



April 25, 2025

I hope that each of you are having a great week! It is hard to believe that the end of another school year is almost here. It has been a great 4th quarter watching students perform and compete both in school as well as clubs and other extracurricular activities. Below are some additional updates and announcements! Have a great weekend!

Non-Resident Student Enrollment Capacity

As you may remember, the process for accepting and enrolling out-of-district students changed last year due to changes in state law. Now, each year the district sets the non-enrollment capacity for new students. **This does not apply to current students who do not live in the district but attend schools in USD 289.** We are accepting new out-of-district students for the 2025-2026 school year. **Below is the number of new slots per grade level for the 2025-2026 school year (example: 4th grade - 5 slots).** If we have more requests than slots for a grade level, a lottery will occur. To apply for nonresident enrollment, please contact the building or district office. To see the full non-resident enrollment report, click [HERE](#).

Table 1.5 - 2025-2026 Nonresident Student Enrollment Capacity

		Grade Level												
School	PreK	KG	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
WES	10	7	0	5	0	5	0							
WMS								24	24	17				
WHS											31	4	21	2

Staffing Updates

In an effort to best utilize district resources and ensure strong leadership at all levels, the following administrative adjustments have been made for the 2025-2026 school year:

- Mrs. Logan will transition to the full-time Executive Director of Teaching and Learning role at the district office, allowing for a more focused approach to district-wide initiatives, curriculum support, and student services.
- Mrs. Conner will step into the role of Elementary Principal, bringing continuity and leadership to our elementary school.
- Mrs. Walterman has been hired as the Elementary Assistant Principal to provide additional support for students, staff, and building operations. Learn more about Mrs. Walterman [HERE](#).

As part of this realignment, we will be consolidating the duties of the currently contracted instructional coach into these three positions. This shift ensures that our resources are allocated effectively, allowing us to maintain strong instructional leadership while being fiscally responsible. By embedding these coaching responsibilities within our administrative team, we strengthen direct support for teachers and align professional development efforts more closely with building leadership.

This realignment reflects our commitment to optimizing our leadership structure to better serve students and staff while being mindful of the district's financial resources. We believe these changes will provide enhanced support for our educators, streamline decision-making processes, and ensure strong administrative support across all levels.

Additionally, Mr. Luke Hall has been hired for the 2025-2026 school year as the 6-12 Athletic Director and High School Assistant Principal. Learn more about Mr. Hall [HERE](#).

Facilities Planning

Last year, the USD 289 Board of Education approved the [USD 289 Strategic Plan](#) for the district for 2023-2028. This plan was developed with feedback and input from the strategic planning committee. Part of this plan includes a continued focus on facilities (as shown below).

Strategic Goal 4: Provide safe and innovative environments for all students with a focus on proactive planning that maintains modern facilities while ensuring future facilities align appropriately with district growth.

Objectives

- ❑ 4.1 Implementation of a Facilities Maintenance Plan, which maintains current facilities but also addresses and annually prioritizes short-term facility needs.
- ❑ 4.2 Consider and explore multiple funding sources when working to address short-term and long-term facility needs.

- ❑ 4.3 Utilize stakeholder input in implementing a long-term facility needs plan.
- ❑ 4.4 Implementation of a long-term facilities plan that is reviewed annually and continually adjusted for the changing needs of the district.

To assist in this work, the Facilities Planning Committee met this past November to review work from the last bond project and consider future district growth and the impact that this will have on facility needs. The Facilities Planning Committee is comprised of parents, patrons, business owners, city council members, WJRC, staff, students, and board of education members.

Ultimately, the committee will be responsible for helping to develop 3, 5, and 10-year plans for the district. Additionally, the district is in the process of receiving enrollment growth studies and facilities audits to assist the committee in this work. The facilities committee will be continuing these conversations and work in the coming months (Aug-Oct). We currently anticipate enrollment levels for 2025-2026 that warrant four sections (teachers) at PreK, Kindergarten, and First Grade. Traditionally, we have only needed 3 teachers per grade level. As enrollment in USD 289 grows and plans for additional housing are finalized, this work becomes even more critical.

USD 289 Calendar

The 2025-2026 calendar can be accessed at the link below. It is also available on the district website or school app. [USD 289 2025-2026 Calendar](#). Please note that Spring Parent Teacher Conferences at the elementary will take place in March, where in previous years they have been in November. This was done in an effort to avoid snow, ice, etc. that has impacted conferences over the past few years.

News and Announcements

USD 289 news and announcements are posted on a variety of platforms. These begin with the district website and school app. You can download the district app by going to the district website and going to the bottom of the page, and clicking on the App Store or Google Play link. On both the website and app, the live feed section is a running tab of all the announcements, updates, etc. You can also contact the office in the building your child attends to be notified by text, email, phone, etc.

It's A Great Day to Be An Eagle!