

Inspiring News School Board Column – Spring 2021 – Second Draft

Thank you

As we approach the end of this school year, the School Board would like to express our profound gratitude to the staff, students and families in our district for their tremendous creativity, resilience, and persistence, and for the care they have shown for each other. Their extraordinary efforts maximized learning opportunities for every student in Eden Prairie during very challenging times. We would also like to thank the entire community for supporting our schools. Because of you, the district had the resources and technology to develop new learning pathways and delivery channels, and to provide a safe and healthy learning environment for students and staff. During these final weeks, please take a moment to recognize a teacher, staff member, or school leader for their dedication and commitment to our children.

Delivering Results

The efforts on the part of staff, parents, and caregivers have been enormous and, most importantly, our schools continued to deliver results. Although pandemic-related challenges hampered some efforts, ongoing assessment data confirms steady academic achievement and narrowing of the achievement gap. That said, we understand that many have experienced loss and pain; and we are committed to ensuring that staff, students, and families have the support they need to recover and move forward.

What's Next

District staff continued moving forward to ensure the on-going success of our students. Designing Pathways initiatives such as personalized learning programs, the Central Middle School construction, and new grade configurations are on track for implementation next fall. In the coming months, the School Board will return to meeting with the community in person. Our listen and learn series will use outdoor venues as weather permits, and will host the community in the new Central Middle School Performing Arts Center next year. We look forward to engaging with the community, using what we have learned to emerge stronger, and delivering results for students. We are truly grateful to be a part of an extraordinary community and look forward to ensuring that Eden Prairie Schools continue to be among the best places to educate your children in Minnesota.