

Minden Public Schools
Board of Education
Board of Education Regular Meeting
Minden High School Media Center
543 West 5th
Minden, NE 68959-0301
Monday, November 13, 2023 7:00 PM

1. Call to Order
 - 1.a. Open Meetings Act is Posted
 - 1.b. Mission Statement
 - 1.c. Roll Call
 - 1.d. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Public Comment
 - 2.a. FFA Alumni Presentation
 - 2.b. Public Comment
3. Consent Agenda
 - 3.a. Consider Minutes from October 9 Meeting
 - 3.b. Consider Financial Reports
 - 3.c. Consider Expenditures and Claims for Payment
4. Reports
 - 4.a. Board Committees
 - 4.b. Principals
 - 4.c. Superintendent
5. Policy Review and Updates
6. Action Items
 - 6.a. Consider, Discuss, and Take Action on District Audit
 - 6.b. Consider, Discuss, and Take Action on Superintendent Evaluation Form
7. Next Meeting
8. At 7:54pm, Adjournment per Board President Action

**MINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION
October 9, 2023**

The agenda for the October 9, 2023 meeting was posted at the United States Post Office in Minden, Minden Exchange Bank, First Bank and Trust Company, Kearney County Courthouse, and the Minden city office. Agendas were mailed to the United States Post Office in Upland and Heartwell. The agenda was posted in the superintendent's office and notice was published in The Minden Courier.

The board meeting began at 7:00 pm with all board members present.

Motion by Krull and second by Craig to approve the consent agenda consisting of minutes from the September 11 meeting, financial reports, and claims for payment. Roll call: Craig, aye; Glanzer, aye; Krull, aye; Raun, aye; Reed, aye; Rhynalds, aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Craig and second by Glanzer to approve the amendments to Policy 5006 Option Enrollment. Roll call: Craig, aye; Glanzer, aye; Krull, aye; Raun, aye; Reed, aye; Rhynalds, aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Glanzer and second by Reed to approve the 2024-25 capacity limits for Policy 5006 Option Enrollment. Roll call: Craig, aye; Glanzer, aye; Krull, aye; Raun, aye; Reed, aye; Rhynalds, aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Raun and second by Rhynalds to approve the May 2024 Band trip to Branson, Missouri, and the November 2023 Tech Club trip to Wyoming. Roll call: Craig, aye; Glanzer, aye; Krull, aye; Raun, aye; Reed, aye; Rhynalds, aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Craig and second by Glanzer to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Minden for a School Resource Officer. Roll call: Craig, aye; Glanzer, aye; Krull, aye; Raun, aye; Reed, aye; Rhynalds, aye. Motion carried.

At 7:43 pm, meeting adjourned per Board President action.

Secretary, Board of Education

MINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TREASURER'S REPORT
October 31, 2023

SCHOOL BALANCE - September 30, 2023			\$241,267.01
Current Months Receipts			\$704,481.14
Transfers from Investments			\$340,000.00
Total Beginning Balance and Receipts			\$1,285,748.15
Less: Disbursements			\$1,091,596.48
Transfer to Investments			\$0.00
Total Disbursements			\$1,091,596.48
SCHOOL BALANCE - October 31, 2023			\$194,151.67
BALANCE PER BANK STATEMENT - October 31, 2023			\$194,151.67
Deposits In Transit			\$0.00
LESS : Outstanding Checks			\$0.00
RECONCILED BANK BALANCE - October 31, 2023			\$194,151.67
(Balance - October 31, 2022 = \$82,965.33)			
GENERAL FUND INVESTMENTS			\$2,894,837.34
Money Market Minden Exchange	\$1,583,126.60	2.48% demand	
Money Market First Bank	\$1,311,710.74	2.74% demand	
(Balance October 31, 2022 = \$2,782,737.68)			
DEPRECIATION FUND INVESTED			\$171,895.60
Money Market Minden Exchange Bank	\$124,170.98	2.48% demand	
Money Market First Bank	\$47,719.43	2.13% demand	
Checking Minden Exchange Bank	\$5.19		
(Balance October 31, 2022 = \$169,383.42)			
BUILDING FUND			\$1,874,923.99
Money Market Minden Exchange Bank	\$377,030.03	2.48% demand	
Money Market First Bank	\$162,393.44	2.74% demand	
NE Liquid Asset Fund - Building Fund	\$1,335,496.02	5.08% demand	
Checking Minden Exchange Bank	\$4.50		
(Balance October 31, 2022 = \$1,014,516.43)			
BOND FUND			\$2,199,904.14
Money Market Minden Exchange Bank	\$574,443.30	2.48% demand	
NE Liquid Asset Fund - Bond Fund	\$1,625,460.84	5.08% demand	
(Balance October 31, 2022 = \$2,164,775.00)			
LUNCH FUND			\$97,257.96
Money Market First Bank	\$71,627.85	2.36% demand	
Checking First Bank	\$25,630.11		
(Balance October 31, 2022 = \$79,598.60)			
FUNDS PLEDGED FOR DEPOSITS			
Minden Exchange Bank	\$6,500,000.00	Plus 250M FDIC	
First Bank	\$2,065,000.00	Plus 250M FDIC	

Scott W. Johnson, Treasurer

2023/24 Projections vs. Actuals for General Fund As of October 31, 2023

Income

2023/24 Budgeted Income = \$12,867,073.68

Month	Projected Income	Actual Income	Over/(Under) Projection	Running Balance Over/(Under) Projection
September	\$2,458,897.78	\$2,303,327.59	(\$155,570.19)	(\$155,570.19)
October	\$546,850.63	\$710,311.60	\$163,460.97	\$7,890.78
November	\$214,880.13			
December	\$202,013.06			
January	\$1,975,095.81			
February	\$1,002,345.04			
March	\$819,632.59			
April	\$618,906.24			
May	\$3,319,705.01			
June	\$1,246,819.44			
July	\$212,306.72			
August	\$249,621.23			

Cash Flow

Month	Projected Cash Flow	Actual Cash Flow	Over/(Under) Projection	Running Balance Over/(Under) Projection
September	\$1,175,332.97	\$1,037,740.97	(\$137,592.00)	(\$137,592.00)
October	(\$554,696.06)	(\$380,482.27)	\$174,213.79	\$36,621.79
November	(\$874,532.02)			
December	(\$900,881.92)			
January	\$872,200.83			
February	(\$70,887.72)			
March	(\$273,824.41)			
April	(\$478,595.61)			
May	\$2,200,630.64			
June	\$108,869.12			
July	(\$873,060.59)			
August	(\$946,305.23)			

Expenses

2023/24 Budgeted Expenses = \$13,482,823.68

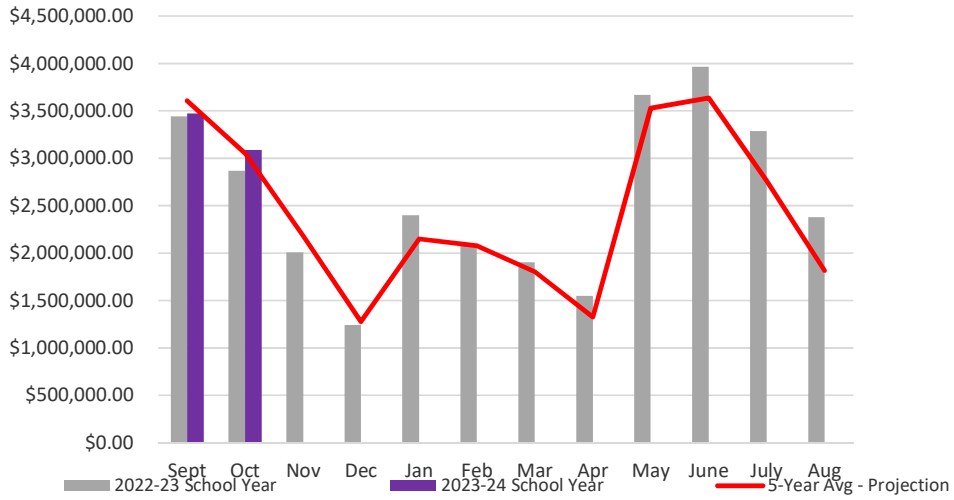
Month	Projected Expenses	Actual Expenses	Over/(Under) Projection	Running Balance Over/(Under) Projection
September	\$1,283,564.81	\$1,265,586.62	(\$17,978.19)	(\$17,978.19)
October	\$1,101,546.69	\$1,090,793.87	(\$10,752.82)	(\$28,731.01)
November	\$1,089,412.15			
December	\$1,102,894.98			
January	\$1,102,894.98			
February	\$1,073,232.76			
March	\$1,093,457.00			
April	\$1,097,501.85			
May	\$1,119,074.37			
June	\$1,137,950.32			
July	\$1,085,367.31			
August	\$1,195,926.46			

