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*Inspired by Tradition,
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Summer Update

I hope everyone is having a safe and enjoyable summer. Normally the summertime is when the district finalizes loose ends for the next school year. This summer has been different in terms of making last minute changes to financial plans of the district due to cuts that the governor has made and trying to anticipate what the next round of cuts might look like. It has also been a time to reflect upon the end of the school year to see what changes need to be made heading into the new one in the event we are back online. Finally, it has been a time of great uncertainty and making a number of alternate plans for the coming year. To be 100 percent honest at this moment in time, I am not certain what our educational delivery model will look like in August. We do not have definitive plans/guidelines from the health department and/or governor yet. We are hoping that changes real soon as August really isn't far off.

We are busy making preparations that include a full-scale return to the traditional classroom environment, a return to online instruction, and a blended model of the two. Once the guidelines are released (which we expect within the next week), we will make a determination as quickly as possible as to what August 11 will look like. That being said, we all know by now how much things change and how quickly those changes may take place. Whatever we put in place it must meet health department guidelines.

As I am sure most of you are aware, the governor announced funding cuts to schools back in August. The cut to our school district was about \$480,000. This is a significant reduction to make just as the school year is ending and will leave us operating at a loss for 2019-20. We also anticipate a larger reduction from the governor in the coming weeks. With those things in mind, the district has already made the following cost reductions for the coming year: 4 elementary recess monitors, 1 elementary part-time resource aide, 1 elementary lunchroom monitor, 1 elementary library aide, 1 middle school lunchroom monitor, reduced sub maintenance to half time, eliminated central office and bus garage custodial positions, and will not be filling the following supplemental positions: eSports, assistant athletic director, all building technology supplemental contracts, 9th grade advisor, 10th grade advisor, jazz band, and math counts supplemental contracts.

Each of these reductions have been difficult to make, but they are necessary. The cuts made to date have been identified as having the least direct impact on students. We have also chosen not to fill one teaching position in the elementary, will be reducing extended days for staff, and have eliminated ProgressBook since it can be replaced by the gradebook in Schoology. In all, these changes will save the district approximately \$290,000. It is our hope moving forward that the governor will choose to use a very large portion of the state's rainy day fund to lessen any other cuts coming our way as the next set of cuts may need to be more severe from an educational service standpoint.

Enjoy the remainder of your summer and stay safe!