

February 5, 2025

Keevin O'Neill
Vicksburg Community Schools
Vicksburg, MI 49097

Dear Keevin,

After much thought and reflection, I am writing to formally announce my retirement from Vicksburg Community Schools, effective September 1, 2025. I have had a rewarding 40-year career in education, with the last ten years serving this remarkable district as Director of Curriculum and Instruction, following many years as a special education administrator and teacher. I am filled with gratitude as I look back on the opportunity to work alongside gifted colleagues, support extraordinary students and families, and contribute to the growth and success of our educational community. Vicksburg Community Schools embodies a strong sense of community, which is the reason I chose to work here and to stay here until retirement.

Throughout my career, I have had the privilege of helping students with diverse needs access a high-quality education. As a special educator, I developed a deep passion for fostering inclusive learning environments where all students could thrive. In my role as Director of Curriculum and Instruction, I worked to shape educational programs that provided meaningful and equitable learning experiences for all students. Every step of the way has been rewarding, and I take great pride in the positive impact we have made together as a district.

To my exceptional team of colleagues, I am deeply grateful for your unwavering support, inspiring collaboration, and the genuine connections we've built over the years. It has been an honor to serve alongside such dedicated individuals and to be part of this incredible district. Your dedication and compassion have made my journey here both fulfilling and unforgettable. I wish all of you continued success and fulfillment in the years ahead.

With sincere gratitude and respect,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gail Van Daff". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Gail Van Daff
Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Vicksburg Community Schools