SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

MINERAL COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

EVERY STUDENT. EVERY CLASSROOM. EVERY DAY.

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Hawthorne, NV 89415
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www.nvmcsd.org

Superintendent's Report

August 2026
Mineral County School District

The summer months have been exceptionally busy across Mineral County School District. While teachers, administrators, and 9- and 10-month staff are off contract during July, the Superintendent's Office and our year-round district departments continue working to close out the prior school year and prepare for the next. This summer, much of that work has centered on staffing, student services, transportation, facilities, technology, fiscal and grant compliance, state reporting, safety, and operational readiness for the 2026–2027 school year.

As administrators returned in August, our focus shifted into a more coordinated school-opening phase, bringing together the work completed throughout the summer with site-level planning and preparation. My work as Superintendent has focused on overseeing these efforts, addressing personnel and student-service matters, supporting district departments, and ensuring our schools are positioned for a successful start to the year.

Preparing for the 2026–2027 School Year

A significant portion of our summer work has focused on district readiness. Year-round departments have worked to complete year-end responsibilities while simultaneously preparing systems and services for a new school year.

This work has included staffing and onboarding, employee contracts and payroll changes, student enrollment and data systems, assessment and accountability requirements, technology and device preparation, facilities improvements, transportation planning, curriculum orders, grant management, and required state and federal reporting.

As administrators and school staff return, these individual efforts are coming together as we prepare to welcome students back to school. A tremendous amount of work occurs behind the scenes each summer, and I appreciate the employees who have worked throughout the summer to make the transition into a new school year as smooth as possible.

Supporting Students and Addressing Complex Needs

A portion of my time this summer has been devoted to ensuring that students with specialized needs have access to appropriate services and supports. This has included considerable work surrounding services for special education students, reviewing available options and resources, coordinating with district staff and outside providers, and working toward solutions that are educationally appropriate, compliant, and sustainable for our

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district.

Special education has also been an important component of our grant work. The district has secured and pursued funding intended to strengthen services and opportunities for students with disabilities, including IDEA and other special education funding.

I have also spent considerable time addressing complex personnel matters. One particularly challenging situation involved an international teacher whose visa was revoked. This required extensive communication, research, coordination, and planning as we worked through the implications for the employee, our students, and district staffing.

These types of situations are not always visible in the day-to-day operation of our schools, but they require significant superintendent-level attention, collaboration, and problem solving.

Transportation

Transportation has been another focus this summer, particularly given the geographic challenges of our district and the transportation needs of students throughout Mineral County.

I have been working closely with our transportation staff to strengthen collaboration and identify practical solutions for transporting students. Our staff have also been working through required training, testing, driving-history reviews, licensing requirements, and other compliance responsibilities in preparation for the new school year. Vehicle and bus maintenance were conducted as well as bus inspections, determining and creating bus routes.

We are currently exploring options for purchasing additional vans that could provide the district with greater flexibility in meeting student transportation needs, supporting activities and programs, and providing transportation when the use of a full-size school bus may not be necessary. Through collaboration with the Walker River Paiute Tribe, they will be assisting us with transportation for our SES students while we continue to look for vans and analyze and adjust transportation needs over the upcoming months.

We will continue working collaboratively with the Walker River Paiute Tribe and our transportation staff to identify solutions that are safe, dependable, responsive to student needs, and financially sustainable.

Facilities and School Readiness

Our Maintenance Department has completed a substantial amount of work this summer in preparation for students and staff returning to our campuses.

Projects have included work on the high school gym HVAC system and lobby roof, flooring improvements at multiple schools, playground improvements at Schurz Elementary School, classroom renovations, fire-alarm

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inspections, grounds maintenance, and numerous other summer work requests.

Exterior door labels corresponding with the district's critical-incident mapping have also been installed at all sites as part of our ongoing school-safety efforts.

Although some larger projects continue because of material availability and other circumstances outside the district's control, the Maintenance Department reports that summer work requests have been completed and our sites are ready for the start of school.

Technology, Security, and Innovation

Technology staff have also been extremely busy preparing for the new school year. Their work has included upgrading district security cameras, server and network maintenance, preparing for a network assessment, completing the Board room technology upgrade, addressing equipment and infrastructure issues, preparing student and employee accounts, enrolling new Chromebooks, updating devices, and developing a plan to address Chromebook repairs.

