

Board of Education Workshop
Monday, August 11, 2025
4:30 PM
Board Room
214 - 1st Ave NE
Buffalo, MN 55313

REPORT

Present: Amanda Lawrence, Bob Sansevere, Adam Bjorklund, Angie Greig, Matt Hoffman

Absent: Sheila Smude, Mike Honsey

1. Language Access Plan

Amy Ernst, Director of Special Services

This is a new requirement from MDE. The plan outlines procedures for providing interpretation and translation services. Many of the procedures are already in place. Language about the plan will be added to all handbooks.

2. 2025-26 Handbooks Review

A. Elementary Handbook

Carmen Tubbs, NES Principal

Updates were presented.

B. Buffalo Community Middle School Handbook

Katie Gohl, BCMS Assistant Principal

Updates were presented.

C. Buffalo High School Handbook

Mark Mischke, BHS

Handbook includes info on Bison Online, the new online program offered at BHS. There will be a handbook for this specific program. Additional updates were reviewed.

D. Volunteer, KidKare and ECFE/ECSE Handbooks

Eric Erlandson, Director of Community Education

No changes to the Volunteer Handbook. ECFE/ECSE added Pyramid Model expectations. KidKare – changes are mostly clarifying and due to parent questions. There will be a nutrition services audit this year and have updated free lunch guidelines.

3. Buildings and Grounds Update

Tim Helppi, Director of Buildings and Grounds

BHS – some areas are now completed and furnishings are being moved in.

BCMS – There is a phase 2 scheduled for next year to tie together the chiller systems.

DES entry – delay due to movement of fiber and a water main issue. Will be usable at the start of the school year, but project will not be complete. October 3rd is new completion date.

NES playground is complete

Working on PES/Lions park playground – mid-September will be completion with a ribbon cutting with the City of Buffalo.

Bid opening last week for DES and will be presented at the next meeting. Looks like we will be able to come in under budget.

OSHA aware manual now required for schools. Working with our Health and Safety company to develop this.

4. 2025-26 Board Report Calendar

Scott Thielman, Superintendent

Location change made in October and May due to parent-teacher conferences.

5. Committee Reports

BS – teacher negotiations, WTC

AL – AMSD

Superintendent Thielman shared information about the New Teacher Welcome on Monday, August 18th.