General Fund Balance

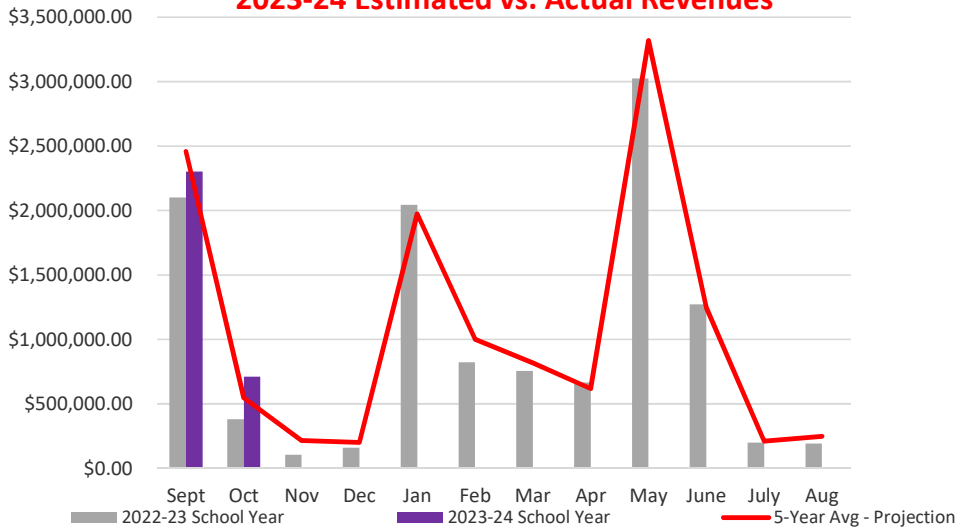
Beginning Reconciled GF Balance = \$2,431,730.31

Month	Projected GF Balance	Actual Reconciled GF Balance	Over/(Under) Projection
September	\$3,607,063.28	\$3,469,471.28	(\$137,592.00)
October	\$3,052,367.22	\$3,088,989.01	\$36,621.79
November	\$2,177,835.20		
December	\$1,276,953.28		
January	\$2,149,154.11		
February	\$2,078,266.39		
March	\$1,804,441.98		
April	\$1,325,846.37		
May	\$3,526,477.01		
June	\$3,635,346.13		
July	\$2,762,285.54		
August	\$1,815,980.31		

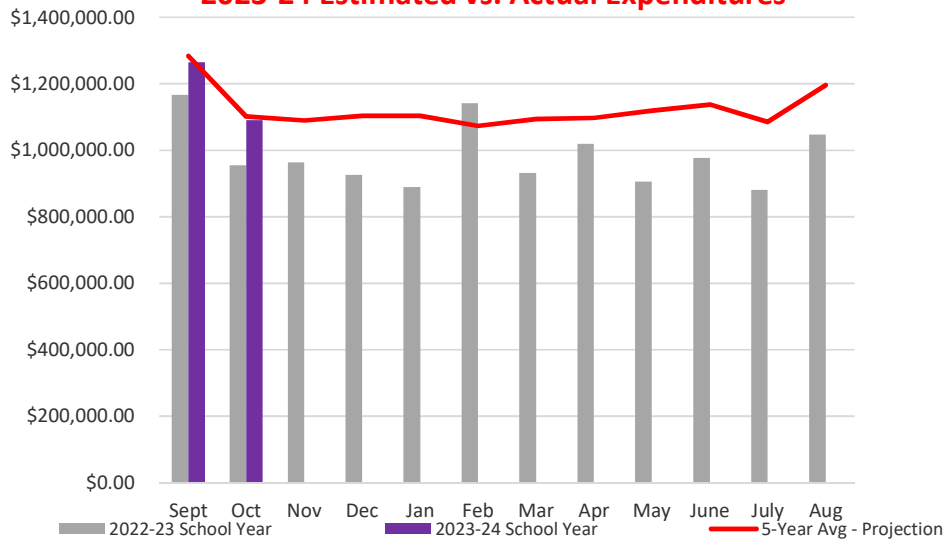
2023-24 Estimated vs. Actual General Fund Balance



2023-24 Estimated vs. Actual Revenues



2023-24 Estimated vs. Actual Expenditures



General Fund Revenues - Thru 10/31/23

Account Description	Adopted Budget	Received	Remaining Balance	Percent Received
01100 - Taxes Levied/Assessed	\$9,309,118.68	\$459,612.33	\$8,849,506.35	4.94%
01115 - Carline Taxes	\$3,500.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00	0.00%
01120 - Public Power District Sales Tax	\$35,000.00	\$0.00	\$35,000.00	0.00%
01125 - Motor Vehicle Taxes	\$425,000.00	\$28,843.05	\$396,156.95	6.79%
01140 - Penalty & Interest on Delinquent Taxes	\$14,250.00	\$2,372.28	\$11,877.72	16.65%
01323 - SPED Tuition from Other School Districts	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	\$50,000.00	0.00%
01370 - Preschool Tuition and Fees	\$25,000.00	\$7,416.00	\$17,584.00	29.66%
01510 - Interest	\$30,000.00	\$12,607.55	\$17,392.45	42.03%
01910 - Rental of School Facilities & Equipment	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	0.00%
01911 - Local License Fees	\$3,750.00	\$0.00	\$3,750.00	0.00%
01920 - Contributions and Donations	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	0.00%
01921 - Police Court Fines	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	0.00%
01980 - Refund of Prior Year's Expenditures	\$0.00	\$190.93	(\$190.93)	
01990 - Miscellaneous Local Revenue	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00	0.00%
02110 - County Fines & License Fees	\$20,000.00	\$2,604.15	\$17,395.85	13.02%
03110 - State Aid	\$1,324,923.00	\$264,984.00	\$1,059,939.00	20.00%
03120 - Special Education - School Age	\$1,125,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,125,000.00	0.00%
03180 - Pro-Rate Motor Vehicle	\$20,000.00	\$278.68	\$19,721.32	1.39%
03400 - State Apportionment	\$101,750.00	\$0.00	\$101,750.00	0.00%
03535 - High Ability Learners Payments	\$8,000.00	\$8,156.00	(\$156.00)	101.95%
04505 - "ESSA Title I, Part A"	\$105,936.00	\$20,950.00	\$84,986.00	19.78%
04509 - "ESSA Title II, Part A"	\$26,034.00	\$0.00	\$26,034.00	0.00%
04516 - IDEA Preschool Base (619)	\$2,467.00	\$0.00	\$2,467.00	0.00%
04518 - IDEA Part B (611) Base & E-P Allocation	\$188,935.00	\$8,572.00	\$180,363.00	4.54%
04521 - IDEA Non-Public	\$1,110.00	\$0.00	\$1,110.00	0.00%
04525 - Carl Perkins Grant	\$1,000.00	\$1,050.22	(\$50.22)	105.02%
04530 - Other Federal Receipts - Categorical	\$0.00	\$58,812.04	(\$58,812.04)	
04708 - Medicaid in Public Schools (MIPS)	\$20,000.00	\$8,143.29	\$11,856.71	40.72%
04709 - Medicaid Administrative Activities (MAAPS)	\$17,500.00	\$2,958.03	\$14,541.97	16.90%
05300 - Sale of Property	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	0.00%
05690 - Other Non-revenue Receipts	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	0.00%
Total	\$12,867,073.68	\$887,550.55	\$11,979,523.13	6.90%