The department also reviewed and updated district technology procedures, including student and staff Acceptable Use Policies and professional branding email standards.

Another significant area of work has been the analyzing and implementation of new technology tools, working on presentations, professional learning materials, and other resources to support staff as we introduce new tools and initiatives.

As technology continues to change rapidly, our goal is to provide employees with useful tools while establishing appropriate expectations for responsible, ethical, and effective use.

Staffing and Human Resources

Recruitment, retention, onboarding, and employee support continue to be significant priorities for Mineral County School District.

Human Resources has worked throughout the summer on employee contracts, personnel changes, payroll preparation, new-hire onboarding, new teacher orientation, licensing and credential verification, required state reporting, employee driving requirements, and training preparation.

The district has also worked through numerous personnel changes associated with the transition from one school year to the next.

For a small rural district, staffing remains one of our greatest challenges and we are still looking to hire two paraprofessionals and a part-time bus driver. Additionally, time has been spent working with other districts to

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find a bus driver trainer to assist with our recruitment of bus drivers to support our transportation needs.

Teaching, Learning, Data, and Accountability

Our Assessment, Data, and Accountability work has continued throughout the summer and includes a substantial amount of required state reporting and preparation.

Summer work has included Nevada Report Card requirements, special education data collections, Acing Accountability collections, NDE/ADAM data submissions, annual discipline reporting, enrollment and withdrawal validations, English learner validation, Work-Based Learning and Industry Recognized Credential reporting, course updates, and preparation of the district's testing procedures.

The **2026–2027 Assessment Calendar** has been completed, and work continues to prepare NWEA MAP Growth rosters and other assessment systems for the beginning of school.

The district has also updated documents and procedures that directly support school operations, including enrollment forms, bus expectations, the Student Code of Conduct, inventory procedures, and guidance documents for school secretaries.

Curriculum materials previously approved by the Board have been ordered, with most materials received in preparation for the new school year and professional development for our new science curriculum. We will continue to work on scheduling additional professional development for our new materials moving forward.

Grants and Expanded Opportunities

Grant management and planning for the use of newly awarded funding have been significant areas of focus this summer. The district has been successful in securing funding across a number of programs supporting literacy, Pre-K, special education, school improvement, career and technical education, hard-to-fill positions, professional development, safety, and other student programs.

An important part of my work has been moving from **funding to implementation**. I have been working with our outside partners to develop proposals, scopes of work, and plans for services supported by these funds. At the same time, we are carefully reviewing grant budgets and available funding to ensure that the work we have planned for the 2026–2027 school year is financially supported and can move forward as intended.

This requires coordination among the Superintendent's Office, Grant Management, Finance, program staff, and outside partners to ensure that proposed services align with grant requirements, district priorities, and the needs of our students.

We are also continuing to pursue additional funding opportunities while closely monitoring existing awards, reimbursement requests, contracts, and expenditure timelines. For a small rural district, grant funding and strong

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outside partnerships significantly expand what we are able to provide for students and staff beyond what could be supported through general funding alone.

Fiscal Stewardship and Compliance

The Finance Department has continued working throughout the summer to close out the prior fiscal year while beginning the new one.

Work has included required fiscal and indebtedness reporting, bank reconciliations, deposits, journal and budget entries, accounts payable, preparation and support for the FY2025–2026 financial audit, grant reimbursement requests, contracts, payroll change notices, and year-end rollover activities within the district's financial system.

Maintaining sound fiscal practices and meeting state, federal, audit, and grant requirements remain essential responsibilities of the district.

We continue to carefully monitor resources and look for ways to maximize available funding while ensuring that expenditures support students, employees, instructional programs, safe facilities, and effective district operations.

Safety, Compliance, and District Operations

Student and staff safety remain central to our work.

Throughout the summer, I continued to monitor district safety, compliance, and operational concerns that required superintendent-level attention. This included reviewing procedures, coordinating with staff and outside partners, and ensuring appropriate follow-up when issues arose. The district remains focused on maintaining clear expectations, accountability, and student safety across all programs and services.

We have also continued strengthening emergency preparedness through critical-incident mapping, exterior facility labeling, technology and security-camera improvements, and ongoing review of district procedures.

In addition, district departments continue to manage numerous state and federal compliance requirements involving personnel, transportation, assessment, special education, finance, grants, public records, student data, and school operations.

