

FLORENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT 14-1

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November 14th, 2025

November Letter from the Superintendent

Dear Florence School District Families and Community Members,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am excited to share updates from our recent school board meeting, where the board discussed a variety of initiatives and plans that support student success and our district's growth. From improvements in academic programs to facilities and community events, many decisions were made that will positively impact our schools. I want to provide you with a brief overview of these highlights and what they mean for our students and families. Below are the highlights:

Sports Co-op Committee

The Board reviewed proposed revisions to the Articles of Cooperation for our sports co-op. Major changes include:

- Home game locations to be determined based on participation in each sport from the previous year
- Only one Athletic Director for the co-op
- Each school will retain a homecoming and a senior night
- The draft of the revised Articles of Cooperation will be posted online for public review. The board approved the updated co-op sports agreement (5-0 vote).

Winter Wonderland

Plans are underway for this year's Winter Wonderland event, scheduled on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays between Thanksgiving and Christmas at City Park in Watertown. The district will again be represented!

School Messenger Program

The Board discussed implementing a new school messaging system that offers multiple features beneficial to families. We understand that we have had issues with our current messaging system, and many people have been missing important phone messages. Our priority is to have something in place before winter weather comes.

Academic Initiatives

The Board expressed excitement over ongoing initiatives to improve student test scores. Strategies include:

- Course adjustments for more in-depth material coverage
- Test preparation programs
- Incentives for students

Buildings and Grounds

- The geothermal system has maintained pressure successfully and will be filled to get us through the winter months.
- Construction work on the outdoor freezer project will begin once concrete is poured. Quotes for the freezer and glycol projects were reviewed.

Enrollment Studies & Master Plan

A public meeting is scheduled for November 17th at 6:00 PM in the Falcon Gym to discuss enrollment trends, recent changes within the school, and updates to the district's master/strategic plan. Coop Architecture's executive summary will be shared at that meeting.

Graduation Requirements

The Board discussed graduation requirements and participation in ceremonies. Further discussion will continue at next month's meeting.

Official Newspaper of Record

The Board discussed designating the Watertown Current as the official newspaper of record.

Sincerely,

Mitch Reed
Superintendent