



HOWARD LAKE • WAVERLY • WINSTED

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Board Members,

Please see the report below for the School Board Meeting on 10/9/23

First Month- I celebrate the hard work of our staff and students during the first month of the school year! Staff have reported this is one of the best starts to a school year in recent memory. Our staff have done a good job connecting with students and families. In addition, our students have risen to the expectations of our schools. Also, a huge thank you to our maintenance staff for their work in keeping our schools in great condition.

Referendum Update- Thank you School Board members for your continued work informing the public about our referendum! I have not been to all of the presentations; however, the ones I have been to have felt positive. The groups I have presented to have felt appreciated and have been participatory, even when we take more time. We will continue to have social media posts, mailings, eNewsletters and more to push out information. We will continue to connect with community members and leaders throughout the month. If you have any groups or individuals that would like to ask questions or talk, please let me know!

Community Relationships- Our meetings with the large variety of community groups impress me with the amount of civic engagement throughout our district. I am eager to find ways we can continue, in a sustainable way, to connect, provide updates for and deepen our relationships with these organizations. I feel they have been supportive of us so far, and if we continue to support their organizations, we will provide opportunities for a deepening relationship for the benefit of our community.

Superintendent Staff Development- I am grateful for all of the help I have received so far while “getting my feet wet” in my new position. Between my mentor, neighboring superintendents and professional associations, they have all been incredibly helpful in understanding how to do this! I look forward to additional opportunities during the month of October!

Negotiations- We have paused negotiations with the teacher’s union until after the referendum vote. So far, the conversations have been collegial and collaborative. The lead negotiator and I have continued to have conversations surrounding various language items in the contract in the hopes of reducing the amount of time needed to settle after the referendum vote.

Entry Plan- The Entry Plan continues to move forward! The past two weeks have been riddled with referendum work and I am working to dedicate more time during the day to getting into classrooms, kitchens and the other spaces around our district to observe the work in action. I am grateful to the staff for their willingness to participate positively!