Communication, Leadership, and Professional Learning

A considerable portion of my summer work has involved planning, research, communication, and preparation for the upcoming year.

I have spent significant time developing presentations and professional learning materials, preparing

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communications for employees and the Board, working through district-level issues, researching solutions, and preparing for the return of administrators and staff.

With administrators returning in August, we are now focused on bringing our leadership team back together, reviewing district priorities, addressing school-level needs, and establishing clear expectations for the year ahead.

Our continued focus will be on **communication, academics, culture, and accountability**, while maintaining a culture of hope and optimism for our students and employees.

Moving Forward

The summer provides an important reminder that the work of the school district does not stop when students leave our campuses in June. While our school administrator, teachers, and 9- and 10- month staff are off contract during July, the Superintendent's Office and year-round employees continue managing the many operational, fiscal, personnel, compliance, facilities, technology, transportation, and student-service responsibilities necessary to operate the district and prepare for another year.

As we begin the 2026–2027 school year, our priorities remain clear: providing safe and supportive schools; improving student achievement; supporting and retaining quality employees; strengthening special education and student services; maintaining responsible fiscal practices; improving transportation and operational systems; maximizing grant opportunities; strengthening our relationships with tribal and community partners; and continuing to build a district culture grounded in hope, optimism, accountability, and opportunity for every student.

I appreciate the tremendous work of our year-round district employees throughout the summer and welcome our administrators, teachers, and school-year staff back as we prepare for another successful year. I also appreciate the continued support of the Board of Trustees, our families, the Walker River Paiute Tribe, and our community partners as we work together on behalf of the students of Mineral County.

Erika Sterling
Assessment, Data and Accountability
Updated 8/13/26

Currently Working on:

Enrollment/Withdrawals Validations
Impact Aid trainings (virtual)
NWEA rosters
Inventory
Secretary Trainings as needed
Staff support as needed

Summer Items:

Nevada Report Card

- DF 11- Technology
- DF 15- Teacher Average Daily Attendance(Worked with Spring)
- DF 16- Paraprofessionals Not Highly Qualified(Worked with Hope)
- DF 17- Average Daily Attendance
- DF 18- Student Teacher Ratio
- DF 19- Average Class Size
- DF 21- Student Transiency
- DF 28- Parent Participation(Worked with the sites)
- DF 39- Long and short term Subs.
- DF 40- CTE Average Daily Attendance
- EN 03- District Heading
- LOGO
- SD02- Special Programs
- DF06- Professional Development
- DF 50- Discipline(By Site X4)
- TX 01- Mission Statement
- TX 03- Superintendent's Highlights
- TX 05- Parent Communication
- TX 06- Curriculum Narrative
- TX 10- District Goals
- TX 15- Discipline Narrative
- TX 17- District Tech. Incorporation
- TX 18- Access to Menstrual Products

- **Special Education Local Plan Data Collections**
  - IDEA Discipline(Work with Paul)
  - IDEA Personnel(Work with Paul and Hope)
- **Fy 26 Q4 Average Daily Attendance**
- **Acing Accountability 2025-26 Summer Collections**
  - CCR Enrollment
  - CCR Student Proficiency
  - Workforce

- **NDE/ADAM NSPF Data collections**
    - ADAM02 – Chronic Absenteeism
    - ADAM03 – ALP Credit Report
    - ADAM01 – CCR Data
- **Test Security Manual**
- **HJH Courses**
- **HES Courses**
- **E.L. Validation**
- **2026-2027 Assessment Calendar (Approved by Keuhey 7/2/26)**
- **Audit Response mailed out**
- **Updated Enrollment Form**
- **Acing Accountability 2025-26 Summer Collections**
    - Innovative Goals(District Goals)
- **Annual Discipline Data Report (By Site X4)**
    - Annual discipline data by site
    - Individualized Progressive Discipline Plans Based
    - Vacancy (with Help from HR)
    - Average Class Size
    - Training Received
    - Student Ratios
- **Work Based Learning (WBL)**
- **Industry Recognized Credential (IRC) data collection**
- **MCHS Courses to be updated**
- **SES Courses**
- **Secretary Guidance Documents(LIVE DOCUMENT)**
    - **Multiple Guidance Documents**
- **Update Bus Expectations**
- **Student Code of Conduct Update**
- **District Test Procedure - Submission**
- **Inventory Document creation**
- **Inventory Training as needed**
- **Secretary Training**
- **Clever Roll over- Contact help to fix issues that arose from the update**

