

Dear School Board members,

Denfeld High School is in its fifth year of being a BARR school and the success of its program comes down to the people on the ground doing the work.

BARR stands for "Building Assets, Reducing Risks." It is an educational model that focuses on teachers creating strong relationships with students as a way to make sure the students succeed.

Over 50 staff members at Denfeld have been part of building the BARR program at Denfeld throughout the years and that number continues to grow. Each individual person, from administration to teachers, counselors, social workers, integration specialists, school psychologists, and administrative assistants has played an important role in building and sustaining a quality program to support our students.

Recently, 9th-grade counselor and BARR Coordinator Jennifer Wellnitz and Denfeld Principal Tom Tusken attended the BARR National Conference in Palm Springs, CA, where Denfeld was awarded the BARR 2022 School of Excellence honor.

Denfeld is one of six schools out of two hundred plus BARR schools in the nation to receive this designation. This is a very big honor that is all due to Denfeld's intentional commitment to building and fostering positive relationships with our 9th-grade students.

So we want to say congratulations to Denfeld High School, Counselor Wellnitz and Principal Tusken for their continued work with intentional commitment to building and fostering positive relationships with our 9th grade students.

Sincerely,  
Anthony Bonds  
Assistant Superintendent