

Superintendent's Message

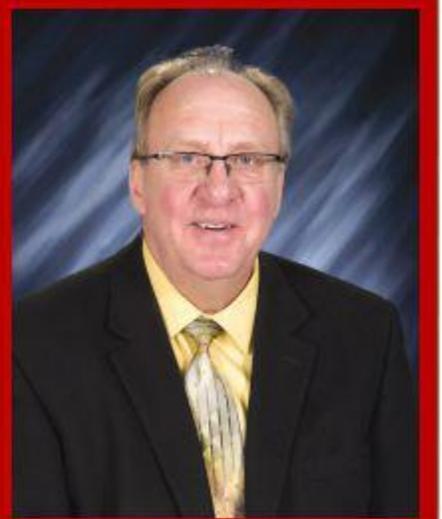
Greetings WCA families and community members.

We just finished the last two months of our school year in a way that none of us ever could have imagined. I am so proud of our WCA staff for their contributions during the Distance Learning period. From the teachers who maintained communication with their students and modified their instruction and the paraprofessionals who made contact with students or those who transitioned into assisting with daycare to the food service staff who modified schedules and agreed to work through June. Our principals and deans provided necessary support and direction for our staff and students and our custodial staff took extra precautions to assure our facilities were sanitized and safe for those of us who worked on-site. Our technology team was critically important as they provided guidance and assured devices and applications were available and functioning for our students. Even though they are not employees of the District, I certainly appreciate the Palmer bus drivers who delivered meals to approximately 350 students each weekday.

I am extremely appreciative of parental efforts to monitor and assist their children as they navigated new and unfamiliar forms of instruction. Lastly, I am proud of the students who abruptly had to learn how to manage time, work more independently and effectively communicate virtually. Teachers had insufficient time to prepare students for distance learning which required many students to overcome early challenges.

As administrators and teachers begin planning for next year, they are faced with uncertainties. Through our initial discussions, we presume there will be at least some level instruction within our buildings. We have identified what we see as potential obstacles and will transition into developing plans for various scenarios.

Just as COVID-19 disrupted education, it has caused the WCA Board of Education to take a different path related to addressing District facility needs. For multiple reasons, the Board decided to abandon the idea of an August Building Bond Referendum. They did continue to discuss facility topics regularly while contemplating a possible referendum in November of this year. They reviewed a significant amount of information each month and have given careful consideration to facility needs, construction design, costs, option benefits, option detriments and possible site locations. If a referendum is to be placed on the November 3rd ballot, the Board will need to make that decision no later than August 19th. Regular Board and facility updates will be provided throughout the summer.



**New WCA
Superintendent
Dale Hogle**