

Dear Edina Public Schools Staff,

The past weeks have brought extraordinary stress - from the impacts of immigration enforcement on students and families, to increased absences, to the broader events unfolding across Minnesota that weigh on all of us. None of this is happening in isolation, and none of it is easy.

Through it all, you - our educators, administrators, support staff, paraprofessionals, counselors, food service workers, bus drivers, custodians, administrative assistants, and so many others - continue to show up for students with care, professionalism, and humanity. You are doing this work while carrying your own concerns, your own families, and your own very real fears and emotions. That matters, and it does not go unnoticed.

We recognize that there is no playbook for moments like this, and that you are charting unfamiliar waters while doing your best for students every single day. You are navigating attendance challenges, emotional distress, difficult conversations, and the strain of not always having clear answers - all while maintaining your commitment to students and to one another. That is not small work.

Thank you for your courage, your care, and your unwavering dedication during a time when it would be understandable to feel worn down. We remain profoundly proud of the work you are doing for Edina's students and families - and grateful beyond words for each of you.

With respect and appreciation,

Erica Allenburg, Dan Arom, Cheryl Barry, Michael Birdman, Karen Gabler, Jen Huwe, Elliot Mann