General Fund Expenditures

Account Description	Adopted Budget	Disbursed	Remaining Balance	Percent Spent
01100 - Regular Instruction	\$6,237,917.23	\$1,471,130.73	\$4,766,786.50	23.58%
01125 - Academic Intervention (Flex Funding)	\$99,357.14	\$24,285.17	\$75,071.97	24.44%
01200 - School Age SPED	\$1,538,537.83	\$317,299.82	\$1,221,238.01	20.62%
01291 - Preschool Age 3-5	\$15,077.25	\$1,467.98	\$13,609.27	9.74%
01292 - Preschool Age 0-2	\$120.79	\$20.79	\$100.00	17.21%
01300 - Summer School	\$21,244.67	\$702.97	\$20,541.70	3.31%
02120 - Guidance Counselor	\$302,270.58	\$78,225.06	\$224,045.52	25.88%
02130 - Health Services	\$81,840.84	\$22,140.86	\$59,699.98	27.05%
02141 - School Psychologist - School Age	\$122,184.73	\$30,265.56	\$91,919.17	24.77%
02151 - Speech Path & Deaf Ed	\$217,049.29	\$46,824.60	\$170,224.69	21.57%
02152 - Speech Path & Deaf Ed	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$800.00	0.00%
02161 - Occupational Therapy	\$37,750.00	\$12,777.75	\$24,972.25	33.85%
02171 - Physical Therapy	\$12,750.00	\$3,786.75	\$8,963.25	29.70%
02172 - Physical Therapy	\$2,500.00	\$627.75	\$1,872.25	25.11%
02173 - Physical Therapy	\$1,500.00	\$81.00	\$1,419.00	5.40%
02190 - Student Activities	\$202,964.34	\$52,483.92	\$150,480.42	25.86%
02213 - Instructional Staff Training	\$33,000.00	\$1,684.03	\$31,315.97	5.10%
02220 - Media Center	\$266,849.36	\$70,499.37	\$196,349.99	26.42%
02230 - Technology Support	\$153,228.94	\$43,103.37	\$110,125.57	28.13%
02240 - Assessment Coordinator	\$20,070.18	\$4,346.28	\$15,723.90	21.66%
02310 - Board of Education	\$49,850.00	\$5,873.98	\$43,976.02	11.78%
02320 - Superintendent	\$308,332.74	\$77,192.28	\$231,140.46	25.04%
02330 - District Legal Services	\$50,000.00	\$7,281.20	\$42,718.80	14.56%
02410 - Principal	\$705,147.12	\$170,206.59	\$534,940.53	24.14%
02510 - Business Office	\$229,587.81	\$55,396.00	\$174,191.81	24.13%
02610 - Custodial	\$503,450.00	\$225,819.52	\$277,630.48	44.85%
02620 - Building Maintenance	\$939,490.10	\$193,701.37	\$745,788.73	20.62%
02630 - Grounds Maintenance	\$196,009.22	\$29,826.91	\$166,182.31	15.22%
02640 - Equipment Repair & Maintenance	\$24,597.47	\$4,893.24	\$19,704.23	19.89%
02650 - Non-Pupil Vehicle	\$6,000.00	\$796.72	\$5,203.28	13.28%
02660 - Security	\$44,000.00	\$0.00	\$44,000.00	0.00%
02670 - Safety	\$48,450.00	\$22,185.35	\$26,264.65	45.79%
02710 - School Bus Driving	\$351,455.20	\$125,570.10	\$225,885.10	35.73%
02712 - School Age SPED Driving	\$4,786.23	\$0.00	\$4,786.23	0.00%
02713 - Below Age 5 SPED Driving	\$11,871.57	\$2,511.01	\$9,360.56	21.15%
02730 - School Bus Driving Vehicle Maintenance	\$66,123.09	\$7,943.03	\$58,180.06	12.01%
02732 - School Age SPED Vehicle Maintenance	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	0.00%
03535 - High Ability Learners	\$47,839.33	\$9,446.91	\$38,392.42	19.75%
06200 - Title IA	\$146,308.00	\$34,771.64	\$111,536.36	23.77%
06406 - IDEA Preschool (619) Base Allocation	\$2,467.00	\$2,467.00	\$0.00	100.00%
06408 - IDEA Part B (611)	\$188,935.00	\$69,227.57	\$119,707.43	36.64%
06412 - IDEA Non-Public	\$1,110.63	\$1,110.00	\$0.63	99.94%
06700 - Carl Perkins	\$2,000.00	\$180.00	\$1,820.00	9.00%
08000 - Transfers (Outgoing)	\$185,000.00	\$105,000.00	\$80,000.00	56.76%
09000 - Reimbursed by Other Funds/Entities	\$0.00	\$1,595.46	(\$1,595.46)	
Total	\$13,482,823.68	\$3,334,749.64	\$10,148,074.04	24.73%

Bank Statement Reconciliation

Description

Adjustment Date

Adjustment Amount

Minden High School Activities 10/01/2023 through 10/31/2023

Bank Statement Reconciliation Summary

Statement Balance	\$ 432,475.22
- Outstanding checks	\$ 19,657.44
+ Outstanding Deposits	\$ 0.00
+ Outstanding Adjustments	\$ 0.00
- Outstanding Investment Transfers	\$ 0.00
Total	\$ 412,817.78
+ Investments	\$ 37,000.00
Book Balance	\$ 449,817.78

Checks For Payment Listing

Date	Check Number	Payee	Reason	Amount
11/14/2023	4426	Ameritas Life Insurance Corp.	Ameritas Tsa	\$ 400.00
11/14/2023	4427	Ameritas Life Insurance Corp..	Vision Insurance	\$ 1,217.95
11/14/2023	4428	Blue Cross Blue Shield	Dental Insurance	\$ 603.63
11/14/2023	4428	Blue Cross Blue Shield	District Dental Insurance	\$ 190.79
11/14/2023	4428	Blue Cross Blue Shield	District HDHP Health Ins 2PT	\$ 2,759.74
11/14/2023	4428	Blue Cross Blue Shield	District HDHP Health Ins 9 Mo	\$ 1,412.76
11/14/2023	4428	Blue Cross Blue Shield	District HDHP Health Ins FAM	\$ 18,426.80
11/14/2023	4428	Blue Cross Blue Shield	District HDHP Health Ins SNG	\$ 1,345.08
11/14/2023	4428	Blue Cross Blue Shield	District Health Ins 2PT	\$ 36,863.71
11/14/2023	4428	Blue Cross Blue Shield	District Health Ins 9 Mo	\$ 13,126.21
11/14/2023	4428	Blue Cross Blue Shield	District Health Ins FAM	\$ 85,757.25
11/14/2023	4428	Blue Cross Blue Shield	District Health Ins SNG	\$ 7,008.48
11/14/2023	4428	Blue Cross Blue Shield	District Health Ins SPD	\$ 5,662.00
11/14/2023	4428	Blue Cross Blue Shield	District Health Ins Split	\$ 1,602.77
11/14/2023	4428	Blue Cross Blue Shield	Feba Bcbs Dental 2PT	\$ 681.66
11/14/2023	4428	Blue Cross Blue Shield	Feba Bcbs Dental FAM	\$ 1,585.61
11/14/2023	4428	Blue Cross Blue Shield	Feba Bcbs Dental SPD	\$ 75.21
11/14/2023	4429	Credit Management Services, Inc.	Kearney County Court CMSI	\$ 296.55
11/14/2023	4430	Fiduciary Trust Company	Flatwater Wealth TSA	\$ 1,000.00
11/14/2023	4431	Horace Mann Life Insurance Company	Horace Mann Life Insurance	\$ 1,275.00
11/14/2023	4432	LVNV Funding, LLC	Kearney County Court - LVNV	\$ 675.95
11/14/2023	4433	Madison National Life Insurance Co., Inc.	Feba Life Insurance	\$ 228.25
11/14/2023	4433	Madison National Life Insurance Co., Inc.	Long-Term Disability	\$ 1,349.41
11/14/2023	4433	Madison National Life Insurance Co., Inc.	Term Life Policy	\$ 474.27
11/14/2023	4434	Minden Exchange Bank & Trust Co.	HSA Contribution	\$ 4,821.57
11/14/2023	4435	Minden Public Schools	District Court	\$ 495.00
11/14/2023	4435	Minden Public Schools	F/b Dependent Care	\$ 3,888.92
11/14/2023	4435	Minden Public Schools	F/b Medical Dental	\$ 4,308.39
11/14/2023	4435	Minden Public Schools	Increased Retirement Percent	\$ 14,586.29
11/14/2023	4435	Minden Public Schools	NE Retirement	\$ 98,971.97
11/14/2023	4436	Minden Public Schools.	Computer Lease Purchase	\$ 509.26
11/14/2023	4437	Mps Payroll	Federal Withholding	\$ 45,447.97
11/14/2023	4437	Mps Payroll	FICA	\$ 73,394.82
11/14/2023	4437	Mps Payroll	Medicare	\$ 17,165.04
11/14/2023	4438	Mps Payroll NE Income Tax	State Withholding - NE	\$ 20,420.96
11/14/2023	4439	Black Hills Energy	Bus Barn Natural Gas	\$ 60.85
11/14/2023	4439	Black Hills Energy	East Natural Gas	\$ 597.86
11/14/2023	4439	Black Hills Energy	MS & HS Natural Gas	\$ 1,249.34
11/14/2023	4439	Black Hills Energy	MS Activity Building Natural Gas	\$ 469.01
11/14/2023	4440	City Of Minden	Utilities	\$ 19,954.82
11/14/2023	4441	Clearly Communications	Telephone Services	\$ 790.12
11/14/2023	4442	Wright Express Fleet Services	Fuel	\$ 1,154.02
11/14/2023	4443	Amazon Capital Services, Inc.	Business Office Computer Monitor	\$ 179.99
11/14/2023	4443	Amazon Capital Services, Inc.	Custodial Supplies	\$ 485.97
11/14/2023	4443	Amazon Capital Services, Inc.	Emergency Lighting Batteries	\$ 603.35
11/14/2023	4443	Amazon Capital Services, Inc.	HS Commons TV	\$ 399.99
11/14/2023	4443	Amazon Capital Services, Inc.	HS Principal Supplies	\$ 61.06
11/14/2023	4443	Amazon Capital Services, Inc.	MS P.E. Supplies	\$ 50.00
11/14/2023	4443	Amazon Capital Services, Inc.	MS Restroom Maintenance	\$ 179.28
11/14/2023	4443	Amazon Capital Services, Inc.	MS SPED Supplies	\$ 92.57
11/14/2023	4444	Aurora Cooperative	Fuel	\$ 6,279.33
11/14/2023	4445	Benson Tree Service	Tree Trimming	\$ 350.00
11/14/2023	4446	Bill's Plumbing	MS Drain Cleaning	\$ 65.00

