



2025 – 2026

Elementary Focus Schools

June 15, 2026

Excellence, Equity, Empowerment. Every Student, Every Day.



MANKATO AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MISSION & CORE VALUES

MISSION

Excellence, Equity, Empowerment. Every Student,
Every Day.

CORE VALUES

- Courage
- Student Centered
- Integrity
- Accountable
- Inclusive Practices



Strategic Directions: Focus of Our Improvement Efforts

- A. Improving our professional practices so that each learner achieves at high levels in an inclusive educational model that is relevant and flexible
- B. Enhancing our student support structures to meet academic, social, behavioral, and mental health needs
- C. Recruiting, developing, and retaining staff to ensure positive learning experiences for students
- D. Strengthening our parent/caregiver partnerships and connections
- E. Ensuring safe, efficient and effective operations

Focus School Model



Instructional Approach

- Co-taught classes
- Inquiry-based learning



Student Experience

Relevant on and off-site experiences (being here and being there)



Strategic Design

- Cross-content connections around MN state standards
- Value-add projects



Equitable Access

Enrollment is managed via a fair and transparent **Lottery** system.

Bridges Progress & Key Achievements

Curriculum & Learning

- Inquiry-Based Learning
- Co-Taught Spanish Weekly Lessons
- Cross-Content Teaching and Learning
- “Being Here” and “Being There” Extended Learning Opportunities
- Family Connections with World Languages
- Impact Projects

Engagement & Growth

- Successful Community Partners
 - Global Minnesota
 - Minnesota State University, Mankato
- Student Enrollments
- Positive Feedback
- Successful Walk around the World

Leadership & Infrastructure

- Teacher Prof. Development (PD)
- Collaborative Advisory Groups
- Building Site Council Making Connections
- Student Leadership Opportunities
- Value-Added Projects
- Passports for Learning



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Jefferson Progress & Key Achievements

Curriculum & Learning

- Inquiry-Based Learning
- Co-Taught Exploratory Class
- Cross-Content Teaching and Learning
- On & Off site experiences connected to Nature Based Outdoor Learning
- Nature Club after school program
- Student Leadership opportunities

Engagement & Growth

- Successful Community connections
 - Minnesota State University
 - Cub Scout Connections
 - Living Earth Center
 - DNR
- Successful Family engagement events
 - We are Jefferson Night
- Student Enrollments
- Positive Feedback

Leadership & Infra

- Teacher Prof. Development (PD)
- Collaborative Advisory Groups
- Value-Added Projects



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Rosa Parks Progress & Key Achievements

Curriculum & Learning

- Inquiry-Based Learning
- Discovery Lab
- "Steamified" Co-Taught Lessons
- Cross-Content Teaching and Learning
- CILC Virtual Field Trips

Engagement & Growth

- Successful Family STEAM Nights
- Emerging partnerships
 - MNSU
- Full Steam ahead for year 2
- Positive Feedback

Leadership & Infra

- Teacher Prof. Development (PD)
- Community Advisory Group
- Value-Added Projects



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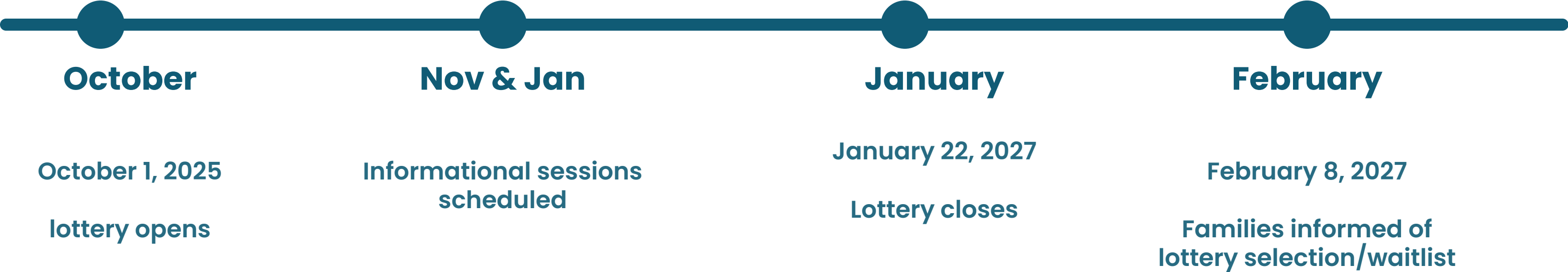


Staff Recognitions

Excellence in Action

-  Professional learning
-  Innovative thinking
-  Passion for learning and teaching
-  Intentionality with making enriched Connected Curriculum
-  Collaboration with staff

On the Horizon



Questions and Discussion

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