



## Superintendent's Report

October 24, 2023

### **Ashkar Construction Project:**

#### *Bids:*

Based on the total cost of the project to build a new Ashkar Elementary school exceeds the available construction funds borrowed by the district, it is my recommendation that the board reject those bids. The decision to fully explore the rebuilding of this school was absolutely correct. Ashkar has significant needs structurally, HVAC, electrical, and roofing. However, essential repairs can be accomplished and maintain the facility for another 10-20 years. This will allow the district to focus on other necessary capital projects throughout the district and then revisit building a new Ashkar Elementary school in the future when both Renn and Ferrell Elementaries can be included in that broader discussion.

#### *Capital Projects:*

Mr. McCaffery and I have identified numerous capital projects throughout the district that need to be addressed. We will present to you three priority areas. Engineers from Larson Design Group and McClure will also present their studies and recommendations in fuller detail and answer any questions of the board.

I am requesting board approval to utilize available construction funds from the bonds and with MBT to complete these projects and to make adjustments as are necessary and appropriate through the projects. The board will receive regular monthly updates on the status of projects, use of funds, and will need to approve all contracts.

#### *Navigate 360 Safety Alert Drills:*

The recent Navigate 360 drill completed last week with staff and student check in was not at an acceptable success level. To be clear, this is in no way the fault of administration or staff. The program has ongoing challenges. We are exploring other options at this point.

### **Business / Financial Matters:**

#### *Justice Works / Compass Academy*

Board approval for the Justice Works / Compass Academy is requested to allow the district to utilize this provider on a limited basis for disruptive youth who cannot immediately be supported in the regular school setting. This program is strictly governed by PDE regulations on AEDY programs and requires a high level of administrative oversight for student placements.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Mark Stamm  
Superintendent of Schools