



Long Prairie-Grey Eagle Schools

A Small School with Big
Opportunities for Each and
Every Student!

Superintendent's Report 04/20/2026

Budget: Board members should expect to receive budget recommendations in advance of the upcoming meeting. I have been meeting with individuals who may be impacted throughout the week. The recommendations will focus on streamlining operations; reducing costs in some areas while strategically reinvesting in others.

Please note that summer school offerings have been reduced to reflect the loss of revenue from the 21st Century Grant. At this time, the status of this funding for next year remains uncertain.

Facilities Rental Policy: The district currently absorbs approximately \$25,000–\$30,000 annually in costs associated with facility rentals. A committee has been reviewing our current practices and comparing them with surrounding districts. A recommendation is planned for the May board meeting, with the goal of establishing a more sustainable cost-recovery model. This will be included as part of the overall budget recommendations.

Solar for Schools Grant: iDeal Construction will present on the Solar for Schools grant opportunity, which involves a proposed solar array above the geothermal field at the secondary school. This is a continuation of prior discussions. Board members are welcome to submit questions in advance, and the presenters will also be available to answer questions during the meeting.

We are hopeful to receive an update on the grant award prior to the meeting, as the announcement was originally expected on April 2.

Enrollment: Enrollment at the secondary level declined further in February and has remained at that lower level through March. Historically, we would expect to see an increase during this time of year. Additionally, ESL enrollment has declined, which is a departure from recent trends.

Further review indicates that a number of students have transitioned to online programs and the ALC, which now offers an online option. This trend is not unique to LPGE; neighboring districts are reporting similar shifts, particularly at the 9–12 grade level.

The Minnesota State High School League is expected to implement a rule in the coming years requiring student participation in activities to align with the physical location of the school in which they are enrolled. This may influence future enrollment patterns.



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Online Learning Considerations: The district leadership team is currently exploring the potential impact of offering an online learning option. This includes: Arranging site visits to districts with established online programs, Exploring potential vendors, Engaging with individuals experienced in online instruction

Statewide enrollment in online programs continues to grow. Based on current trends, increased competition from districts offering online options may continue to impact enrollment at LPGE.

At this time, there are no discussions about changing current staff assignments or instructional delivery related to these considerations. This would be an additional service, not a replacement of existing programming.

Negotiations

Custodial Union: Negotiations have moved into mediation after reaching an impasse on salary, despite progress on insurance and language. Mediation is scheduled for May 5. Additional details regarding the process are still forthcoming.

Contracts: We are working toward finalizing salaried non-exempt contracts by the time of the board meeting. Remaining items include one smaller union group and two individual contracts.

Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs): There has been limited recent discussion on MOUs. These typically involve updates to language and stipends tied to the teacher contract (Appendix C). I am hopeful to bring updated MOUs for review at the May board meeting.

Surplus Sale: Additional items will be brought forward for approval for the upcoming surplus sale. More detailed information will be provided at the May board meeting. The goal remains to hold a sale this summer, which may include larger items such as the district's tractor and van.

Please feel free to call me at 357-3605 or email me at dludvigson@lpge.k12.mn.us with questions.

Daniel Ludvigson, the Superintendent of Long Prairie-Grey Eagle Public School