



# February Family Update

Greg Dufoe, Superintendent | Travis Wilkins, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning | Phone: (515) 993-4283 | Fax: (515) 993-1921

ADM Families,

It is that time of the year when planning for next year starts to ramp up, while we also maintain a sharp focus on finishing this school year strong. Spring break will have come and gone before you receive the next Parent and Family Update, and before you know it, we will be facing the busyness that comes with April and May as we wrap up the 2023-24 school year. That being said, we remain committed and focused on our Wildly Important Goal of decreasing PK-11 grade students identified as “not yet proficient” in reading or ELA on the identified grade level state assessment from 13% to 8% by June 1, 2024. We continue to make each day and every encounter with students count.



## Facility Master Planning: Update

We are deep into the planning process of the new high school, which is set to open for the start of the 2027-28 school year. Earlier this month we facilitated the first visioning committee meeting with a mix of teachers, parents, administrators, and board members. This committee will visit several newly constructed schools to provide high level input on programming and design elements to be considered in the new building.

This committee will meet for one final meeting in late February following their tour of school buildings. Later this spring we will hold a series of user group meetings for even more detailed and specific feedback about the design and functionality of the building. This work will follow a similar process that was used in the design and development of Meadow View Elementary. This is important and exciting work!



## Safety and Security: Update

As shared last month, we continue to be involved in the Governor’s School Safety Program which will ultimately lead to funding for Iowa schools to make safety improvements in all buildings. All five attendance centers have completed a formal safety assessment conducted by a vendor provided by the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and received reports of findings and action steps from each safety assessment.

We have used these reports to identify priority future projects to improve safety and security at each school building and are in the process of submitting the grant application and receiving approval for the projects before we can proceed further.



## Reminder: On-Site Counseling

In January, ADM began a partnership with Family Connections, Inc. to provide in-person on-site mental health therapy services for students. Students may be referred for these services by the district or a family may express interest in services directly to Family Connections, Inc. Appointments take place on-site at ADM, with all payment and insurance logistics handled between Family Connections, Inc. and the student’s family. If you have any questions about this resource, please contact your student’s [building school counselor](#).



### Reminder: Student Assistance Program

ADM partners with Employee and Family Resources (EFR) to provide a formal Student Assistance Program (SAP). ADM’s Student Assistance Program is confidential, free, and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Please read the following overview for more information about this important and FREE program: [ADM Student Assistance Program](#).



**Reminder: 2024-25 ADM Academic Calendar Approved:** In December, the ADM Board of Education approved the 2024-25 academic and staff calendars.

[Click To View: 2024-25 ADM Academic Calendar](#)

### FAST Reading and Math: Winter Screening

The FAST Reading and Math Screening Assessments are administered to students in grades K-8 three times each year (Fall, Winter, Spring). The purpose of each screening assessment is to identify students who are not yet meeting grade level proficiency in the areas of reading and math. Teachers use the data from each screening assessment to identify students who need targeted interventions and support for acquisition of specific skills.

Below are ADM’s Winter 2024 FAST Reading results for each grade level (K-8). Winter scores from the past three years have also been provided for context of how ADM’s system is performing over multiple years.

ADM FAST READING: Winter 2024				
Grade Level	Reading: Winter 2021 % Not Yet Proficient	Reading: Winter 2022 % Not Yet Proficient	Reading: Winter 2023 % Not Yet Proficient	Reading: Winter 2024 % Not Yet Proficient
PK/K	15%	2%	1%	11%
1	38%	41%	25%	37%
2	27%	29%	22%	20%
3	23%	18%	13%	24%
4	30%	20%	11%	27%
5	33%	30%	21%	12%
6	29%	23%	20%	15%
7	21%	25%	34%	38%
8	28%	28%	24%	28%
District	27%	24%	19%	24%

ADM’s Winter FAST Reading results indicate a 5% increase in the percent of students not proficient in grades K-8 in reading as measured by FAST when comparing Winter FAST results from last year. All buildings and grade levels continue to review this data to implement evidence based reading interventions to meet identified needs of students. Students will complete the end of year screening later this spring. FAST Reading data is used in grades K-3 to determine end of year reading proficiency, while ISASP ELA scores are used in grades 3-11 to determine literacy proficiency. This combined data is used to determine ADM’s progress in meeting the district’s Wildly Important Goal (WIG).

Below are ADM's Winter 2024 FAST Math results for each grade level (K-8). Winter scores from the past three years have also been provided for context of how ADM's system is performing over multiple years.

ADM FAST MATH: Winter 2024				
Grade Level	Math: Winter 2021 % Not Yet Proficient	Math: Winter 2022 % Not Yet Proficient	Math: Winter 2023 % Not Yet Proficient	Math: Winter 2024 % Not Yet Proficient
PK/K	NA	8%	15%	26%
1	NA	22%	10%	15%
2	NA	10%	11%	12%
3	27%	19%	11%	17%
4	36%	29%	22%	25%
5	42%	30%	24%	19%
6	39%	31%	22%	20%
7	28%	35%	28%	30%
8	35%	33%	34%	32%
District	35%	24%	20%	22%

ADM's Winter FAST Math results indicate a 2% increase in the percent of students not proficient in grades K-8 in math as measured by FAST when comparing Winter FAST results from last year. All buildings and grade levels continue to review this data to implement evidence based math interventions and supports to meet identified needs of students. Students will complete the end of year screening later this spring.

**Special Education: Decrease in % of Students Not Proficient in Reading and ELA**

You may have heard that a large focus on the governor's education priorities is focused on improving the performance of special education students on state assessments. We recently completed a review of special education students' performance in grades K-3 on FAST Reading and in grades 3-5 on ISASP English Language Arts over the past three years. This data represents a significant decrease in the % of special education students not proficient in reading and ELA on standardized assessments. There is more work to be done, but this is a celebration of ADM staff and students!

FAST Reading Assessment % IEP Students Not Proficient			
Grade Span	Spring 2021	Spring 2022	Spring 2023
K-3 IEP Students	82%	58%	38%

  

ISASP ELA Assessment % IEP Students Not Proficient			
Grade Span	Spring 2021	Spring 2022	Spring 2023
3-5 IEP Students	78%	78%	56%

Have a great day!

Sincerely,  
Greg