

Superintendent Report

June 15, 2026

Craig Woods

Budget and Finance Update

June 30 marks the end of the fiscal year for all district funds, except federal programs, which close on September 30. The proposed 2026-2027 budget is based on stable enrollment with anticipated growth in our virtual school program. Additional budget revisions may be necessary after the annual audit is completed and student enrollment is verified in the fall. District administration worked to balance the General Fund primarily through employee attrition. While most reductions occurred through vacancies and retirements, staffing adjustments were necessary in a few areas, including transportation, where staffing levels exceeded operational needs.

Enrollment and Marketing

Emmett School District continues to market both our traditional schools and virtual learning opportunities. As school choice expands across Idaho, it is important that families understand the educational options available through Emmett School District.

State Funding Formula Discussion

I recently participated in an Idaho State Department of Education listening session regarding possible revisions to Idaho's school funding formula. Participants discussed the benefits of salary-based apportionment and the need to better define student success. Many educators also expressed concerns that state assessment results alone do not provide a complete picture of school performance.

Board and Community Service

To maintain transparency, I continue to serve on several organizations connected to my role as Superintendent, including the Emmett Economic Development Board, Third District Board of Control, Third District Regional Superintendents Association, Idaho Association of School Administrators, and the Emmett Public Schools Foundation. I also participate personally in Emmett Rotary and Emmett Kiwanis.

Facilities and Summer Projects

Major summer projects include the True North Academy relocation, asphalt improvements at Emmett Middle School and Emmett High School, HVAC completion at EMS, carpet replacement projects, gym floor replacement, football field warranty repairs, and completion of the EHS facilities assessment. The Butte View Gymnasium remains the final HB 521 project requiring Board direction.

Community Outreach

I recommend the Board consider hosting regular community engagement meetings separate from Board business meetings. These sessions would provide opportunities for community members to ask questions, receive updates, and engage directly with district leaders.

Negotiations Update

The Gem County Education Association and Emmett School District have reached a tentative agreement for the 2026-2027 Master Agreement. The agreement reflects changes in Idaho law and includes an average salary increase of approximately 2.3 percent.

Grants and Professional Development

Emmett School District has been selected as one of two Idaho districts being considered for a two-year Center for Teaching and Learning grant focused on behavior supports. Additionally, Dr. Ramey Uriarte and twenty teacher leaders are participating in intensive mathematics training to strengthen instructional consistency and student achievement.

Closing

Thank you to our staff, students, families, and community members for their continued support. Summer provides an important opportunity to improve facilities, strengthen programs, and prepare for a successful 2026-2027 school year.