Checks For Payment Listing

Date	Check Number	Payee	Reason	Amount
11/14/2023	4447	Carter Electric	East Security Light Replacement	\$ 1,039.80
11/14/2023	4447	Carter Electric	Electrical Repairs	\$ 264.50
11/14/2023	4448	CCS Presentation Systems	HS Technology Supplies	\$ 1,444.00
11/14/2023	4449	CenturyLink - Regular Telephone	Telephone Service	\$ 422.70
11/14/2023	4450	Communications Engineering, Inc.	HS Intercom Repair	\$ 585.50
11/14/2023	4451	Cornerstone Electric	Stage Electrical Panel Repair	\$ 432.25
11/14/2023	4452	Cummins Sales and Service	Transit Bus Repair	\$ 688.00
11/14/2023	4453	Dana F. Cole & Company, LLP	Annual Audit	\$ 3,500.00
11/14/2023	4454	DAS State Accounting - Central Finance	Internet Service	\$ 267.63
11/14/2023	4455	Eakes Office Solutions	Custodial Supplies	\$ 612.81
11/14/2023	4455	Eakes Office Solutions	MS Office Supplies	\$ 195.98
11/14/2023	4455	Eakes Office Solutions	MS Supplies	\$ 159.98
11/14/2023	4456	Educational Service Unit #10	MS Training	\$ 100.00
11/14/2023	4456	Educational Service Unit #10	Power School Hosting Fees	\$ 155.00
11/14/2023	4457	Educational Service Unit #11	Fall Conference	\$ 1,684.03
11/14/2023	4458	Educational Service Unit #7	Latino Summit Conference	\$ 80.00
11/14/2023	4459	Elan Financial Services	Central Office Newspaper	\$ 21.99
11/14/2023	4459	Elan Financial Services	HS Web/Cloud Based Software	\$ 5.00
11/14/2023	4460	Engineered Controls, Inc.	HS HVAC Repair	\$ 983.84
11/14/2023	4461	Family Physical Therapy & Sports Center, P.C.	OT/PT/SLP Services	\$ 19,460.25
11/14/2023	4462	Fifth Street Printing	Envelope Printing	\$ 26.00
11/14/2023	4463	Heartland Refrigeration, LLC	HS Ice Machine Repair	\$ 487.50
11/14/2023	4464	Heartland Scenic Studio, Inc	HS Theatre Lighting Repair	\$ 1,275.00
11/14/2023	4465	Hometown Leasing	Copier & Printer Lease	\$ 3,900.00
11/14/2023	4466	John Deere Financial	JD Mower Repairs	\$ 6.92
11/14/2023	4467	Kearney County Health Services	Bus Driver Drug Testing	\$ 35.00
11/14/2023	4468	Kelsey Krieger	Color Guard Choreography & Instruction	\$ 1,000.00
11/14/2023	4469	Landmark Implement Carquest	Bus 22P Headlights	\$ 21.58
11/14/2023	4470	LandMark Implement, Inc.	22-23 Skidsteer Lease Overage Fee	\$ 1,216.00
11/14/2023	4470	LandMark Implement, Inc.	Skidsteer Lease Payment	\$ 3,000.00
11/14/2023	4471	Lee H. Jacobsen	Safety Assessment	\$ 475.00
11/14/2023	4472	Mackin Book Company	HS Library Books	\$ 235.18
11/14/2023	4473	Mason's Market	2nd Grade Supplies	\$ 71.00
11/14/2023	4473	Mason's Market	FCS Supplies	\$ 470.56
11/14/2023	4473	Mason's Market	HS Ag Class Supplies	\$ 128.82
11/14/2023	4473	Mason's Market	HS Life Skills Supplies	\$ 66.89
11/14/2023	4473	Mason's Market	Kindergarten Supplies	\$ 54.35
11/14/2023	4473	Mason's Market	MS Science Supplies	\$ 19.80
11/14/2023	4473	Mason's Market	Preschool Supplies	\$ 34.68
11/14/2023	4473	Mason's Market	Water Softener Salt	\$ 507.50
11/14/2023	4474	Medtox Laboratories	Bus Driver Drug Testing	\$ 40.93
11/14/2023	4475	Menards - Kearney	Girls Wrestling Room Mats	\$ 59.96
11/14/2023	4476	Minden Hardware	HS Ag Class Supplies	\$ 21.98
11/14/2023	4476	Minden Hardware	Supplies & Repairs	\$ 158.13
11/14/2023	4477	Minden Lumber & Concrete	Preschool Playground Equipment Stakes	\$ 18.39
11/14/2023	4478	Mps Petty Cash	Postage & Bus 12G Licensing Fees	\$ 59.55
11/14/2023	4479	Napa Auto Parts	Fuel Additive	\$ 203.88
11/14/2023	4479	Napa Auto Parts	HS Drain Maintenance	\$ 52.14
11/14/2023	4479	Napa Auto Parts	Transportation Supplies	\$ 197.36
11/14/2023	4480	National Bus Sales, Inc.	Bus 12G Activity Seats	\$ 4,850.00
11/14/2023	4481	NCSA	NE Educator Shortage Summit 2.0	\$ 115.00
11/14/2023	4482	Ne Association School Boards	2023 State Ed Conference	\$ 2,918.00
11/14/2023	4483	Omaha World Herald	HS Newspaper Subscription	\$ 169.00

Checks For Payment Listing

Date	Check Number	Payee	Reason	Amount
11/14/2023	4484	One Source	Background Checks	\$ 221.00
11/14/2023	4485	Overhead Door Co. Of Kearney	HS/Bus Barn Garage Door Repairs	\$ 495.50
11/14/2023	4486	Perry, Guthery, Haase & Gessford, P.C., L.L.O	Legal Services	\$ 329.60
11/14/2023	4487	Pony Express Ford	20 Ford Pickup Repairs	\$ 138.00
11/14/2023	4487	Pony Express Ford	20 Ford Pickup Service	\$ 87.95
11/14/2023	4487	Pony Express Ford	Bus 20P Service	\$ 194.74
11/14/2023	4487	Pony Express Ford	Bus 21P Service	\$ 92.95
11/14/2023	4487	Pony Express Ford	Bus 22P Service	\$ 92.95
11/14/2023	4488	PPG Architectural Finishes	Grounds Supplies	\$ 354.12
11/14/2023	4489	Presto-X Company	East Pest Control Services	\$ 56.14
11/14/2023	4489	Presto-X Company	HS Pest Control Services	\$ 52.48
11/14/2023	4489	Presto-X Company	MS Pest Control Services	\$ 61.02
11/14/2023	4490	Schindler Elevator Corporation	HS Elevator Repair	\$ 1,785.00
11/14/2023	4491	Spracklin Chiropractic	Bus Driver Physical	\$ 90.00
11/14/2023	4492	Stubbs, Harold C	Bus Driver CDL Renewal	\$ 64.00
11/14/2023	4492	Stubbs, Harold C	Bus Fuel	\$ 98.69
11/14/2023	4493	Syndicate Publishing, LLC	Board Meeting Minutes	\$ 51.37
11/14/2023	4493	Syndicate Publishing, LLC	Board Meeting Notice	\$ 5.56
11/14/2023	4494	tenBensel, Michelle J	Tri State SPED Conference Meals	\$ 57.57
11/14/2023	4495	Verizon Wireless	Wireless Hot Spot Data Plan	\$ 160.04
11/14/2023	4496	Village Uniform	East Mop & Mat Service	\$ 139.15
11/14/2023	4496	Village Uniform	HS Mop & Mat Service	\$ 491.32
11/14/2023	4496	Village Uniform	MS Mop & Mat Service	\$ 332.11
11/14/2023	4497	Ward's Science	HS Ag Supplies	\$ 143.06
11/14/2023	4498	Wesley T. Tjaden III	Safety Assessment	\$ 475.00
11/14/2023	4499	Widdifield, James T	October Reimbursement	\$ 655.22
11/14/2023	4500	Woodward's Disposal Service, Inc.	Shredding Service	\$ 60.00
11/14/2023	EFT	Minden Exchange Bank - EFT	Direct Deposit Fees	\$ 34.45
Subtotal				\$ 561,870.18
Net Payroll - November 2023				\$ 416,498.97
Total General Fund Disbursements - November 2023				\$ 978,369.15

Secretary Kevin Raun

Lunch Fund Checks and Liabilities

Check Number	Date	Payee	Reason	Amount
EFT	10/9/2023	Sysco - EFT	Commodities	\$ 1,926.54
EFT	10/9/2023	US Foods	Commodities	\$ 4,502.72
5910	10/9/2023	Village Uniform	Kitchen Apron & Rag Service	\$ 238.80
5911	10/9/2023	LinPepCo Partnership	Beverages	\$ 1,201.15
5912	10/9/2023	Mason's Market	Commodities	\$ 17.32
5912	10/9/2023	Wordware, Inc.	Lunch System Software Upgrade	\$ 411.76
5913	10/9/2023	Cash-wa Distributing Co.	Commodities	\$ 14,500.07
5914	10/9/2023	Chramosta, Ricky E	Honey	\$ 56.00
5915	10/9/2023	Hiland Dairy	Milk Products	\$ 4,206.10
5917	10/9/2023	University of Nebraska - Lincoln	Serve Safe Training	\$ 125.00
5918	10/9/2023	Dollar General	Kitchen Supplies	\$ 18.00
438	11/14/2023	Ameritas Life Insurance Corp..	EE Vision Insurance Premiums	\$ 42.25
439	11/14/2023	Blue Cross Blue Shield	Health & Dental Insurance Premiums	\$ 6,035.30
440	11/14/2023	Madison National Life Insurance Co., Inc.	EE FEBA Life Insurance Premiums	\$ 8.25
440	11/14/2023	Madison National Life Insurance Co., Inc.	EE Life Insurance Premiums	\$ 8.48
440	11/14/2023	Madison National Life Insurance Co., Inc.	Long Term Disability	\$ 21.43
441	11/14/2023	Minden Public Schools	EE & ER Retirement Contributions	\$ 2,499.51
441	11/14/2023	Minden Public Schools	Employee FEBA - Medical/Dental	\$ 208.34
442	11/14/2023	Mps Payroll	EE & ER FICA, Medicare, & Federal Income Tax	\$ 2,635.95
443	11/14/2023	Mps Payroll NE Income Tax	EE Nebraska Income Tax Withholding	\$ 318.61
Subtotal				\$ 38,981.58
Net Payroll - November 2023				\$ 10,542.06
Total Lunch Fund Disbursements				\$ 49,523.64

