MEXICO SCHOOL DISTRICT #59

# SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORT

DR. TROY LENTZ, SUPERINTENDENT
JULIE (LOWER) WELCH, ASST SUPERINTENDENT

## March 2026

### Community Engagement

The following groups continue to be engaged: Kiwanis, Rotary, Bright Futures, and the Chamber of Commerce. Also, our winter sports teams appreciated all the community support during their postseason runs.

### Facilities

The table below details the status of the district's bond projects.

| PROJECT | BUILDING | STATUS | Contractor | WINNING BID | PAY APPS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| HVAC | EF, MHS, MMS | Project Complete | Peters | $2,725,828.00 | $2,486,938.45 |
| ROOF | MHS, EF | Project Complete | ASR | $1,271,620.00 | $1,281,210.00 |
| PLAYGROUND | MELC, EF, HAW | Project Complete | Byrne & Jones | $1,138,958.00 | $1,144,838.01 |
| SECURITY UPGRADES | MHS | In Progress | LDC | $2,259,707.00 | $0.00 |
| SOFTBALL FIELD | MHS | Project Complete | Byrne & Jones | $746,700.00 | $870,461.00 |
| TENNIS COURT | MHS | In Progress | Next Level | $2,245,829.00 | $1,909,038.30 |
| UPDATES | MMS | Project Complete | LDC | $3,299,950.00 | $3,418,253.26 |
| VO-TECH RENO | HCC | Not Started | | | $0.00 |
| CO FIRE ALARM | CO | In Progress | Meyer | $67,592.00 | $0.00 |
| HVAC | MELC, HCC, CO | In Progress | Peters | $1,921,445.00 | $0.00 |
| ELEVATOR A | MHS | In Progress | TKE | $207,485.97 | $101,870.89 |
| ELEVATOR B | MHS | Not Started | | | $0.00 |
| GYM FLOOR | MHS | In Progress | Missouri Floor | $493,700.00 | $0.00 |
| EMMONS WORK | MHS | Not Started | Sound Solutions | $129,538.00 | $0.00 |
| | | | | $16,508,352.97 | $11,212,609.91 |
| soft costs to date | $ 1,315,363.47 | | | | |
| bonds + premiums | $ 22,059,798.00 | | | | |

Big Al's Fencing is correcting issues with our batting cage and some fencing at the high school baseball field.

ASR is being engaged on issues with the athletic complex roof.

**Budget**
I am meeting with the county assessor on Thursday to discuss the impact of several changes that have occurred recently in Audrain County as well as the potential impact of senior tax credits and proposed legislation.

**Summer School 2026**

We're continuing to gear up for summer school. Site administrators submitted their hire list last week and will submit their incentive calendars and information packets this month. My office will send out hire letters to summer school staff by March 20. Our Infinite Campus manager, Nicki Robnett, and DeOnna Wieberg have been working to set up IC for student registration, which opens April 6.

**Professional Development**

The district held a professional development day on March 9. Elementary staff participated in their final Eureka Math² module study session, followed by a two-hour dyslexia training led by an RPDC trainer. The same trainer worked with secondary teachers earlier in the morning. Following the final module preparation session, our instructional coach, Wendy Lentz, reported that elementary teachers have received more than 30 hours of math-focused professional development this school year. The middle school held an EdCamp-style professional development session facilitated by teachers. High school staff focused on discussions and training related to school climate and culture.

**Elementary Math**

The focus of this month's elementary Math Team meeting was to make decisions about updating the summer school math curriculum and realigning our grade card standards with the EMS and MLS standards. Our math teachers and instructional coaches will have afternoon release time to complete this work.

**Literacy**

Our elementary Literacy Team is expanding to include secondary administrators and teacher representatives as we make adjustments to meet the expectations of the required Comprehensive Literacy Plan, which must be submitted to DESE next year. At our February meeting, the team analyzed district assessment data in the area of vocabulary, established our SMART goal, and identified our first set of instructional strategies.

The middle school has received approval for the first round of CLSD grant purchases for Tier 2/3 reading intervention resources, including the 95 Percent Group *Adolescent Word Study*

program. The grant application process was complex, and Mr. Louder worked diligently with the CLSD grant coordinators to secure approval.

**Federal Programs**

In February, our Title I team hosted a districtwide elementary Literacy & Basketball Family Night at the MHS Sports Complex in conjunction with the varsity basketball games. We had approximately 100 families attend.

Our Title I team also hosted a two-day professional development session for several teachers to deepen their understanding of the 95 Percent Group Tier 2 interventions, *Vocab Surge* and *Comprehension 3–6*.

**District Assessment**

State MAP & EOC testing is right around the corner. In February, we attended the annual District Test Coordinator meeting with DESE and have since created accounts for all building test coordinators in the DRC Insight portal. Each building has submitted its testing schedule, and the testing window has been set in the portal.