



# Brookings School District

*Empowering all learners to embrace and be inspired to realize their potential*

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TO: Board of Education  
FROM: Stacey VanBeek  
RE: Administrative Report  
DATE: April 14, 2025

Business Services updates:

## **A Great Place to Collaborate**

- Our School Board election was held on April 8, 2025, in conjunction with the City Council election. I had the opportunity to help with absentee voting at the City/County Government Center on April 1, 2025, for a few hours. Unofficial results are as follows, we will canvass the election tonight to make the results official: Cassie Juba 1344 votes, Kelsey Bowman 1280 votes, Teri Johnson 1691 votes. Thanks to all the candidates for a well-run election and for their interest in serving our district!
- I attended the Associated School Boards Protective Trust insurance meetings in Chamberlain on March 26. There I learned that the district signed an agreement last spring to belong to the Trust for three years, so they will continue to be our property/casualty insurance carrier through at least the end of 2026. Increases for next year will be known in mid-May, but are expected to be between 6-12%.
- Special Education Director Heather Asmussen and I are working on figuring costs and entering the information for the Extraordinary Cost Fund application. The application opened April 1, 2025, and is due to the state by April 30, 2025. Preliminary numbers show that our request should be a little lower than last year's, but I will have the exact number to share with you in my May board report.

## **A Responsible District**

- I completed the FY24 excess cost calculations that are required yearly. This is a federal requirement that must be filled out each year by LEAs that receive federal funding or receive federal funding through CO-OPs. The district uses the amounts calculated in the final step to ensure compliance with the excess cost requirements of IDEA for the current school year (FY25).
- An update on federal grants: On March 14, 2025, Congress passed, and the President signed the continuing resolution extending federal funding through the end of Federal FY 2025. This extended funding for federal education formula grants for SY 2025-26 at the prior fiscal year's levels. Since South Dakota receives the small state minimum for most formula grants, the State level amounts should be about the same. However, since the funds will then be

distributed to districts based on updated district level Census counts, the amount an individual district receives could vary from the prior year due to changes in the Census. We expect that it will take US ED a few weeks to issue State level allocations that are needed to prepare the district level allocations.

- Budget work for next year is well under way. After negotiations later this week I will be able to plug in actual numbers for salaries to see how close we are to balancing. We'll continue to monitor changes in enrollment numbers, insurance premiums, utilities, staffing changes, and other factors that will have an effect on the budget.