



To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Dennis L. Carpenter, Ed.D., Superintendent
Dawn Smith, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent of Operations

Date: May 21, 2026

RE: Operations Department Board of Education Report

Operations Department:

The Operations Department continues to evaluate organizational structures and operational efficiencies as part of the district’s ongoing Road to a Sustainable Destiny work. These efforts remain focused on aligning resources, improving operational effectiveness, maintaining fiscal responsibility, and supporting district priorities and student success.

Beginning in the 2026–2027 school year, several internal staffing realignments and operational adjustments will be implemented across technology, operations, procurement, and administrative support services. These changes are the result of internal restructuring and reassignment of responsibilities designed to improve efficiency and service delivery, while generating an estimated cost savings of approximately \$906,577.12.

Facilities:

The district’s transition planning and relocation efforts continued to move forward throughout May. On May 14, 2026, Superior Movers delivered approximately 1,400 moving boxes, labels, and packing materials to support building-level preparation efforts. The Technology Department also began the process of relocating technology equipment to ensure all systems were properly handled, inventoried, and prepared for reinstallation at their new locations.

The physical relocation process for all three schools was scheduled to begin on June 1, 2026, with anticipated completion by June 18, 2026. Throughout the planning and transition process, the Operations and Technology teams continued to meet regularly with building leaders and collaborate closely with the Academics team to support a smooth and seamless transition for staff and students.

Additionally, the Operations team conducted ongoing assessments of materials and furnishings at Santa Fe and Brooks Middle School to determine opportunities for repurposing resources across the district. Surplus furniture and supplies identified for future use were designated for storage at the district warehouse, supporting continued cost-efficiency efforts and responsible resource management.

Business Services

On Wednesday, May 13, 2026, the district completed the due diligence call for the upcoming General Obligation Bond issuance. As part of this process, the district’s financial information is reviewed to determine its credit rating, which impacts the interest rate on the bonds and the amount of funding available for district projects. The district expects to receive the results of the rating review by mid-next week.

Technology

The technology department will be moving all technology equipment to and from the building in support of the



transition between buildings. We are collecting student devices to update, inspect, and prepare them for the upcoming school year. We are also preparing technology resources and support systems for summer school.

Department of Safety

The Safety Department will begin identifying installation locations for the Stop the Bleed kits upon arrival of the order. In coordination with Facilities, work will continue on the installation of numbered exterior doors to support the rapid deployment of emergency resources when needed.

As the school year concludes, implementation of security measures for closed buildings will begin. In conjunction with the revised Emergency Operations Plan, emergency response kits will be assembled for every building to ensure essential equipment is readily available during any emergency situation.

Additionally, the Safety Department is working with Technology to review the district's current communications network to ensure reliable coverage and communication capabilities during emergencies.

Nutritional Services

The Nutrition Services Division continues to make steady progress across several key areas. The District is actively reviewing participation in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) in collaboration with DESE, with eligibility and financial data currently being finalized and an anticipated completion date of June 30, 2026.

Planning efforts for summer school and the 2026–2027 school year are well underway. Summer school staffing has now been finalized to ensure full operational readiness. During summer school, the district will serve breakfast and lunch at no cost to all enrolled students. In addition, the district will operate an open-site summer feeding program, providing free meals to all children 18 years of age and under within the community.

The division is also preparing for the permanent closure of the Truman kitchen, including the removal and redistribution of food products and small equipment.

We are currently awaiting Board approval for the renewal of food vendors. Once approved by the Board, the renewal information and agreements will be distributed accordingly.

Athletics

The Athletics Department continues to advance student programming, engagement opportunities, and competitive success across the district.

Ruskin High School student-athlete Mark Jones was selected as the recipient of the 2025 Twelve Courts of Christmas Scholarship, earning a \$500 scholarship award. Mark was nominated following participation in the basketball tournament hosted at Hy-Vee Arena in December and was selected as the boys division winner.

The Boys Volleyball team concluded its season with a third-place finish in its division. Wesley Gali and Alberto Medina Mateo earned 2nd Team All-Conference honors, while Liam Peña, Elijah Potts, and Saul Sanchez received All-Conference Honorable Mention recognition. All five student-athletes were also named 2nd Team All-District.

Planning and preparation for the 2026–2027 athletic year are well underway. The athletic calendar has been finalized, and the department continues developing theme nights and special events designed to enhance student engagement, school spirit, and community involvement at home athletic events.



Additionally, summer programming preparations are in progress, with team workouts and conditioning opportunities scheduled to begin following Memorial Day. These activities are designed to support student-athlete skill development, conditioning, and overall performance. Additional information and finalized schedules will be shared with interested students and families by the end of the month.

