

# Woodward-Granger Community School District

*Serving the Communities of Woodward and Granger*

Bradley Anderson  
Superintendent  
1904 State Street  
Granger, Iowa 50109  
515-999-8022  
Fax 515-999-8025

Robb Boley  
High School Principal  
306 West Third Street  
Woodward, Iowa 50276  
515-438-2115  
Fax 515-438-2497

Jake Mohling  
MS Principal  
306 West Third Street  
Woodward, Iowa 50276  
515-438-4263  
Fax 515-438-2497

Matt Brummond  
Pk-5 Elem. Principal  
2200 State Street  
Granger, Iowa 50109  
515-999-2357 or 999-8058  
Fax 515-999-9299

Rebekka Maass  
Grandwood Principal  
1251 334 th Street  
Woodward, Iowa 50276  
515-438-3240  
Fax 515-438-3414

---

## ***Building Futures, One Student at a Time***

---

1/04/19

State of Iowa (Woodward-Granger CSD) vs. Melissa Lantz  
Dallas County Iowa

Honorable Judge,

The admitted felony embezzlement acts of Mrs. Lantz have resulted in not only a breach of trust between she and our community, but ultimately the trust of the entire Woodward-Granger education system. Without this trust, how do we adequately serve?

Below are several examples of this deeply adverse impact:

1. The local community has lost trust in their local public school system and it is taking an immense effort to try to regain and re-establish this relationship.
2. The school, its existing employees and the board have been blatantly accused of doing nothing about the situation, not communicating with the general public about what was happening and allowing Mrs. Lantz to essentially get away with her crime.
3. Partnering schools have questioned our financial stability and overall ability to be a responsible fiscal agent of the various special programs we oversee and run.
4. At the majority of meetings held both inside and out of our District, employees are constantly being asked about, questioned and even looked down on as a result of this crime.
5. Teachers and local unions are shaken because of the lies and deceit surrounding Mrs. Lantz's manipulation of the District's budget numbers and negotiations preparations. These same numbers led to untimely program cuts and employee layoffs.
  - a. As Board Secretary, Mrs. Lantz participated in several meetings discussing budget solvency ultimately leading to the elimination of multiple district teaching and non-teaching positions.
6. Since the discovery of the crime the Central Office employees have not only been angry at the daily deceit and lies that Mrs. Lantz led them all to believe in her years of working for the District, but they have also been buried with questions, accusations and the cleanup of the messes left behind as a result of these acts.
7. The financial impact has been the most significant blow as we are a smaller district that does what we can to stretch our resources as far as they will reach. To have an additional \$270K+ not available to educate students has added additional layers of concern surrounding appropriate staffing and purchasing materials to an already challenging budget.

It is widely known that our nation is facing a crisis with education funding. As a result, every dollar counts! It is tough enough to adequately serve the students in our district with the funding that we have. Mrs. Lantz's blatant disregard to the best interest of our students is appalling.

Individuals should not be able to commit crimes like this and get away with it. The emotional and financial impact in our community and local tax base will be felt for years to come. We ask that you consider making an example out of Mrs. Lantz in holding her accountable for her actions.

Very Truly Yours,

The Woodward-Granger School Board

Ashley Brandt, Board President

Jennifer Benbow, Board Vice-President

Tim Bogardus, Director

David Elliott, Director

Troy Janssen, Director