Building Fund Liabilities

Check Number	Date	Payee	Reason	Amount
607	11/14/2023	Benesch	Topographic Survey & Traffic Study - 17% Complete	\$2,669.00
607	11/14/2023	Benesch	Topographic Survey & Traffic Study - 17% Complete	\$2,669.00
608	11/14/2023	CMBA Architects	HS Parking Lot Expansion - 3.72% Complete	\$2,262.50
608	11/14/2023	CMBA Architects	MS Front Entry Renovation - 3.72% Complete	\$6,787.50
608	11/14/2023	CMBA Architects	HS Parking Lot Expansion - 7.45% Complete	\$2,407.50
608	11/14/2023	CMBA Architects	MS Front Entry Renovation - 7.45% Complete	\$7,222.50
Total Building Fund Disbursements - November 2023				\$24,018.00

**Minden Public Schools
C.L. Jones Middle School
November 8, 2023
Report to the Board of Education
Mrs. Chelsey Jensen, Administrator**

The following information is a list of highlights at C.L. Jones Middle School:

Whippet of the Month Awards-

Each month, staff will select students to nominate with the title of **“Whippet of the Month”**. The names of these students will be placed into a drawing. At the end of the month, Mrs. Jensen/ Mr. Rowse will draw 1-3 names from each grade level to recognize their outstanding character, behavior, and academic performance.

The students who are nominated must meet the following criteria;

Academic Performance: Active class participation, demonstrates academic progress, and gives his/ her best effort.

Character: Displays one or more of the following: Compassion, respect, responsibility, kindness towards others, willingness to help others, and trustworthiness.

Behavior: Follows school rules/policies to be safe, shows respect toward peers and staff, is well-mannered, and maintains a positive attitude toward others.

Congratulations to our November Whippets of the Month:



Brooke Wragge, Kinley Deitloff, Aiden Banuelos, Spencer Thies, Meyiah Burton, McKenzie Reith, Kyler Wilson, Luke Livingston, Xander Linner, Kash Hostetler

Tri-State Regional Special Education Law Conference-

Mrs.tenBensel, Mrs. Stott, Mrs. Space, and I have the pleasure of attending the Tri-State Regional Special Education Law Conference in Omaha on November 2-3rd. This conference is designed for general education educators, special education teachers, service providers, parents, advocates, lawyers, and others involved in developing and supporting special education services for children with disabilities. This conference provided important information on recent revisions to special education policies and procedures.

Veterans Day Program 2023-

The Veterans Day Program will occur on November 10th, 2023 at 9:00 A.M. in the high school gymnasium.



Annual Costume Parade-

Our annual costume parade occurred on 10/31/2023 at 7:55 a.m. in the CLJ gym for 4th & 5th grade students. All 6th through 8th graders watched the parade in the gymnasium. This was a fun way to start our day! All 4-8th grade students and staff were allowed to wear their costumes throughout the day.



Whippet Pack Families-

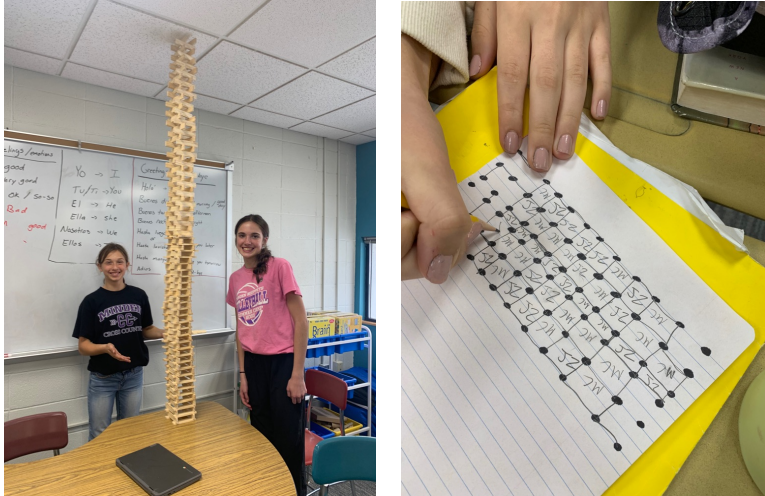
Our second CLJMS Whippet Pack Family meetings focused on the importance of teamwork and collaboration. Students stood on blankets and had to work together to flip a blanket over without anyone getting off of it (feet had to stay on the blankets). This activity aligned with our weekly Second Step social-emotional learning curriculum which highlighted the importance of establishing collaborative relationships to work together constructively towards a common goal.

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) Testing-

The NWEA MAP Test (Measures of Academic Progress) is an adaptive achievement/ growth test. It creates a personalized assessment by adapting to each student's learning level. If the student correctly answers a MAP question, the computer assessment provides a harder question next. If they miss that same question, then an easier MAP question is asked. This provides essential information about what your student knows and is ready to learn. Winter MAP testing for 4th through 8th-grade students will take place between December 4, 2023, through January 26, 2024. Students will be assessed in mathematics, reading, language usage, and science.

CLJMS Talent Pool-

Our Talent Pool students have been working hard on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) enrichment activities with Mrs. Emery. Talent Pool students meet with Mrs. Emery weekly to challenge their thinking and problem-solving skills. Students qualify for Talent Pool based on their Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment scores (95th percentile or higher).



CLJMS Quiz Bowl-

Our middle school Quiz Bowl teams will participate on November 9th at the Axtell Quiz Bowl. Good luck to Mrs. Emery and the following students: MS Quiz Bowl team- Garrett Hartman, Hunter Vahl, Malayna Emery, Reagan Carey, Laci Loeske, Lance Monter, Isabella Gray, and Berkley Hatch, and Addalea Jordan.

Middle School Quiz Bowl team- Bailee Fries, Hailey Peterson, Madi Morey, Seth Jacobitz, Jolie Buechler, and Aly Cederburg.

Reading at Bethany Home-

Our fourth-grade classes visited Bethany Home on October 19th to read to the residents. This was a great way for our students to practice their reading skills and to give back to the community. Our students will go back on November 15th to visit again! Fifth and sixth graders will also visit in November to read to the residents. We appreciate Bethany Home's willingness to let our CLJ students spend time with the residents.



CLJMS Student Council-

Our CLJMS Student Council hosted a food drive. The items collected were donated to stock to the Minden Little Free Pantry. Way to give back to the community, Student Council!



CLJMS Parent Advisory Committee (PAC)-

We are grateful to have an amazing group of parent volunteers to support our staff and students at CLJMS. The amount of time this group commits to organizing various building activities, providing meals for staff during conferences, and other countless tasks is amazing. Our current PAC members include- Lindsay Buechler, Kyle Jensen, Carli Oberg, Kate Craig, Valarie Grollmes, and Whitney Eden. Our next meeting takes place on Wednesday, November 8th, 2023. A huge thank you to this group for their support for CLJMS students and staff!

After School Study Hall-

After-school study hall is available for all CLJMS students Monday through Thursday from 3:30- 4:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity for students to get extra academic support in any subject area.

Whippet MVP-

We are continuing our weekly Whippet MVP program. Each staff member is assigned 1 student per week. Staff will meet briefly with each student, twice throughout the week. This is a brief, informal conversation/ check-in with the student. Conversations are about the students' hobbies, interests, activities, or anything they prefer to discuss. Students and grades are mixed. For example- An 8th-grade teacher may be assigned a 4th-grade student. The goal is to ensure we've made a connection with each and every student!

Minden Public School Board of Education Report
November, 2023



Sandy Pohl, East Elementary Principal



During the first quarter of school, 2,055 books were checked out from the East Elementary library. This is up from last year's first quarter check out of 1,879 books. Not only are book checkouts offered through the library, but Mrs. Olson also does story time once a week for preschool students in the library. She holds kindergarten through third grade weekly library lessons and weekly library skills class with the third graders. Our library received an update this school year of new library shelves to hold all of our books.

Students at East have amazing opportunities to explore a library full of literature which stimulates a love for reading at a young age.

Members of the local Rotary delivered and distributed brand new children's dictionaries to each third grade student to have. We appreciate their annual donation of a useful resource.



Although the sand can be full of starfish carried in by the tide, throwing back one starfish at a time makes all the difference in the world to that one starfish. This continues to be the center of our motivation this school year to build positive relationships with one student at a time. Every staff member is given a "go get one" card each day with a different student's name on it. The staff member connects one on one with that student for a brief moment during the day. During the first quarter, there were an extra 1,227 positive connections between staff and students made through this effort.



First grade students, dressed in Halloween costumes, visited Bethany Home on October 31st in order to sing some spooky songs. Residents of Bethany Home enjoyed seeing our cute goblins, ghosts, and princesses.

Our little whippets had a state champion meet and greet with our high school volleyball team.

