

## May Superintendents' Report

### Community Engagement

I have continued to meet with local organizations over the last month. One highlight was the Kiwanis fundraising BBQ. On May 12, I joined families of our graduating seniors in the baccalaureate service.

On Thursday, May 1, Ms. Lower and I held our second Continuous School Improvement Plan community meeting. During the meeting, the group reviewed notes from the fall meeting, community survey data, and data from the Annual Performance Report. The group participated in an exercise which required members to prioritize ideas submitted in the fall. Two major themes emerged from the work: support for teachers and support for students. A revised CSIP will be developed based on the feedback. The goal is to present a draft CSIP to the board in the June board meeting. A revised CSIP could be adopted in the July board meeting.

In keeping with DESE guidance, the CSIP will be divided into the following sections:

Collaborative climate and culture

Alignment of standards, curriculum, and assessment

Data-based decision making

Leadership

Teaching & Learning

### Facilities

FSG has been proactive regarding summer work schedules. Work occurring on each campus is detailed in an addendum to the superintendent's report.

Turf installation is being completed as scheduled. The softball field project is on schedule.

The table below details the status of bond projects identified in the April 2024 ballot language.

*Shall the Board of Education of the Mexico School District No. 59, Missouri, without an estimated increase in the current debt service property tax levy, borrow money in the amount of Twenty-One Million Dollars (\$21,000,000) for the purpose of providing funds to replace or upgrade heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, roofing, and fire alarm systems District-wide; to construct, equip, and furnish a new classroom addition and renovate the kitchen at the Middle School; to construct a new secure entrance, complete Performing Arts theater upgrades, install field turf, add tennis courts, and build, equip, and furnish a concession building at the High School; to renovate the Hawthorne Elementary School, Eugene Field Elementary School, and McMillan Early Learning Center playgrounds; to the extent funds are available, complete other repairs and improvements to the existing facilities of the District; and issue general obligation bonds for the payment thereof? If this proposition is approved, the adjusted debt service levy of the School District is estimated to remain unchanged at \$0.8691 per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation of real and personal property.*

Project	Contractor	Bid Amount	Status
HVAC A	Peters	\$ 2,785,828.00	started
Roof A	All Seasons	\$ 1,311,620.00	started
Softball Field	Byrne and Jones	\$ 897,700.00	started
MS/Fence/C stand	Little Dixie	\$ 3,442,334.00	start date 6/2
McMillan playground	Byrne and Jones	\$ 536,530.00	start date 6/2
Eugene field playground	Byrne and Jones	\$ 352,318.00	start date 6/2
Hawthorne playground	Byrne and Jones	\$ 250,110.00	start date 6/2
HS Upgrades			
Vo-tech reno			
Tennis Court	?	\$ 2,392,527.49	pending approval
Admin/McMillan			
	total bids	\$ 11,968,967.49	
	total original budget	\$ 20,650,492.00	

### **VGF Grant**

During the 2024-2025 school year our students benefited from the Volunteer Generation Fund Grant. The grant funded Link Crew, and we planned to use the grant to support WEB next year. C2C intends to support the stipend and supplies for Link and WEB with the Full Service Grant for the 2025-2026 school year; however, there will be no additional funds for training or support.

### **Finance**

The district has received 88% of budgeted operating revenues and spent 71% of operating expenditures. The district will likely finish the fiscal year with a deficit as called for in the budget. Expenditures will be inflated as we intend to transition back to the practice of coding summer school expenditures to the fiscal year they are incurred. Coding two summer schools to one fiscal year will have no impact on back balances, but it will at \$600,000 to the FY 25 expenditures, which will artificially suppress the fund balance as expressed on the ASBR.

A draft of the budget message and detailed revenue projections is presented as an addendum to the superintendents' report.

### **Federal Programs**

We have conducted a comprehensive needs assessment for our Title services for MELC, EF, & HAW, and held an advisory meeting with Title staff, parents, and administrators. We reviewed the results of parent and teacher surveys, district assessment, and attendance data. Overall, the advisory panel concluded we needed to improve access to resources for our parents to use at home and parental involvement in planning activities. We also concluded that the district needs to focus more on math support to improve

achievement data in this area. Elaine Hansett has been an asset to the district for many years, as she has worked part-time as a math instructional coach since her retirement about 10 years ago. Elaine is re-retiring from that position. We therefore decided to budget some of our federal programs' funds for a full-time math instructional coach for the 25-26 school year.

The Title 1 teachers completed compiling dyslexia screener data for students to report back to the state through core data.

### **Elementary Math Curriculum Review Team**

We held our final meeting of the year, in which we analyzed the results of the surveys administered to teachers who piloted both programs and teachers who learned about the programs from staff on our curriculum review team. We also discussed the experiences of the math team members from piloting. 100% of our team members chose Eureka Math Squared as our new curriculum program. The next steps include ordering curriculum materials and supplies and securing training for our teachers.

### **Elementary Literacy Team**

All Title 1 teachers, reading coaches, and a handful of classroom teachers attended a statewide Science of Reading Symposium in early May, and we have been sharing new learning with colleagues. Our literacy team held its final meeting this year in which we reviewed end-of-year iReady data, discussed testing protocols, and planned to launch a book study about writing to kick off a year of curriculum review for writing that will coincide with our literacy improvement efforts. We also planned teacher training for literacy improvement for our back-to-school PD days.

In grades K-8, we moved 18% more students to read on grade level from beginning to end of year, from 11% to 38%; thereby decreasing the number of students who read two or more levels below grade level by 13%, from 47% to 34%.

### **RSPs**

All elementary teachers completed RSP data for the state to submit to the core data in June.

### **Attendance**

Our “Every Minute Matters” attendance campaign has helped increase our district’s attendance data. Through the collaborative efforts of our district attendance coordinator and each building’s attendance intervention team, as well as support from the Chamber of Commerce and our PR director, we have increased the number of students who consistently attend school (with 90% or above attendance average) from 74% in 2023-24 to 81% for the 24-25 school year. This is a huge accomplishment and is definitely something to celebrate!