



LITTLE
FALLS

FORUM482

Community-Driven • Education-Focused

NEWSLETTER

District 482 | May | 2025

What we know:

- The district is nearing a financial crisis
- After reviewing the Task forces' findings, the superintendent and board are closing in on making a proposal of what to do next, including CLOSING Dr. Knight.
- Our group is working diligently to find and present other more sustainable options than closing our only rural school
- The community survey results are in and were announced at the May 12th Board Meeting, they can be viewed on the district website or our pages.

Important Dates to Note:

- June 9th Board Meeting at the District Office, at 4:00pm
- REMINDER TO WATCH LOCAL PAPERS – THE BOARD CAN CALL A SPECIAL MEETING TO PROPOSE THE CLOSURE!

Our Purpose:

- Making sure board decisions represent the greater good of **ALL STUDENTS** and their EDUCATION!
- To help keep the community informed about what is going on within our district, and what we can do to make a difference.
- Finding solutions that are sustainable for the WHOLE district while keeping the districts only rural option open and available

SAVE
DR. KNIGHT
ELEMENTARY

KNOW YOUR



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Sustainable Options & Centralized Campus Idea

Centralized Campus Model to Enhance Structure, Efficiency, and Student Success

We are presenting a centralized campus model that would consolidate key services and schools into one unified location. This proposal not only maximizes the use of District resources but also places student well-being and success at the forefront.

The core goal of the centralized model is to create a more structured environment for students—something many educators and parents agree is urgently needed. By consolidating facilities and staff, the District can ensure consistency, reduce redundancy, and prioritize critical investments directly impacting students.

One major change under the plan would involve selling the current Business Office.

The remaining administrative team would relocate to the Lincoln building.

Under this campus layout: Lindbergh School would serve Pre-K through 2nd Dr. Knight Would be Pre-K through 6th the current Middle School would transition to a 3rd through 6th grade campus, giving 6th graders additional time to develop before entering a more mature environment. This shift aims to reduce bullying by easing the social and emotional transition. The High School would be restructured to include 7th and 8th grades, housed in a dedicated wing. This would help younger students acclimate gradually to the high school setting, benefiting from both increased support and positive role modeling from older students.

This consolidated campus—with three main school buildings in close proximity—would improve inter-grade collaboration, make student transitions smoother, and offer families a more convenient, unified location. Parents with children in multiple grade levels would no longer need to travel across town, administrators could respond more quickly and effectively with all schools located within a single, accessible area.

We see this model as a forward-thinking step to enhance student support, increase operational efficiency, and create a more connected educational community.

We feel that this model, along with the district's budget cuts: (from the Last 2 years of \$3-million, and this year with present cuts totaling just over \$1.5 million.) Can help advance the district and encourage fiscal strength.

HOW DOES THIS PLAN HELP THE DISTRICTS FINANCIAL NEEDS?

By selling the Riverwood property and select vacant land, the district could potentially generate over **\$1 million** in one-time revenue. While not recurring, these funds could help reconstruct key areas of the educational and support system, while also introducing valuable electives like **journalism, photography, and creative writing**. These hands-on courses would engage students in real-world learning—such as producing a **student-led magazine** or writing actual **grant proposals**—strengthening school pride and community connection.

As engagement and enrollment rise, so does long-term funding, creating a **sustainable path toward a safer, more structured, and enriching educational environment**. In addition to these one-time funds, the district will benefit from **annual savings gained by consolidating overlapping administrative roles**. These recurring savings will help **stabilize and sustain the district financially** while the new programs and campus model take root and begin generating their own value.

In this way, the cycle completes itself—allowing our District to thrive by providing strong structure, high-quality education, and long-term sustainability.