The team members shared with our young students the value of commitment when you are trying to get better at something. They shared the importance of having gratitude for the people who support you and help you along your journey. Lastly, they encouraged our young students to take their learning seriously, work hard in class, and know how important their teachers are.



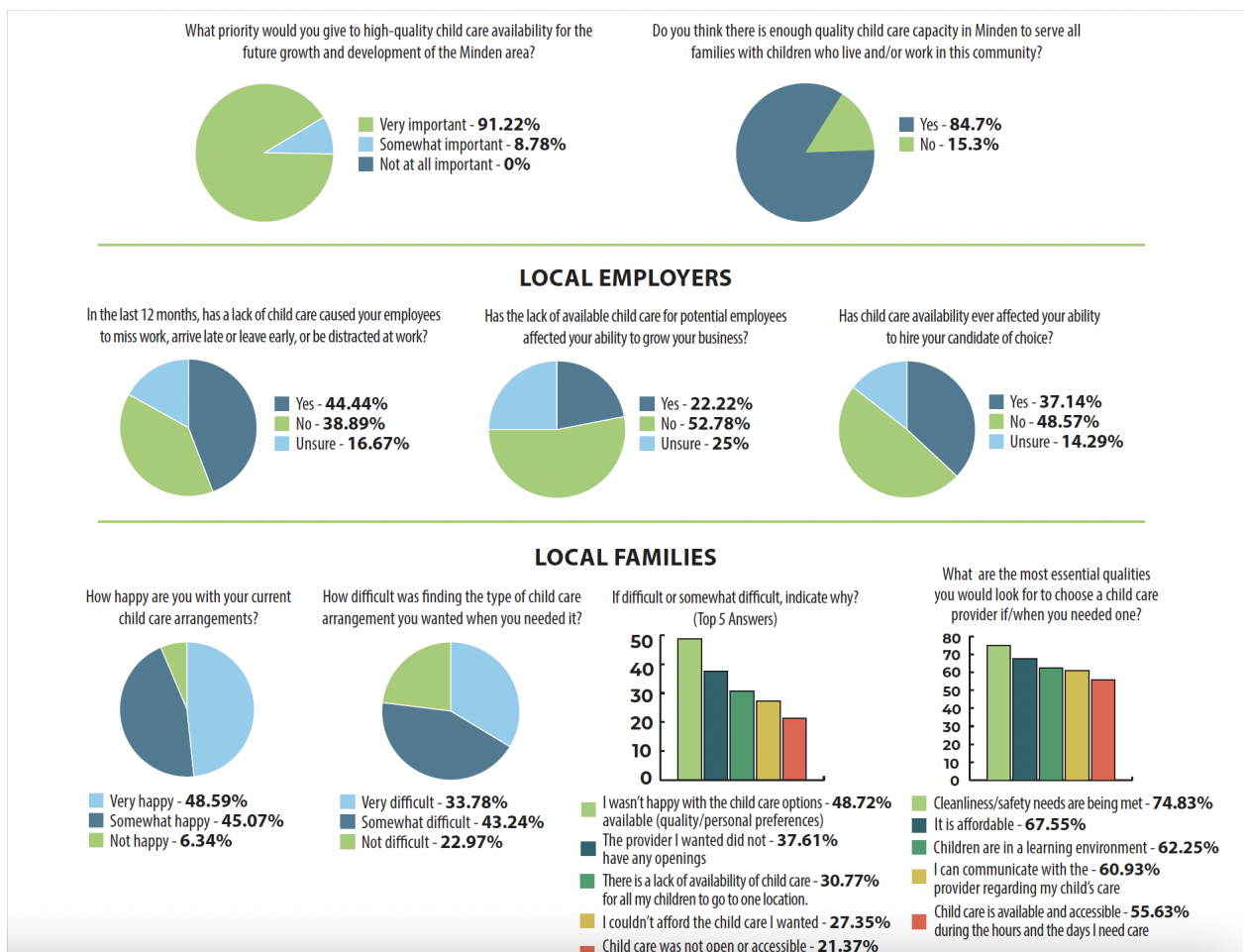
Early Childhood Update

The Community for Kids(C4K) initiative was created in response to community requests for assistance with shortages of high-quality early care and education programs—shortages that both impact children’s optimal development and pose a challenge for communities hoping to attract and retain the viable workforces they need to thrive. The Minden Community for Kids group continues to meet on a monthly basis. Our mission, “Growing early opportunities for all children and families in Minden”, is at the center of our collaboration.

On November 7th, the group hosted a Pizza with Providers evening held at the Jensen Memorial Library. Daycare providers from the community were

invited to learn more about the C4K initiative as well as given time to collaborate with each other on the four following topics: workforce, quality care, capacity, and professional recognition.

A total of 272 completed surveys were gathered in response to the Minden C4K's request for community feedback. Our goal was to identify the community's understanding, support, and needs surrounding quality early childhood care in Minden. The following data is a snippet of the information gleaned from the survey results which will be used by the Minden C4K group.



Minden High School

November 2023

Board of Education Report



As we transition into the autumn season, I am pleased to share with you some noteworthy updates and achievements from our vibrant high school community.

1. Academic Excellence:

October was a month of academic accomplishments for our students. Our seniors are starting to make decisions on the colleges they will be attending and they are slowly getting started filling out a variety of scholarships that will be awarded this spring. We also administered the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery) assessment to our 10th-grade students. This assessment will provide valuable insights into various vocational and educational opportunities for those students.

2. Athletic Triumphs:

Our fall sports teams have excelled on the field and court, with numerous victories and commendable sportsmanship displayed throughout the month. The Girls Golf Team achieved an impressive 2nd place at the Class C State Golf Meet, showcasing their dedication and skill. Additionally, the Girls Volleyball team emerged victorious at the Class C-1 State Volleyball Tournament against Kearney Catholic. A heartfelt appreciation goes to Head Volleyball Coach Julie Ratka and her assistant coaches for their hard work and commitment. We also extend our gratitude to the parents and families who provided unwavering support to the volleyball team throughout the season.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to our Athletic Director, Mr. Jason Strong, for his hard work and dedication during the fall sports season. His leadership has been instrumental in fostering a culture of excellence and sportsmanship within our athletic programs.

3. Cultural and Artistic Endeavors:

The arts community at the high school has been thriving. Our One-Act Play Team has been working hard to perfect their play at festivals in Ord and here in Minden. I am certain that Mr. Horner will have our kids fully prepared when the District One-Act Play Contest comes around at the end of this month. Additionally, Ms. Christman and our visual arts students have been showcasing some amazing artwork centered around Fall and Halloween. Please stop by the showcases outside Ms. Christman's room to look at the amazing work our art students are turning out.

4. Community Engagement:

October saw our students actively engaging with the community through various service initiatives including volunteers from our FBLA, FCCLA, and our FFA programs collecting 820 pounds of food for our local food bank.

As we move closer to the end of the first semester, I want to express my appreciation for the hard work and dedication exhibited by both our students and staff. The collaboration between teachers, parents, and students is vital in creating a successful school.

Thank you also for your continued dedication to the success of Minden Public Schools. I look forward to updating you on our progress in the coming months.

Minden 2023 ACT Scores:

The average ACT score for Nebraska students declined slightly in 2023, though officials say the state continues to rank higher than most states with high participation in the college entrance exam.

The state's composite score for 2023 was 19.2, down from 19.4 in 2022, and 20.0 in 2021, according to the Nebraska Department of Education.

Nationally, the average ACT score also declined, from 19.8 last year to 19.5 in 2023. The national average was 20.3 in 2021.

It was the sixth consecutive year of declines in average ACT scores nationally, according to Janet Godwin, the CEO of the American College Test (ACT).

The year 2022 marked the first time in three decades that the nationwide average score was below 20. The highest possible score on the ACT is 36.

The 2023 graduating class started high school when the COVID-19 pandemic first began, and disruptions in classroom instruction have been blamed for some of the decline in ACT scores.

Nebraska students lagged slightly behind national averages in specific subject areas.

2023 ACT Scores:

	<u>State Avg.</u>	<u>Minden</u>	<u>National Avg.</u>
English	18.3	18.9	18.6
Reading	19.5	19.75	20.1
Math	18.9	19.38	19.0
Composite	19.4	19.70	19.6

One bright spot for Nebraska is that among the 15 states in which more than 90% of its students take the ACT, it ranked only behind two states, Utah (19.9 average score) and Wisconsin (19.4).

Nationwide, 37% of students take the ACT, while the rate in Nebraska is 96%.

States that test a higher percentage of graduates typically have lower ACT averages, according to David Jespersen, a spokesman for the Education Department, because that includes more students who are not seeking to go on to college.

Positive changes at the High School.

At the high school, we've observed a significant decline in the number of students qualifying for our Noon Study Hall. Traditionally, this resource has been available to those failing two or more classes on Monday mornings, or seniors struggling with a graduation-required course. Since its inception nearly 15 years ago, the introduction of the noon study hall has led to a remarkable 20%+ reduction in failing classes.

Notably, in previous years, a substantial number of 9th-grade students found themselves in the Noon Study Hall during the first semester. However, this year has seen a noteworthy decrease in the number of 9th graders qualifying. We attribute these positive changes to the dedicated efforts of Mrs. Jensen and her staff. Over the past few years, they have diligently worked to elevate academic standards at C.L Jones MS.