Maintenance Department Updates

- HS gym HVAC is 90% complete. A delay in the electrical panel has caused us to extend the completion date to Aug. 17, 2026. Hopefully, with a little luck it will be complete before that date. Just received notice that there is another delay on receiving the panel needed to complete the project. Alternate materials and/or plans are being discussed to get the system running ASAP.
- HS gym lobby roof replacement should be starting soon. Waiting to hear from D&D Roofing on a start date. This project is beginning today, Wed. 8-13-26. They have assured me they will have the roof weather proof by Monday the first day of school. There might be some flashing to finish that will take place next Saturday 8-22-26.
- Carpet was installed, by Hammond Flooring, in room 18 of the HS and room 218 of SES. If Hammond can get the materials in time room 14 of the JH will also be carpeted this summer. Complete
- Wheelchair lift is non-operational at this time. Koch Elevator attempted to diagnose the problem but was unsuccessful. They recommended replacing the lift. Which we will do once funding is secured. All areas of the HS/JH are still wheelchair accessible with ramps. Power has been disconnected and the lift is secured until a new one can be installed.
- Several SES projects are in progress. The new pre-k playground door is installed and operational. Interior and Exterior finish work around the door is all that remains for this project to be completed. Complete
  The new slide for the playground has been delivered. Removal of the old slide and installation of the new slide has begun. Complete
  A sidewalk from the pre-k door to the playground, footings for the new slide and a pad for a gazebo will be formed and poured with concrete in the next few weeks. Complete
  The Road Department will be delivering a load of fill dirt that we will use to improve some drainage issues we have in several different areas. After reassessing the drainage issues, I decided fill dirt is not needed. Improvements to the existing drainage ditches and culverts will fix the drainage issues.
  If time allows, we will build a gazebo on the playground this summer. We will build the gazebo before this winter.
- Fire alarm annuals for all sites are scheduled for July 9 and July 10. Complete
- A small remodel in room 17 of the HS is in progress and should be completed this week. We are waiting on the delivery of some new tables for this room that will need electrical ran to them. The remodel is 80% complete. Still waiting for the new tables to arrive so we can get the electrical ran to them.

- Exterior door labels, that correspond with our critical incident mapping, have been installed at all sites.
- All summer work requests have been completed
- Maintaining all grass and fields.
- Staying on top of weeds as much as possible. Hawthorne sites aren't bad. SES is a different story but they have been sprayed and will be cleaned up by the end of summer break. All sites are ready for the start of school.
- I have been doing inspections of all of our geothermal hvac systems for the Sierra Eco case.

Tech Board Report Aug 2026

Help tickets are completed as they come in which takes up most of our time. The start of the school year includes lots of account, device, and system issues for users when they get back from their summer break.

- **Infrastructure, Facilities & Security:** We are actively upgrading district security cameras, performing routine server maintenance, and reviewing our Gat Shield rules. We are also preparing for our upcoming Pool/Pact network assessment. Finished the Board room upgrade. Completing room moves that were put in before the start of summer. Working on two switches that are having issues or have died, one at HES and one at MCHS/JHS. Installed the new amp in the football announcer's booth. Preparing to install the new HES cafeteria sound system and projector screen.
- **District Policies & Guidelines:** We are establishing a district-wide MCSD Email Branding Guide to ensure professional communication and are currently redesigning both the student and staff Acceptable Use Policies (AUPs).
- **Software & Platform Implementations:** We have been busy setting up Swank for district streaming, as well as configuring and rolling out ChatGPT EDU.
- **Device Management & Repairs:** Our team is updating iPads, tracking down and updating Windows devices that haven't been used in years, and putting together a plan to tackle hundreds of Chromebook repairs. Enrolling new Chromebooks for the start of the school year and imagining new laptops as needed.
- **Operations & Logistics:** Working on student accounts for both Google and Active directory. Getting ready for our new users that will show up in early August, this includes accounts, badges, and making sure they are in the correct OU's and groups. Moving staff accounts that have moved sites and redoing their badges.

