

25-26 DMS School Improvement Team Notes

[Slide Deck](#)

September

Meeting Date/Location	September 30th, 2025 DMS Library					
Note-taker	Cheri S.					
Members Present	<table><tr><td>Staff: Cheri Skurka Katelyn Corriveau Sue Zahaykevitz Aimee Frias Melanie Moore Matt Silvia Michelle Amore Katlyn Parenteau Melissa Vesey Donna Freeman Cathy Boutin Andrew Bevilacqua Stephen Emerson</td><td>Students:</td><td>Families:</td></tr></table>			Staff: Cheri Skurka Katelyn Corriveau Sue Zahaykevitz Aimee Frias Melanie Moore Matt Silvia Michelle Amore Katlyn Parenteau Melissa Vesey Donna Freeman Cathy Boutin Andrew Bevilacqua Stephen Emerson	Students:	Families:
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Agenda	1. Review School Improvement Plans and Goals 2. Open Forum					
What Happened	Attendance -DMS dollar store being pushed for an incentive for attendance -Family update for attendance (making it public) -Progress for attendance not perfection Schedule -equity with the minutes for CPT time -period dropped should be first - A/B classes that are not strategies : Algebra (S.E. we will check meeting times over the quarter); Could we keep algebra/pre-algebra classes the same per grade level (a or b)					

	Grading -strategies grading/comments -WIN group is an area students are struggling - 7th and 8th graders - GPA/ honor roll to match with high school
Next Steps	- Following up with schedule concerns - Grading clarification
Next Meeting	October 29, 2025 @ 7:15

October

Meeting Date/Location	October 29, 2025 @ 7:15 DMS Library					
Note-taker	Cheri S.					
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Agenda	1. Follow up on BLC questions 2. Grading 3. Sub Commiettes 4. Open Forum					
What Happened	-Follow up with scheduling concerns from previous meeting -Hallway concerns are more with staircases -As a building, being consistent across the board with phones the expectation is that phones are away and are not used in the classroom					

	-Dismissal change coming for Trimester 2 -Sub Committees (Education, Culture/ Community, Faculty Advisory, Scheduling) -Faculty Advisory will have an anonymous form for those who do not want to voice concerns at the meeting - Food Drive for Thanksgiving
Next Steps	- Follow up after the Thanksgiving food drive with a food drive that we can do in the building moving forward, to assist students who may be losing SNAP benefits. - Start of SIT Sub-committees - Education (Wednesday, November 5 @ 2:30) - Culture & Community (Wednesday, November 13 @ 2:30)
Next Meeting	November 18th, 2025

November

Meeting Date/Location	November 18th, 2025 2:15pm DMS Library					
Note-taker	Katelyn Corriveau					
Members Present	<table><tr><td>Staff: Melissa Vesey Leonora Crook Sue Zahaykevitz Kaitlyn Parenteau Chris Barbosa Cheri Skurka Katelyn Corriveau Kristen Mitchell Melanie Moore</td><td>Students:</td><td>Families:</td></tr></table>			Staff: Melissa Vesey Leonora Crook Sue Zahaykevitz Kaitlyn Parenteau Chris Barbosa Cheri Skurka Katelyn Corriveau Kristen Mitchell Melanie Moore	Students:	Families:
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Agenda	- Attendance update					
What Happened	- Attendance - Certificates passed out at grade-level assemblies - Review of data for quarter 1					

	- Use of the Breakfast Club and Saturday school - Literacy - Review of Literacy goal - Review of Lexia data - What's going well 1. Use of RACER Rubric (in all subjects) 2. Noticed students used RACER on RICAS last year 3. Students came to other grades with familiarity. - What are the challenges? 1. The drop period makes it challenging to keep up with all the initiatives. 2. Curriculum can be challenging for students (not enough modifications built in). - Suggested Initiatives 1. Give students raffle tickets or other incentives around Lexia within teams (minutes or specific goals). 2. Lexia Leader Board (in classrooms) 3. Other incentive ideas (time outside, free dance ticket, breakfast, DMS dollars) - Provide students with opportunities to see questions that are similar to RICAS throughout the year. - RULER Check-in - Helping to identify students who are struggling - Open Forum 1. Clocks are still jumping 2. Student behavior in stairwells (especially 4th floor stairs) a. Can we put tape on the stairs to divide for students going up/down?
Next Steps	- Check on questions from the open forum - Sub-committee meetings
Next Meeting	December 16th, 2025 7:15pm

December

Meeting Date/Location	DMS Library December 16th, 2025 @ 7:15pm
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Note-taker						
Members Present	<table><tr><td>Staff: Katelyn Corriveau Cheri Skurka Kim Dekonski Sue Zahaykevitz Hillary Zajdek Melissa Vesey Donna Freeman Aimee Frias</td><td>Students:</td><td>Families:</td></tr></table>			Staff: Katelyn Corriveau Cheri Skurka Kim Dekonski Sue Zahaykevitz Hillary Zajdek Melissa Vesey Donna Freeman Aimee Frias	Students:	Families:
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Agenda	● Review RICAS Data					
What Happened	● Links for where to review data are provided on the slides. ● Reviewed the RICAS data for the last few years & in comparison to similar districts. ● Continued use of RACER graphic organizer ● Expose students to RICAS questions throughout the year, not just as RICAS is approaching.					
Next Steps	-exposure to RICAS questions especially in at or above level intervention groups (WIN) for Math and ELA -continue to use RACER as a building wide writing organizer					
Next Meeting	January 20th, 2026					

