

January 29, 2021

Dear SBCSC families,

I want to thank those of you who have shared your comments since we held our Board meeting on Monday evening. Earlier this week, many of you received invitations from Chief Academic Officer Brandon White and myself inviting you to join in important conversations over the coming weeks regarding school options following the potential closures of Hay and Tarkington Elementary Schools.

These meetings with faculty, staff, and families will allow us to present the proposed changes and provide members of these communities the opportunity to share their questions. I look forward to hearing from you, and thanks to those of you who have registered for these conversations.

I want to share my gratitude for the recent gift of \$100,000 we received from our friends with the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi. This is the third annual contribution the Corporation has received through this gift, which will reach a total of \$500,000 over five years. The generosity of the Pokagon Band continues to enhance and hearten our mission as educators and continuous learners. Their contribution is aiding the costs of our dual immersion language programs; the Maritza Robles Dual Language Immersion Programs at both Harrison Elementary and McKinley Elementary Schools, as well as the French Dual Language Immersion Program at Clay International Academy. I hope you'll join me in sharing my appreciation for this valuable community partnership, and in expressing my gratitude for all they have done to assist in the progression of our dual language programs and their cohorts.

Tonight, the Adams High School boys' basketball team will celebrate senior night as they compete against Washington High School. Clay High School's boys' basketball team is also celebrating their seniors tonight as they take on Bremen. Tomorrow night, Adams Eagles will celebrate their senior hockey players as they play Penn High School at the Icebox. We wish all of our athletes a great weekend of competition and thank our seniors for a great year.

Finally, congratulations to our many students and teachers who were recognized in the <u>2021</u> Regional Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. Mark your calendars for the virtual award ceremony on Sunday, February 7, and remember to visit <u>South Bend Museum of Art's Facebook page</u> to celebrate these artists. Enjoy your weekend, everyone. Remember to read a book, watch a film, and enjoy an album.

Thanks for another great week of learning together.

Sincerely,

Superintendent of Schools