Key changes implemented include:

1. Structuring tiered math classes (7th-grade math, 7th-grade pre-algebra, 8th-grade math, 8th-grade pre-algebra, 8th-grade algebra).
2. Redefining grading procedures, notably abolishing the "No Zero" policy.
3. Shifting the Focused Academic Study Time (FAST) for students struggling with failing grades from the 8th period to the lunch period.

We express our gratitude for the positive transformations brought about by Mrs. Jensen, her staff, and the middle school students. Their collective efforts have significantly contributed to the improvement of academic performance."

Northeast Community College Visit -Mr. Horner

Students from Minden attended the Hawk Day at Northeast Community College on Wednesday, October 11. Students heard about programs at Northeast, were able to tour the campus, and then ate lunch in the cafeteria. It was a great day to find out what Northeast Community College has to offer students.





Latino/Hispanic Summit -Mr. Horner

Students from Minden High School recently attended the Latino/Hispanic Leadership Summit at Central Community College in Columbus. Students listened to a motivational keynote speaker and were able to attend sessions about college funding, specific colleges available in Nebraska, and a wide variety of inspirational topics. Over 800 students from across the state attended the conference which is held each fall in Columbus.



Junior English -Miss Oberg

This year's juniors are academically enthusiastic which has made it very enjoyable to teach them. Not only have they done the work because I have asked them to, but they have really embraced the concepts I have presented. The longer I have taught, the more I have realized what is actually worth valuing versus what is either just fun without purpose or is simply an academic exercise. Recognizing this difference has driven my decision-making about how I have approached teaching novels and writing. I have incorporated more group discussions and have learned to teach everything as a process rather than individual skill sets. It's honestly revolutionized my enthusiasm for teaching.

One of the best moments this year was when I finished reading the last chapter of *Of Mice and Men* to the class. When we got to the worst moment of the book, which was unexpected, all of the students looked up at me at the same time with looks in their eyes that seemed to say, "What just happened?" That engagement is what makes teaching worthwhile.

Students have focused on learning and then applying the three steps to critical thinking. As they understand the basics, analyze the material, and draw conclusions about a variety of writing passages (from poetry to nonfiction articles to novels), the students are establishing the foundation through verbal and written forms of how to express each of the three steps. We have been implementing a new activity each week, and the variety of approaches has empowered the students to strengthen those critical thinking skills with enthusiasm.

Over the past several years, I have implemented vital Marzano strategies that have really made a difference: creating analogies, incorporating movement, focusing on different discussion techniques, and fostering a specific classroom atmosphere. These strategies have helped me be intentional as I structure my lessons. I have included some pictures from different moments in the class. In addition, we have focused on the decision-making process with the characters in our novels and how the characters respond to their experiences. We have analyzed the power of making decisions based on the vision of who the character hopes to be.

Students have also been working on formal writing techniques through paragraphs and essays. Our goal this year is to help the students gain confidence and competence in a variety of writing forms while developing a personal style. See the following list for the topics: song analysis (start of year) informal writing, *Gatsby and Of Mice and Men*--formal writing--start with enumeration, then clarification, then body paragraphs, finally an essay at the end, Analogy--compare themselves to an item, personality quiz (strengths and weaknesses) formal writing--body paragraphs, what we keep (about an object that they have kept and to which they assign meaning)--formal writing--personal essay, person who has influenced them--formal writing--personal essay, quote with which they agree and one with which they disagree--formal writing--body paragraph, *Othello/The Essay*--formal writing--start with clarification, then body paragraphs, finally an essay at the end, various persuasive topics for ACT--formal writing--essay, childhood place (what places makes them feel most like themselves)--formal writing--personal essay, junior year lessons (what three lessons have been learned or what world event has affected the junior year)--formal personal essay, and practice college scholarship/job essays (topics vary but usually what obstacle have you overcome and what activity has shaped you)--formal personal essay

One of the best adjustments in junior English has been the change in independent reading. The students have had the opportunity to choose to read many new fiction books through a strong collaboration with the media center and a curated classroom library. Students have been selecting their independent reading from the books in the library for the last several years, which has worked well. One of my personal goals for the classroom is to foster a passion for reading. I believe that many students have rediscovered an interest in reading as a result of independent reading and from the accessibility of the collection of books in my classroom. I have found that about 85-90 percent of the students are reading the books (compared to 30-40 percent in the past) and are enjoying reading and talking about what they are reading with their peers.

After this report, I will most likely only write two more until I retire. I am embracing every joy and opportunity of being in the classroom. I am so thankful that my life path has involved teaching at Minden High School. The students are truly amazing.







General English 12, English 12, and English 9-Mr. Gracey

The goal of General English 12 is to practice and develop practical English skills for life after high school. To begin the year, the class began by reading short stories. The goal of reading these stories is to explore literary elements and literary forms. With these stories, I facilitated discussions and various perspectives while also having students respond to prompts by composing paragraphs in an array of different strategies. Now, GE12 is reading a book called *Night* by Elie Wiesel where students are practicing reading accountability and practice as they are studying the literary voice of the text. Students are writing various paragraphs that respond to prompts. In addition to reading, students take part in a Daily Oral Language activity to practice grammar for writing techniques. Also, each week students are given a list of vocabulary words and are required to be able to incorporate the words into language by the end of the week.

For English 12, the goal is to practice and learn complex reading and writing strategies for college. We kick-started the year by reading "The Body Snatcher" by Robert Louis Stevenson, which is a Victorian short story in which students were able to study some historical contexts. Moving forward, the class read *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. Along with that we dove into complex literature and used critical thinking strategies to delve into themes relating to the late 1800s in both the realms of Victorian and Gothic Literature. Currently, the class is developing research strategies to compose a research paper about a problem in society. MLA Format and an argumentative voice are two achievement goals for the students.

As for English 9, a main goal is to teach and train automatic reading strategies. Students are about to finish *Fahrenheit 451*, by Ray Bradbury, which is challenging literature for students to analyze. They are discussing and writing paragraphs that pertain to the literature. To begin class each day students practice the bell ringer called Daily Oral Language. (DOL) requires learners to orally speak, hear, and write down correct sentences. Also, students are given a weekly vocabulary list where they are quizzed each week and required to put each word to use.



MINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

C.L. Jones Middle School

Ed Rowse, MS Asst. Prin./Act. Dir.

520 W. 3rd Street

Minden, NE 68959-1598

308-832-2338 School

308-832-3236 Fax

**NOVEMBER 2023 BOARD MEETING
MIDDLE SCHOOL ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL/ATHLETIC DIRECTOR REPORT**

In the past month our fall sport seasons ended so coaches were asked to fill out end of the season reports that provide information such as participants names, inventory, missing equipment, schedule results, equipment needs for next season, summary of the season, and ways to help the program improve. The middle school is now in the process of transitioning to second quarter sports which means our girls are playing basketball and our boys are wrestling. We host 6 girls basketball games for both the 7th and 8th grade teams and we host one wrestling quad. At this time we have 10 girls in 7th grade basketball and 22 girls on the 8th grade girls team. We have 17 wrestlers on our 7th-8th grade boys team.

Our school system partnered with Ecell Sports this school to help with professional development both in teaching and coaching. In early September our middle school athletes took 10-15 minutes during their first period filling out a survey/questionnaire for their coaches. I have looked through each of the surveys for the 12 coaches we surveyed and have met with a couple of them celebrating their strengths and asked them to focus on two areas they can improve on for next season.

Observing teachers and meeting with them to celebrate their strengths and look for areas of improvement has been an important part of this past month. I am very impressed with the dedication our teachers show and their love for their students. I have enjoyed being in their classrooms and watching them in their craft. The process is helpful to give ideas for improvement and use strengths one teacher has to complement another teacher.

October 27th Mr. Horner and I attended Safety Response to Protocol inservice in North Platte. The inservice was to update and or revise your school safety response to protocol plan that is currently in place. We heard a lot of good information and feel we have a lot of good practices in place at this point. The area we feel our district needs to work on is reunification after an incident. Reunification is defined as a critical aspect of crisis response by reunifying students with their parents or guardians in event an unexpected release is necessary. The SRP reunification method provides school and district safety teams, public safety, and emergency managers proven methods for planning, practicing, and achieving a successful reunification. Each building will spend time looking at their particular building plans during professional development this quarter.

I am very proud of our volleyball team, school personnel, community, and alumni around the country for the championship that was earned and the support throughout the tournament getting the job done!

Ed Rowse



MINDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ACTIVITIES/ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT
Jason Strong, Asst. Prin./Act. Dir.

622 W. 3rd Street
Minden, NE 68959-1598
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NOVEMBER 2023 BOARD MEETING
ACTIVITY DIRECTOR REPORT

GENERAL:

The beginning of November marked the end to a truly remarkable fall sports season for our school. The Softball Team finished the season playing their best ball with the highlight being a 3rd place finish at the Central 10 Conference Tournament! The Cross Country team had a total of eight qualifiers for the state meet in Kearney and performed well. The Girls Golf Team finished as the State Runner Up for the second consecutive year nearly 50 strokes ahead of the 3rd place team! The Football Team finished the season with a great win over Cozad to finish at 5-4 which is a winning record for the second consecutive season. And finally, the Volleyball team finished the season with a record of 36-1 and the Class C1 State Championship for the first time since 1980! The community support throughout the season has been fantastic and is one of the reasons that our kids were able to perform at such a high level across the board. Our coaches should also be recognized for their dedication, hard work, and sacrifice. Everyone involved with Minden Public Schools should be appreciative and proud of our coaches and players for all that they accomplished this fall!

