



Hebron Public Schools



High Expectations, Bright Futures
Office of the Superintendent

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Milestones and Memories

I hope this correspondence finds everyone in the best of circumstances and enjoying your early start to the summer vacation. With the hot and hazy days now upon us and my departure only a week away, I wanted to send one last correspondence to extend both a formal farewell and thank you to our Board of Education, staff, students, and Hebron community for the many milestones and memories. It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your Superintendent of Schools for the past four years, and I have the highest of hopes for all of you in the future.

As I reflect on the past four years, there is so much for us all to be proud of. As Jim Collins (2001) stated, greatness is not a function of circumstance. Greatness, it turns out, is largely a matter of conscious choice, and discipline (p. 11). The greatness of the Hebron Public Schools is due to your community's shared belief in the importance of education, a disciplined commitment to continuous improvement, and the vision and priorities which have served to challenge and unite us around a common cause. This is not to say that every effort we made together resulted in the desired outcome; however, we always viewed the outcomes and adversities we faced as unique opportunities from which to learn and grow. I cannot begin to express how appreciative I have been of this fact, which has made our many achievements and milestones even more memorable.

It goes without saying that having great people matters most (Catmull, 2014). At the forefront of successful school districts is a thoughtful, skilled, and supportive Board of Education and Administration working in partnership; and at the crossroads of the teaching and learning that takes place in our classrooms is our dedicated Teachers, Support Staff, Paraeducators, and Parents. Together, the Hebron Public Schools have been very successful in meeting the diverse learning needs of our students, as well as, maintaining our very promising course as a high functioning school district. Our schools have become extremely complex organizations due to the world in which we live and the ever-changing nature of public education. This will continue to challenge everyone to work even harder and smarter with each passing year. As we navigate the labyrinth of societal pressures, social justice, research, and new initiatives that all schools face, we need to be reminded of our noble and simple purpose – to provide our students with the best education possible. This has always been the work of the Hebron Public Schools, and I am confident it will continue for generations to come.

Prior to leaving, I want to share some updates and information about the school year that is scheduled to begin on [August 28, 2019](#). First, I am attaching the [2019-2020 District Priorities](#) that have been developed by our Administrators and Teachers. These goals will serve to guide the district and school advancement planning for the upcoming school year. In addition, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our Interim Superintendent, Dr. Lynne Pierson. Dr. Pierson has already begun the process of transitioning into the district and is scheduled to officially begin her tenure on July 1st. She comes with a myriad of experiences as a school and district leader, and her skillset and approachable style will make a lasting impression on the Hebron Public Schools. In terms of the Superintendent Search process, the Board of Education has contracted with [NESDEC Search Services](#). Although the date the formal search process will commence has not been determined, please anticipate that parents and staff will be engaged throughout this process once it begins. Lastly, please be sure to follow district and school updates during the months of July and August. Information from the district and each school will be posted on the new website and through our SchoolMessenger Notification System. The new [District Website](#), which will be rolled out in July, will also include a new “app” for everyone to download on their mobile devices. Please stay tuned.

Once again, I cannot thank everyone enough for the milestones and memories we have produced together. I will forever remember my experiences in Hebron, and I look forward to hearing about your many successes in the future. Have an enjoyable and safe summer, and “this concludes the message.”

Warmly,

Timothy M. Van Tasel, Superintendent