



Director of Communications and Grants Update

September 2026

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Received notification that **we were awarded a \$22,000 cybersecurity grant from MDE, an \$8,000 energy and resilience study grant for the Rush City Aquatic Center from the Initiative Foundation, a \$2,000 lock box grant from MDE, and a \$1,575 library grant from Dollar General.** (*Strategic Plan: Educational excellence, Finance and management*).
 - Produced several videos this month, including a short piece capturing the [first-day-of-school excitement at C.E. Jacobson](#) that received warm feedback. (*SP: Strengthen community relationships, Educational excellence*).
 - Met with Dr. Horton and Chisago County Public Health to discuss next steps on the School Based Health Center project. (*SP: Community and family partnerships*).
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COMMUNICATIONS

- Published Community Edition newsletters on Sept. 4 and Sept. 18. (*SP: Strengthen community relationships, Educational excellence*).
- Published Family Edition newsletters on Aug. 30 and Sept. 11. (*SP: Strengthen community relationships, Educational excellence*).
- Published Staff Edition newsletters on Aug. 30 and Sept. 11. (*SP: Strengthen community relationships, Educational excellence*).
- Made 20+ posts to Facebook and Instagram this month. We will continue to emphasize our theme for the year: **Listen. Reflect. Transform.** (*SP: Strengthen community relationships, Educational excellence*).

GRANTWRITING

- Worked on grant reporting for completed grants. (*SP: Finance and management*).
 - Working with CEJ and RCHS staff to research grant opportunities and discuss potential grant-funded projects. (*SP: Educational excellence, Finance and management*).
 - **Adding it up, we've received 5 grants totalling \$37,475 since 8/1/26.**
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COMING UP

- Looking forward to telling some fantastic stories from teachers and staff in the weeks ahead!
- Working with Rush City Education Foundation to support their efforts - and looking forward to assisting our staff in writing grant requests to the RCEF.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve our students and schools! - Mike Gainor