progress remains on track.
 - Regular check ins with both the Owner Representative for the referendum projects, Joel Shilman and Buildings and Grounds Supervisor-in-training, Terry Newago
 - Focus remains on maintaining clear communication and minimizing disruption to student learning environments.
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Staffing & Leadership

Elementary Principal Hiring Process

- The district completed a four-day, multi-round interview process for the Elementary Principal position.
- Round 1 included 10 applicants, with 5 candidates advancing to Round 2.
- Round 2 components included:
 - Candidate presentations to the hiring committee
 - A tour of the elementary school with the K-8 counselor
 - Small group discussions with elementary staff

- This comprehensive process allowed for meaningful staff input and ensured candidates were evaluated from multiple perspectives.
 - Recommendation for hire on April 27 school board agenda
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Community & Student Engagement

Red Cliff Tribal Partnership

- Participated in a virtual meet-and-greet with the new Red Cliff Tribal Education Director, Tommy Mackey.
- Attend monthly Johnson O'Malley Parent Committee meetings
 - Graduating Senior Honors Banquet
 - JOM member serving on hiring committee for key positions at district
 - JOM parent member served on the elementary principal hiring committee
 - JOM shared updates on new Education Division staff
 - JOM request for student data
- 4K meeting April 8th with Red Cliff Early Childhood Center administrative staff
 - Number of 4K students for the 2026-27 school year:
 - 15 RCECC
 - 4 currently based at Bayfield Family Forum
 - ECC plans to have a 4K program for the 26-27 school year
 - Discussion of challenges for 4K teachers to gain licensure
 - District noted our interest in supporting an exam preparation course for the FOR (Foundations of Reading) Test that has posed a challenge for some teachers.
 - ECC administration requested a proposal to cost share a 4K teacher for the 26-27 school year
 - Currently the 4K agreement between Bayfield Family Forum*, Red Cliff Early Childhood Center and the school district includes a \$2,000 per semester per student expense the district pays to both early childhood centers. *Bayfield Family Forum to close at the end of this academic year.

Elementary Soccer Saturdays

- Our Elementary Soccer Saturdays program has been a great success!
 - The program is running for eight consecutive Saturdays from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM.
 - Attendance continues to grow, with over 40 students participating this past Saturday.
 - This is a strong example of expanded student opportunities and community engagement that supports both the physical and mental health of our students.
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Planning for Summer & Future Programming

Summer Programming 2026

- Planning is well underway for summer programming.
- Jeanne Long, Summer Programming Coordinator, has been working closely with staff at the Red Cliff Boys and Girls Club to coordinate efforts as this will be the district's summer programming location due to the installation of a sprinkler system.
- Recruitment of teachers for the two two week summer sessions is ongoing.
 - Sessions: June 22-25; June 29-July 2; July 13-16; July 20-23
- Continued collaboration will help ensure strong programming and access for students.

Bayfield Family Form closing at the end of the 2025-26 academic year.

- A meeting with Bayfield Family Forum executive staff on April 7 confirmed that the center is closing in part due to challenges to attract income eligible families to the center.
 - Discussion during the meeting:
 - 437 hours are required yearly for a 4K program
 - 80-90% of the Bayfield Family Forum families are not income eligible
 - Family Forum will communicate decision to families via a letter
 - Information on leasing or selling the building as options for Family Forum
 - Noted they would share spread sheet of expenses for building maintenance and utilities

At this stage it is my professional opinion to not lease the building to continue offering a 4K program for district families given the capacity at the Red Cliff ECC for more 4K age students beyond their current enrollment. However, I am open to learning more about family needs for 4K as we look beyond this academic year.

Ojibwe Immersion Program Update

- Immersion Information Nights were held for incoming kindergarten families.
- Immersion enrollment this year
 - Kindergarten: 5
 - First grade: 15
- Enrollment interest for next year includes:
 - 7 students for Ojibwe Immersion Kindergarten
 - 6 students for English Kindergarten
 - 6 families still considering their options
- Ongoing discussions with immersion staff is focused on how to effectively model and strengthen immersion classroom practices as the program grows.

Work group to be formed to assess the viability of expansion of the district's Alternative Education Program

- In fledgling stage of gathering historical and YTD data (number of students, attendance trends, post graduation pathway information, cost of program, etc)

In Closing, this past month has included a strong focus on long-term planning, operational improvements, and leadership development. Each of these efforts supports our current strategic goals and provides high-quality educational experiences while improving systems and sustainability across the district.

This meeting is a meeting of the Board of Education in public for the purpose of conducting the School District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated in the agenda.