

Superintendent Report

March 18, 2026

**Motto: One district. One mission. Every student.
Every day**

We act by (norms) TRUST:

- **Trust Each Other** – Build relationships grounded in honesty and reliability.
- **Respect Each Other** – Recognize every person has value and deserves to be heard
- **Unity** – Strive to understand one another and work toward common goals.
- **Support Each Other** – Help each other grow, especially when challenges arise.
- **Transparency** – Be open and honest, while using good judgment in how we communicate

Follow-Ups:

- I have no follow up items on my list.

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- **SRO Contracts with the Kootenai County:**
 - **Great news!** The County Commissioners have decided to honor the 70%/30% cost share for the upcoming school year.
 - Jake and I attended the Special Board meeting where Jake was able to highlight the strong support for continuing the partnership, including support from the Kootenai County Sheriff's Department, the Coeur d'Alene School District Deputy Superintendent, Kootenai School District Superintendent, and many others.

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- To be honest, it seemed the decision had largely been made before we even sat down. However, Commissioner Bruce Mattare made it clear that we should prepare for potential increases in SRO service costs in the future and plan to incorporate those expenses into our next supplemental levy. I did share that increasing the district's percentage would be very difficult, regardless of any levy increase.
- Jake deserves a great deal of credit for the positive shift. Through the principals, he helped communicate with parents at the three schools impacted, which generated significant support.

● Superintendent Evaluation:

- Sara and I walked through the Google Form she created, as well as the information I had previously compiled and she transferred into the form. She has done a great job putting everything together. The only remaining items to add are my goals and the board's goals.
- The surveys for Directors, Principals, High School ADs, and staff will close on Monday, March 9 at 4:00 p.m. The feedback collected so far has been very informative.
- I look forward to the evaluation process and the discussion on how I can continue to improve moving forward.

● Four-day School Week:

- I have been as transparent as possible with parents, high school students, and staff throughout this process. I shared information with all groups last week. Since then, I have received a few concerns from parents—two emails over the past week—as well as two emails expressing support.
- I also want to make it clear that I truly appreciate the board's questions and concerns as we work through this very difficult decision. I share the concern regarding the later dismissal time for our kindergarten students. At this time, however, our transportation obligations do not allow us to dismiss school any earlier.
 - That said, I do have a few ideas we could explore. For example, we could work with transportation to look at dropping off younger students closer to their homes. We could also consider using aides (who we would look at to add hours to their day) and/or volunteers to assist parents who request escorts for their younger children.

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- The only other point I wanted to address is the financial impact. I understand that a potential 1% savings may not sound significant, and in a \$50 million budget it normally wouldn't be. However, our finances are extremely tight, and any savings can help.
- Additionally, every indication I have received from Jess and her colleagues suggests that a budget cut at the state level is coming. Because of previous levy reductions, our departments are already operating at a bare minimum. While additional cuts could technically be made within departments, the work those departments do still needs to be completed. There are only so many hours in a day, and pushing that additional workload down to our schools would be the last thing I would want—and I believe the last thing the board would want as well.
- I fully understand that at minimum approximately 40% of parents, 60% of high school students, and 35% of staff may not support this change. However, we also need to be proactive. Those same individuals would understandably be upset if we were forced to cut additional programs or services. While reductions could still occur under a four-day week, our hope is that the impact would be much less significant.

● **Attending Many Events Around the District:**

- Presented– State of Community
- Presented– Longevity Presentations, around the district
- Meeting– LEA President @ DO
- Meetings– TRUST with all Principals, around the district
- Lead Four-day Week Committee Sub-committee, DO
- Lead Four-day Week Committee Committee, DO
- Participated– The Shake-off, JBE
- Meeting, Lewis and Clark College– teacher program, DO
- Participated– JBE Carnival
- Participated– Learning Walks, LMS
- Participated– Blood Drive, LHS
- Lead– Plant Facility Levy Meeting, DO