FALL ACTIVITY UPDATE:

Football: The varsity football team finished the regular season with a win over Cozad High School and finished the season with a 5-4 record. While we narrowly missed out on qualifying for the playoffs, the season was still a success for our program! Our football players and coaches have worked hard to establish a successful mindset and this team helped to lay the groundwork for future teams!

Volleyball: The volleyball program capped what was truly an amazing and historic season with the Class C1 State Championship! The state tournament was full of excitement with the Whippets first beating the defending state champion Grand Island Central Catholic followed by a win in the semi-finals over rival Gothenburg. Finally the state championship match was one for the ages against a very good Kearney Catholic team which saw the Whippets prevail in a 5 set thriller! The overall record ended at 36-1 and other achievements included the Southwest Conference Tournament Championship, Southwest Conference Regular Season Championship, and a District Championship! The remarkable efforts by the players and coaches throughout the entire season is something none of us will soon forget!

Cross Country: The Cross Country team finished the year on a successful note at the state meet in Kearney. The boys team qualified for state as a team and the girls had one qualifier for the state meet! While we were unable to place anyone at the state meet, the runners competed with heart and determination all season and the coaches should be commended for their dedication to our kids and the sport!

Girls Golf: For the second consecutive season, the girls golf team finished as the Class C State Runners Up! This is truly a special accomplishment for our program. The girls finished only behind Broken Bow who claimed their 4th consecutive state championship. At the state meet it was completely a 2 team race between Broken Bow and Minden who separated from the rest of the teams and were nearly 50 strokes clear of the third place team. The future is extremely bright for our girls golf program moving forward!

Play Production: Play Production had their first performance meet of the season at Ord on Monday November 6th. Nearly 90 of the play production cast and crew were present and the performance went great for the first

time on stage. There are some key home performance dates including November 18th for the home festival meet and November 29th when we host the district play competition.

Marching Band:

Harvest of Harmony Parade: Superior and 3rd place in Class B

Harvest of Harmony Field Show: Excellent

Minden Bandfest Parade: Superior

Minden Bandfest Field Show: Superior

NSBA State Marching Field Show: Excellent (0.95 points short of a Superior)

Participation numbers are looking good for the band program this year:

5th Grade - 37

6th Grade - 30

7-8th Grade - 39

High School - 44

Upcoming events:

December 15th Soup Supper and Winter Concert

December 19th Middle School Concert

WINTER SEASON LOOK AHEAD:

Winter practices for high school sports can officially begin on Monday November 13th. We will also have our parents meetings for girls basketball, boys basketball, girls wrestling, and boys wrestling on the 13th. We are looking forward to the winter sports seasons for basketball and wrestling!

Current Numbers for Each Program: Girls Wrestling - 23, Boys Wrestling - 28, Girls Basketball - 17, Boys Basketball - 19.

Jason Strong

Superintendent Report

Meeting: November Board Meeting

Date: 11/13/23

Mr. Widdifield

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Topics:

Veterans Day Program: We had our program on Friday, November 10th starting with breakfast at 7:30 provided by FCCLA for the Veterans. We followed that with our program at 9:00. This program is a Thank You that cannot be said enough to all our Veterans and their service to our country.

NDE: We typically would have information to share with the Board and public about our district and results for the 22-23 school year. I don't know why this information has not been released. I plan to have the State of Schools Report to the Board and public next month.

Fall Activities: Thanks to the coaches, staff, and community for volunteering their time for our activities. All of our sports and activities had great success this fall. Thanks to Mr. Strong, Mr. Rowse, and the admin team for making these events possible.

Winter Activities: The official start of high school winter sports is today. One Act has had a couple of competitions already. Junior High sports have been going on for a couple of weeks. We have several students who are involved in multiple activities. We are proud of them and the effort they put into everything they do. We have a participation percentage that many schools would love to have.

Congratulations: State Volleyball champs. Several girls have received local and state recognition.

Thank You: To our coaches and sponsors for fall activities and athletics. We could not ask for a better group to guide and mentor our students. I am thankful for all they do!

Minden Public Schools

- Audit Presentation
- For the Year Ended August 31, 2023



Dana F. Cole and Company, LLP

Minden Public Schools

- Unmodified opinion in audit report (pages 1-4)
- This is the best opinion that a District can receive as a result of an audit and speaks highly of your District, of you as board members, and of your staff.
- It means that in our opinion, the financial statements are fairly presented in all material respects in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting.

Minden Public Schools

- Government-Wide Financials - (pages 5-7)
- This is a combined statement of all funds and provides financial information relating to specific District activities.
- It shows where the entire District received its resources from, and disbursements by District activities, as well as changes in asset balances.

Minden Public Schools

- Statement of Activities

(pages 5-7)

	8/31/23	8/31/22
Charges for Services	\$638,892	\$475,041
Operating grants	\$1,336,048	\$1,711,718
Capital Grants	- 0 -	549,955
General receipts	\$13,377,873	\$12,487,457
Issuance of Debt		3,441,723
Disbursements	\$14,510,765	\$24,297,232
Change in net position	\$842,048	\$(5,631,784)

Minden Public Schools

Fund Balances (Summary)

	8/31/2023	8/31/2022	Change
General *	\$ 4,559,820	\$ 4,539,835	\$ 19,985
Depreciation*	171,221	169,277	1,944
School Nutrition**	81,530	137,716	(56,186)
Bond	2,107,991	2,103,428	4,563
Building	1,840,437	999,236	841,201
Activity Fund**	374,025	343,484	30,541
Student Fee**	-	-	-
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	<u>\$ 9,135,024</u>	<u>\$ 8,292,976</u>	<u>\$ 842,048</u>

* Reported as General Fund on Fund Statements with details on pages 29-32.

** Reported as Other governmental funds on Fund Statements with details on pages 33-34.

Minden Public Schools General Fund (Summary)

	8/31/2023	8/31/2022	Change
Support and Revenue			
Local Sources and taxes	9,481,859	8,979,347	502,512
County sources	25,059	24,850	209
State sources	1,789,667	1,639,594	150,073
Federal sources	523,217	617,188	(93,971)
Other sources	3,644	12,856	(9,212)
	<u>11,823,446</u>	<u>11,273,835</u>	<u>549,611</u>
Expenses			
Educational expenses	6,891,010	6,584,235	306,775
Support services	3,170,620	3,301,231	(130,611)
Administrative services	987,192	949,455	37,737
State and federal programs	610,239	521,546	88,693
Transfers	144,400	65,000	79,400
	<u>11,803,461</u>	<u>11,421,467</u>	<u>381,994</u>
Change in fund balance	<u>19,985</u>	<u>(147,632)</u>	<u>167,617</u>

Minden Public Schools

General Fund Balance Reserve

The current reserve ratio to operating expenses for the past six years is shown below:

2016-2017	5.4 months
2017-2018	5.2 months
2018-2019	5.2 months
2019-2020	5.4 months
2020-2021	4.9 months
2021-2022	4.8 months
2022-2023	4.7 months

Over the past several years, the fund balance in the general fund has remained steady around \$4.5 million. We recommend that at least a 3 month reserve be maintained as levied property taxes are not due until December 31st of the current year. Reserve ratio has remained steady which shows strong financial position.

Minden Public Schools

Bond Fund (Summary)

Debt service requirements for each of the next five years is a little more than \$1.7 million for principal and interest. The full disclosure can be read in Note 6 to the financial statements.

Fund Balance

End of year balance	<u>2,107,991</u>
Tax amount levied for 2023	<u>1,722,763</u>

Minden Public Schools

- Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

- (Pages 26-27)

- District wide expenditures were \$808,268, requiring a federal compliance audit. The major programs tested were:

- Lunch Program consisting of \$263,222 of expenditures

- SPED/IDEA consisting of \$220,648

- We issued an unmodified opinion on this compliance audit. (pages 53-55)

- Schedules of General Fund Components

- (Pages 29-32)

- General Fund and Depreciation Fund - These two funds comprise the General Fund on the Fund statements.

Minden Public Schools

- **Schedules of Nonmajor Funds** (pages 33-34)
 - Includes funds of School Nutrition Fund, Student Fee fund, and Activities Fund
- **Schedules of Receipts and Disbursements – Budget and Actual** (pages 35-47)
 - All funds within adopted and/or amended budgets (if applicable)
- **Activities Fund** (page 48-50)
 - Summary of the changes in cash balances by Activity (unaudited).
 - Compares Receipts and Expenses to Budget in total for Activity Fund.

Minden Public Schools

Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on and Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards. (pages 51 - 52)

Summary of Findings Reported (page 56 - 58)

The findings related to segregation of duties are normal for a District this size. However, we do recommend that the District implement certain controls and review processes to further assist in ensuring that the District records report accurate financial information.

Minden Public Schools

General Items

- We recommended and management approved our proposed adjusting entries, which were minimal.
- We noted no unauthorized transactions.
- District staff were prepared and organized for our audit procedures.
- We encountered no difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.
- District staff were courteous and pleasant to work with and we appreciate all their hard work.