

Board of Education Workshop
Monday, January 12, 2026
4:45 PM
Buffalo High School
877 Bison Blvd
Buffalo, MN 55313

REPORT

Present: Bob Sansevere, Sheila Smude, Mike Honsey, Matt Hoffman, Angie Greig,
Amanda Lawrence
Absent: Adam Bjorklund

1. Presentation: Buffalo High School

Mark Mischke, Principal

We create an opportunity for everyone who walks in our doors to feel like they belong. Today we celebrate and share successes.

Mission Statement: "In partnership with our families and community, Buffalo High School prepares each student for a successful future. In an academically rigorous and supportive environment, we prioritize learning, equity, and meaningful relationships. Together, we value student agency, growth, and connections."

As the BHS data and testing coordinator, Assistant Principal Ed Cox shared student achievement through MCA and ACT proficiency from 2021-2025, student grades, and graduation rates.

2. Unified Programming and Symposium

Mark Mischke, Principal

Amy Ernst, Director of Special Services

Unified Programming is building belonging through inclusive initiatives. Teachers Jennifer Heebink, Carrie Schmitt, Jessa Rakotz, and Zack Carlson-Giving presented on Unified history, Unified today, Unified Week, Unified Music, and the upcoming Unified Symposium. The symposium is a one-day professional gathering on April 10 designed to inspire and equip educators and leaders who believe in the transformative power of inclusion.

3. Physical Education CAP Report

Pam Miller, Director of Teaching and Learning

Scott Palmer, Secondary Curriculum Coordinator

Kevin Kray, BCMS Physical Education Teacher

Troy Holland, BHS Physical Education Teacher

The Physical Education staff presented their Curriculum Adoption Proposal (CAP) Report to provide student opportunities that align with the goals of the state standards, as well as the local identified improvement process goals for each department. The vision of the department is to empower all students with lifelong health and well-being, ensuring their best interests at every step of their K-12 educational journey. Mr. Palmer shared the review process. Mr. Kray explained the need to update the outdated weight room equipment with body weight exercises. Mr. Holland expressed the need

to replace Polar equipment and weight room equipment, in addition to adding new materials for Mind and Body Curriculum. Ms. Miller shared the elementary needs which include new gymnastics mats and scooter boards. Total cost of requests would be just under \$149,000.

4. 2026 Pay Equity Implementation Report

Evan Ronken, Director of Human Resources

Our school district will submit the required report to Minnesota Management and Budget by the deadline of 1/31/26. Compliance testing must be met in four areas: Completeness and Accuracy Test (acknowledging district submitted accurately and on time), Statistical Analysis Test (compares salary data to determine if female classes of employees are paid consistently below males classes of employees for comparable work), Salary Range Test (compares average number of years it takes for employees to move through steps in the contracts for female classes compared to male classes), and Exceptional Service Pay Test (compares how often employees in male classes receive longevity or performance pay above the normal salary range compared to female classes).

5. Financial Projections

Ryan Tangen, Director of Finance and Operations

Long-range financial planning and forecasting procedures compile data and predict the district's financial future based on current trends and assesses how these trends will impact operations in the years ahead. The first revised budget for 2025-26 estimates an ending fund balance of \$12,676,870 or 15.39% of total expenditures. This is an increase of \$1,739,744 over the revised original projection. Mr. Tangen presented a detailed 2026 Financial Forecast, Forecast Base Scenario, Forecast Scenario #1 with no staff cuts for 26-27, and a Forecast Scenario #2 with half staff cuts for 26-27. In summary, the fund balance is projected to decrease throughout the forecast period, PPD expenditures will be aligned with revenues for 2026-27 and beyond, the assigned fund balance for technology will continue to be utilized, and to maintain the district's policy of an 8-12% unassigned and nonspendable fund balance, budget modifications will be essential by 2028-29.

6. Committee Reports

Dr.H: Custodian Negotiations

AL: AMSD

BS: WTC