Vinson, Theresa

Thu, Aug 13, 1:29 PM (23 hours ago)

to me

NAC 354.561 Summary Fiscal Report submitted

NRS 350.013 & 354.5945 Indebtedness Report and 5 YR-CIP Plan Reports submitted

NRS 354.6015 4th Qtr - Quarterly Economic Summary Report submitted

Completed July 2026 Bank Reconciliations - 10 in total

July 2026 Deposits 20 -25 in total

Processed numerous Journal and Budget Entries into School ERP Pro

Ran Account Payable 4 times in July 2026

Started/Supported the FY25/26 Financial Audit

Submitted multiple times RFR #22 for AB 495 1.6M and the Stale Claim for $37,447.47

Drafted the SSP FY27 Contracts

Completed FY25/26 ERP Pro Rollover Activities

Pulled and submitted the OPEB FY25/26 Audit data requests

Approved and submitted July RFRs for the Grants

Reviewed and coded numerous Payroll Change Notices

Accounts Payable

Grant Manager Summary

- **Overall Status**: Compliance and Fiscal management projects continue, all multi-year grant cycle budgets are in aligned ERP. FY2027 Competitive grant applications are approved at NDE.
- **Key Win**: FY2027 Entitlement Funding Applications are approved at NDE. FY26 Grants are approved and no revisions are pending at NDE. FY25 Grants are approved and no revisions pending at NDE.
- **Top Priority:** Finish July RFRs with Diane. Add accounting codes to ERP for Title VI, RPDP, STEM K-3 grant and STEM Pathway grant. Complete all submitted purchase requisitions. Provide the Administrative teams with GLs and copies of Budget.

Progress & Achievements

- **FY2027 Applications Submitted**:
  - GEAR UP $76,111.00
  - SPED PIP Grant approx. $70,000.00
  - COPS Grant approx. $575,000.00
- **FY2027 Awards Received**: Grants secured for FY2027
  - AB 398 Hard to Fill Positions $56,937.15
  - Title I, Part A $191,758.86
  - Adult HS Education $72,653.55
  - Bully Prevention Training Grant $2,500.00
  - CTE Competitive CTSO $8,000.00
  - CTE State Allocation $6,624.70
  - IDEA SPED Special Projects $200,000.00
  - Literacy Intervention and Tutor $282,103.19
  - NV Pre-K $336,400.00
  - SPED Part B $165,922.00
  - SPED Early Childhood $20,146.00
  - Title II Part A $31,217.27
  - Title IV Part A $11,697.41
  - Title I 1003 (a) School Imp $103,197.06

- **Multi-Year Awards Received**: Multi Year Grants secured funds expire September 30, 2026 (amount remaining as of May 2026). Spend Down Plans are in place.
    - Title I 1003 (a) School Imp $103,197.06
    - Title I, Part A $119,544.60
    - Perkins Competitive $37,824.48
    - Title II $31,073.13
    - Title III $3,338.03
    - Title III Immigrant $3,781.50
    - Title VI $6,768.51
    - Literacy and Intervention $22,114.00
    - School Improvement funding $49,737.94
    - BSCA $65,412.17
    - REAP $13,920.48
    - SPED Part B $187,352.80
    - SPED EC $14,947.88
    - IDEA SPED Special Projects $50,054.45
    - Gear Up (Expires Aug 2026) $47,257.00
    - AB495 Expires November 2026

- **Reporting Compliance**: July RFRs
- **Milestones Met**: School Board approved curriculum orders have been placed (Amplify, Imagine Learning, Carolina) and most material is received.
- **Post-Award Monitoring**: Meeting with the accountant continue to align ePAGE budgets with ERP.

Financial Overview

- **Burn Rates**: Working on spenddowns for old money (FY25) which will expire in September 2026.
- **Fund Drawdowns**: FY26 June RFRs are complete.

Challenges & Obstacles

- **Under-spending**: Purchase requisitions for FY25 and FY26 Grants with Spenddowns plans continue. Most orders have been placed.
- **Compliance Issues**: No known NDE issues. AB495 RFR Pending NDE final approval.
- **System Bottlenecks**: No known IT issues.
- **Pending Grant Proposals**:
    - COPS Grant Application Submitted
    - SPED PIP Grant Submitted

Next Month's Priorities

- **Upcoming Deadlines**:
    - July RFRs by 8/20
    - Purchase requisitions for old money spenddowns.
    - BSCA Quarterly Report
    - Title VI
- **Corrective Actions**:
    - Working with Diane on grant accounting resolutions.
    - Working on Vendor contracts to balance with grant allocations.