



Tradition-Rich, Future-Focused!

**REDFORD UNION SCHOOLS, DISTRICT NO. 1**

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November 14, 2023

Dear Panther Families,

Thanksgiving is just days away and, like many of you, I have begun reflecting on all I have to be thankful for this year.

As the Superintendent of Redford Union Schools, I am grateful each day to have the opportunity to support the next generation of community leaders attending our schools. Panther students never fail to overcome adversity or challenges on their way to finding success. Their perseverance is a continued inspiration to me.

I know this perseverance is aided not only by our incredibly supportive parents and families, who are committed to ensuring their children maximize the vast learning opportunities across the District, but also by the dedicated leaders, educators, and support staff we are fortunate to have in each of our buildings.

In November, we celebrate National Education Support Professionals Day (Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>), and the many individuals across our schools – including our clerical employees, custodial/maintenance staff, educational assistants, food service staff, and health, security, and transportation staff – that are integral to ensuring we provide the high-quality education services and resources our students deserve. I hope you will join me in thanking these professionals across the District for their commitment to our students.

In addition to our people making a difference in the lives of our students, earlier this year, we welcomed our newest support staff member, a furry four-legged friend named George. An emotional support dog, George will be visiting our students and providing them a bit of stress relief, as needed. Districts across the state have seen positive results when integrating an emotional support dog, so I am grateful to Robyn Stern, Director of Student Services, for being willing to bring him to the schools and allowing our students to find comfort in him.

I am also thankful for each of you. The support and care each parent, caregiver, and family shows for our students and District helps us run smoothly and successfully. Over the past two months, Beech and Hilbert Elementary parents were offered the opportunity to join Ms. Nickel, Ms. Robbins and other staff members for Parent University, an informative session for parents offered in partnership with Wayne RESA. It was wonderful to see so many parents/families attend our first two sessions and to hear such great feedback to help strengthen future sessions.

As our schools prepare to close their doors from November 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>, on behalf of everyone at Redford Union Schools, I would like to wish you and your family a very Happy Thanksgiving.

Stay Panther Strong,

Jasen Witt  
Superintendent  
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