

September 25, 2024

Dear Panther Families,

Welcome to the 2024/2025 school year, Panthers! The opening month of school will soon officially be behind us, and I look forward to moving through the remainder of the school year with the same excitement and commitment. I'm eager to see what this entire school year holds for our District, staff, and students.

As we continue through the school year, I feel it is important to recognize the successful year we had in 2023/2024. Our students and staff excelled beyond expectations last school year. From introducing new projects and initiatives to prioritizing student wellness and success, our schools are a direct reflection of the commitment we collectively have towards academic success and overall improvement. I'm eager to see how the District continues to build on that success in this new school year.

This year we will see many new programs and features introduced across the District. Our 2021 capital bond project construction will be wrapping up soon with the completion of improvements to the Secondary Campus building and Hilbert Elementary. Through the support of our community so much has been accomplished, including our recent celebration of the opening of a brand-new athletics venue - Bob Atkins Field – which hosted its first Panthers football victory on September 6<sup>th</sup>.

To support our students' mental health, a new peer-to-peer suicide prevention program, Hope Squad, will be introduced to our Secondary Campus. This proven program will help alleviate the stigma that surrounds discussing mental health issues and serve as a resource to those who need additional support.

Thank you all for your continued dedication in creating a nurturing environment where our students can thrive both academically, athletically, and personally. Here's to a wonderful 2024/2025 school year, and remember, it's always a great day to be a Panther!

Sincerely,

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Jasen Witt Superintendent