

Elementary School Board Report

May 18, 2026

Educate the *difference makers of tomorrow.*

Angela Shepard-

- ~ Budget- GoMath, Amplify Reading Series, Classroom Teachers
- ~ FastBridge Testing
- ~ Scheduling for 2026-2027
- ~ Thank you to Jake Timm, Alison Kjos and Emily Walberg
- ~ Summer School- June 8-11 & 15-18 and August 10-13
Teachers - Lacey Drinkall, Krissy Kelly, Belle Berg, Taylor Allen

15 Color Run 2:15 - 3:00

21 2nd Grade Field Trip ~ Eagle Center

22 Field Day - K-1-2 9:15 - 11:15

- 3-4-5 12:30 - 2:30

26 3rd Grade Field Trip - Myrick Park

26 All School Cleanup Day - 9:15 - 10:45

27 Kindergarten Field Trip - Houston Owl Center

29 1st Grade Field Trip - LaCrosse Children's Museum and Houston Park

2 Preschool Graduation 8:45-10:00

Early Childhood- Emily Johnson - The preschoolers ventured out to Johnson's Rolling Acres Farm for our annual field trip. We thanked them for purchasing our milk and snacks all school year! We toured the dairy barns, milking parlor, bulk tanks and played with the baby calves. The farm treated us to a dairy snack of yogurt, string cheese, chocolate milk and milk chocolate candy!



Early Childhood- Alison Kjos

We had a wonderful time at Johnson's Rolling Acres for our field trip! It is always a great experience for the preschoolers and we are very appreciative of the opportunity to visit every year! It is also the first time for a lot of the preschoolers to ride on a school bus. It is a great bonding experience for the classes too!



Kindergarten- Carissa George, Taylor Allen

Kindergarten has been having so much fun exploring the life cycles of plants, butterflies, and frogs! We have watched our caterpillars form their chrysalis, learned and observed as our tadpoles make changes to their bodies, and planted our very own flowers and grass cups! Our Amplify unit has also walked us through the life cycles of many different plants and trees.

In math, we are continuing to review addition and have now added subtraction! Students are working hard to remember the difference between plus and minus signs. In UFLI, we are learning about different digraphs and continuing to practice our reading skills each day.

We are also enjoying celebrating our ABC Countdown! Some favorite highlights so far have been Hawaiian Day for the letter "H," making dirt cake cups for the letter "D," fingerpainting outside for the letter "F", and playing kickball with the 4th graders for the letter "K"!





1st- Becky Lind, Jessica Burt

In our new Amplify curriculum, we have been learning about *A New Nation: American Independence*. Students are exploring how the thirteen colonies became the United States and learning about the events that helped shape our country. In reading, we are working on vowel teams in our UFLI curriculum. Students are practicing recognizing and reading vowel patterns to strengthen their decoding and spelling skills. In math, we just finished our unit on fractions and have now begun learning about measurement. The first graders have also really enjoyed going to Art during trimester 3. They have loved being creative and expressing themselves through different art projects!



2nd- Shannon Kopperud, Emily Walberg

Second graders have been very interested in learning about the American Civil War as a part of the Amplify CKLA curriculum. Some have even brought in pictures of themselves on family trips visiting Gettysburg and Fort Sumter! In math, second grade has covered measurement and data. They are now moving on to geometry. In spelling, they continue to learn more complex patterns such as the “y to i rule” and the “drop e rule”. Next week, students will take their aReading and aMath Spring assessments.

3rd- Andrea Larson, Krissy Kelly

Third grade just wrapped up their unit on quadrilaterals. To bring their learning to life, the students created pictures using only quadrilaterals. They were very creative and had great ideas!



In reading, we finished up learning about the human body and how all of our body systems are interconnected. The students were really interested in learning more about the human body and are eager for more lessons about it in the future. For social studies, we finished learning about the government and the roles of the different branches. We are beginning our biographies to end the third grade year!

