



Jim Knott

High School Board Report

High School Principal

June 8, 2026

The school year wound to a close for students with final exams on May 20-21. Teachers finished up on the following Friday. Since that time, we have gone into “summer mode” which includes updating handbook policies, preparing and supervising summer school, general planning for the 2026/27 school year, and reflecting on the 2025/26 school year and creating goals for the 2026/27 school year. The June reflection process for me always starts with items I don’t think went well the previous year and creating plans/goals to correct/improve these items. I also look at other goals/changes that Mrs. Younghans, staff, and I have started to prepare for, and from that process, I set my professional goals for the 2026/27 school year. I plan on sharing some of my professional goals for 2026/27 in future board reports.

Our summer school session at the high school began on Monday, June 1 and will run through Friday, June 19. The program includes 15 sessions from 8-11 in the morning. Students who need credit recovery were invited and must attend 12 of the 15 sessions, and complete their online course to recover/earn one semester of credit. Katie Richards, Heather Cox, and Trey Baker are again coordinating and teaching this year’s summer school. Our program is available only to DC West students and the cost is \$100. We have seven high school students attending this summer. Ms. Cox stated, “The kids have been super productive so far. It has been the best start we have had in a long time. Hopefully they can keep up the good work and recover the credit they need for graduation.”

This is one of my more unusual board reports as I am writing from a hotel room in Rome, Italy. My whole family, along with 36 other various DC West students, parents, grandparents, and siblings are taking part in the DC West affiliated, Education First, travel abroad program. This year, the DC West group traveled to Italy and will be there for 10 days. Although the first day was rough, with a seven hour layover in Dallas followed by a 10-hour overnight flight to Rome, I am sure our group will gain some steam on day two after a good night’s sleep! Highlights for tomorrow are visits to the Vatican and the Sistine Chapel. As a former World and US History teacher, I am very excited for the opportunities our students have to see history up close and personal. It really makes history come alive and the memories made will last a lifetime.

Arrivederci e buona settimana!