January

Meeting Date/Location	DMS Library January 20th, 2026		
Note-taker	Cheri S		
Members Present			
	Staff: Cheri Skurka Katelyn Corriveau	Students:	Families:

	Concetta Piekos Amanda Duhoski Jared Calise Andrew Bevilacqua Aimee Frias Stephen Emerson Katelyn Parenteau		
Agenda	• Writing Prompts • Budget Review		
What Happened	• Ricas Writing Scores • A lot of our students are losing points on writing because they are not answering the prompts • Students writing scores are only from ideas and organization piece of the rubric only • Grammar is scored in the language portion of the rubric • 6th grade has the highest writing scores for our 5-8 which is the group of students that has had the most WIN support • When RICAS says “essay” they are expecting multiple paragraphs “narrative” is expecting a story • CRAFT writing tool and having kids mark up text • Lexia usage update: (students data that moved up) • 24% moved up word student • 9% moved up in grammar • 28% moved up in comprehension		
Next Steps			
Next Meeting	February 11th, 2026		

February

Meeting Date/Location	DMS Library February 11th, 2026
Note-taker	Cheri S.

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Agenda	• Schedule Concerns for S2 (start by reviewing Schedule Pros/Cons from last meeting) • Grading • Survey Works Data			
What Happened	• Grading ○ Consistency across the building aligning to standards ○ Communication with families in regards to due dates ○ Meeting with each grade level to discuss grading policies ○ Do we have a minimum grade as a starting point? ○ Start horizontal at a grade and then work vertically for alignment ○ Think about making separate grades for SS and ELA ○ If we have consistent rubrics that we are all using then the grades should be the same across grade levels ○ Making sure we are weighing things the same for example what is homework worth, quizzes, assessments making this aligned ○ Keeping families informed of what is coming and how specific assignments are being weighed			

	○ Aspen Help Desk at Parent Teacher Conferences or Open House night ○ Thoughts on midterm for family communication purposes ○ Aspen Gradebook discussion ○ Increasing family communications in regards to grades so that it is not a surprise for families ○ How can we remove the accessibility barrier for parents with Aspen and Communication ● Schedule ○ Another survey will be sent out to staff to collect more data
Next Steps	-look in to see if rubrics are already made instead of starting scratch -Schedule Survey
Next Meeting	March 24th, 2026

March

Meeting Date/Location	DMS Library March 24th, 2026		
Note-taker			
Members Present			
	Staff: Cheri Skurka Kristen Mitchell Andrew Bevilaqua Chris Barbosa Stephen Emerson	Students:	Families:

Agenda	• Accountability Report Card • Attendance Update • Attendance Matters Website
What Happened	• Displayed accountability report card data • Growth in Math is our strong point earned 2 out of 3 points • ELA Achievement and Math Achievement 1 out of 4 points were earned • Displayed attendance matters website • Had discussion about calendar heat map and how Fridays we seem to fall down with numbers • Are there ways we can incentive students for Fridays • As of 3/20 Friday we were 22.8% we are down 6% from this March to last school year in March • If we keep trending in this direction for attendance we are on target to meet our goal
Next Steps	-start drafting School Improvement Plan for upcoming school year 26-27
Next Meeting	April 28th, 2026

April

Meeting Date/Location	April 28th, 2026 DMS Library					
Note-taker	Cheri S					
Members Present	<table><tr><td>Staff: Kateylyn C. Cathay Boutin Hilary Zajdek Cheri Skurka Melanie Moore Sue Zahaykevitz</td><td>Students:</td><td>Families:</td></tr></table>			Staff: Kateylyn C. Cathay Boutin Hilary Zajdek Cheri Skurka Melanie Moore Sue Zahaykevitz	Students:	Families:
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Agenda	Going over drafts of next year SIT plans					
What Happened	-drafts about Math and ELA					

	-ELA and Math around RICAS data -making goal around interventions groups in ELA -we need to start looking at what type of progress monitoring are we doing for math almost like a similar program to lexia that provides data -Science goal is to increase NGSA scores by 5% and make the initiative continuing Science curriculum -safety goal around securely pass across the building to prevent hallways times -we meet our attendance goal for this year by increasing 5% for attendance so we will write goal for another 5% for the 26-27 school year
Next Steps	-finalize drafts
Next Meeting	May 12, 2026

May

Meeting Date/Location	May 12, 2026 DMS Library					
Note-taker						
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Agenda	- Go through finalized SIT plans - Literacy goal increasing from 11%-14% - Numery goal is increasing from 8.5% to 12% - Attendance was our biggest strength of the year - For safety to move to a second star we would need to be under 10% - Rework the vocabulary action step and take a look at if we can incorporate this more into win groups not just Tier 1 instruction time (vocabulary surge) - Draft writing rubric to reflect our new grading policy for					

	6-8
What Happened	
Next Steps	- Submit final SIT plan
Next Meeting	