SUPERINTENDENT’S MESSAGE

JENNIFER ADAMS

In the three years since I joined the Pleasant Local Schools family, I’ve met so many wonderful people who have shown me the strength, compassion and character of this community.

We value the hard work necessary to educate our students as we ensure they unleash their potential. This work begins with our Board of Education that has established five goals and three core values to support the work of our students and staff.

The five goals include:

- Future Ready Learners
- Globally Literate Citizens
- Innovative & Creative Thinkers
- Fiscal Responsibility
- Communication

These goals combined with our three core values (i.e., Serve and Empower Others, Driven by Purpose and Vision, Act with a Positive Mindset) define what it truly means to be Spartan Strong.

This Quality Profile outlines these key areas as well as provides an update on the building project so that all residents are not only informed, but they are true partners in our efforts to build a Spartan Strong community. We have additional information about each of these areas on our website.

Our hope is that every resident will have a better understanding of where our district stands today, what our goals for the future are and how our plan to achieve success for our students will be implemented.

It is also important that taxpayers understand their role within this success and how their investment in our schools makes a difference.

In addition, we are inviting all residents to share their thoughts about the Spartan Strong experience. We value your input and want to listen to what you have to say about the type of educational opportunities we are providing. Please take a few minutes to complete our electronic survey so that we can gather your feedback as we make decisions regarding the future of our school district. The survey is available on our website at pleasantlocalschools.org or you can scan the QR code in this mailer.

As always, if you have any questions, please reach out to us. Our residents are an integral part of the success of our students, and we appreciate your ongoing support.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Adams
Superintendent

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Sincerely,
Jennifer Adams
Superintendent
At Pleasant Local Schools, we have established fiscally responsible practices and financial forecasts that align to our academic goals and operational priorities. With appropriate funding, we can achieve the academic goals and standard that our students need. Thanks to voters, Pleasant Local Schools now have the funding necessary for a new K-12 campus that includes 174,403 square feet of modern yet no frills space for students.

This not only provides students with what they need for their academics, but it also provides a better operational budget for taxpayers. In addition, voters approved a one percent earned income tax for new operating dollars in May 2019.

This is the first operational increase for our schools in more than 24 years, and we greatly appreciate your confidence and support. While this certainly makes a difference in our ability to support student needs, it does not resolve all of the district’s financial challenges.

The Governor recently announced cuts to the current fiscal year for May and June and additional cuts in state funding are anticipated for the coming fiscal year that begins in July. In December, the 3.31-mill emergency operating issue is set to expire. This issue provides $495,000 in operating dollars for expenses such as teachers, technology, academic programs, and utilities.

The renewal of this issue would NOT increase taxes to residents and takes advantage of more than $49,500 per year in state rollbacks. The Board of Education is currently in discussions to decide if a renewal of this issue will be placed on the November 2020 ballot for voter consideration.

One of these resources is the drug and alcohol testing program. Pleasant includes a nicotine substance screener that other districts do not use, yet achieves much lower student substance usage numbers in comparison to other school districts. Other tools include the one-to-one expanded technology offering with iPads, student success coaches, student attendance home visits and specialized learning classrooms.

Each of these programs offers an opportunity for today’s students to become stronger learners who are ready to face the challenges of tomorrow.

Pleasant Local Schools understands that the growth in this area is neverending, yet there is also much to celebrate.

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Please take a few minutes to complete the survey online at pleasantlocalschools.org or by using the QR code.

Thanks to voters in the November 2018 election, Pleasant Local Schools will construct a new K-12 building. This facility provides a modern space for students that meets their academic needs without going to financial extremes for our taxpayers. Recently the district worked with the construction manager to make sure the designs and concepts our community expects fit within the space and budget available.

While this building needs to last for many years, it also must be completed on time and within budget.

This quality profile mailer is simply one of the district’s priorities and critical focus areas.

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