4th- Jon Theuer, Belle Berg

During reading, students finished their class novel and have been reviewing important literacy skills learned throughout the school year. Students will soon begin a STEM-based egg drop project that incorporates problem-solving, creativity, and teamwork. In math, students continue reviewing essential fourth grade standards while also being introduced to select fifth grade skills to help prepare them for next year. Fourth grade students also attended Farm Safety Day in Preston. Students learned about farm safety, emergency preparedness, and important general safety practices through a variety of engaging presentations and activities.



5th- Cheryl Harvey, Marsha Sawle

Our fifth graders recently enjoyed an exciting three-day field trip to Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center in Lanesboro. During their stay, students challenged themselves on the high ropes course, experienced what life was like for early settlers during “Settler’s Life,” and explored the outdoors while learning navigation skills in a GPS class. Students enjoyed hiking and looking for fossils by the Root River. The trip provided students with opportunities to build teamwork, confidence, problem-solving

skills, and a deeper appreciation for the environment through hands-on learning experiences.



K-3 Reading & Math Intervention- Meredith Johnson

We cannot believe it is the end of the school year! We are wrapping up intervention classes and have begun testing! Kids enjoyed the last few days of class where we played review games, got free range of the Math Cart, and did some awesome coloring/creating.

4-5 Reading Intervention - Margaret Marklowitz

Classes continue in grades 4-8. Although, it is necessary to work around the many spring/end of year activities. MS is finishing up their Fastbridge testing, grades 4-8 will be starting next week.

K-3 Reading & Math Title- Lacey Drinkall

Our Title classes are finishing up this week doing some fun activities. Our reading groups are practicing readers theaters and our math groups are doing some fun mystery math activities!

We will start our Spring Fastbridge testing this week and wrap up our year!

PE- K- 4- Teresa Brown

K,1 and 2nd have been doing frisbee and leisure recreational activities such as bocce ball, skittles, ladder golf, rollo, lawn dice and bean bag toss



3rd and 4th graders have been playing Sabaki ball and Angle ball. Both are fast paced games switching from offense to defense.



PE- 5- Chris Drinkall

5th grade has been playing multiple games such as Angle Ball, Sabaki ball, Big Base and Texas kickball. We are enjoying our time and weather outside. We are looking at disc golf and baseball/softball to end the school year on a great note.

Music K-4- Jodi Monerson

K-4: Students spent most of the month of April preparing for the Spring Music Concert, which was held on Thursday, May 7th. They did an excellent job, and I highly encourage you watch it (if you weren't there in person): [Elementary Spring Music Concert](#)

Music 5- Ben Mahlke

The 5th Grade students did a fantastic job on their May 4th concert in both band and choir. Job well done! 5th Grade will continue to do instrument lessons for the rest of the school year, along with their music board game activity for general music.

Art - Sam Cunningham

Kindergarten with Ms. Allen's class is just finishing up a texture study by creating texture turtles. They also learned about the link between art and music through Rhythm and Repetition. First grade is to study Abstract art and the departure from what is real creating expressive lines, shapes, and colors. They finished a value study of light to dark last week .

Special Education- Amber Meisch, Aspen Blom, Sophia Wescott

Social Worker/School Counselor- Kelly Smith and Lindsey Olson

The Student Support Team had a busy and exciting month focused on helping students “GROW IT” by building positive relationships and strengthening friendship skills across the school! Our schoolwide pepfest brought tons of energy and laughter with Mario Kart scooter races, flying bananas, a stuffed animal launch challenge, and a hilarious three-legged race that had students and staff cheering each other on from start to finish. Beyond the fun, students practiced teamwork, encouragement, communication, and good sportsmanship in every activity. In classrooms, we continued Tier 1 friendship lessons focused on kindness, inclusion, problem-solving, and healthy peer relationships to help reinforce positive social skills throughout the school day. We also continued monitoring our Tier 2 Check-In Check-Out intervention, where students connect with supportive adult mentors each morning and afternoon to set goals, reflect on progress, and build success habits that help them stay on track. It was a month full of connection, encouragement, growth, and school spirit!



