



Tradition-Rich, Future-Focused!

REDFORD UNION SCHOOLS, DISTRICT NO. 1

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September 22, 2023

Dear Families,

After an incredibly productive summer that saw additional construction and restructuring across Redford Union Schools – thanks in large part to the community's support of our zero tax-rate increase bond initiative – it has been an exciting start to the school year. When we opened our doors last month to welcome students back to our classrooms, we looked a lot different than we did at the end of last school year. Starting this school year, we have introduced two neighborhood schools, featuring grades Pre-K-6, and a single secondary campus building for students in grades 7-12.

As our elementary students were excited to see the recently completed renovations at their buildings, our older students were also welcomed into a renovated space and are looking forward to what's still to come, as construction has already begun on the new additions to our secondary campus footprint. These additional spaces include a new gymnasium, an Early College program wing and more updated career tech education classrooms, as well as a Main Street area to serve as the new hub for our High School.

Moving back to a more traditional K-6 elementary configuration this school year was based on our commitment to helping children thrive, as research demonstrates that the K-6 learning model better supports academic achievement and social-emotional development, which is and will always be a main priority within Redford Union Schools. Likewise, our transition to a single secondary campus, with grades 7-9 located in one section of the building and grades 10-12 in another, enables the District to maximize our resources, including instructional and support staff, to enhance student development and learning.

Another priority across the District is the safety and well-being of our students and staff. To that end, safety improvements have been made at each of our buildings, including making our main entranceways and classrooms more secure.

As we head into October, I wanted to remind our families that Wednesday, October 4th is Count Day across Michigan. It is important that students attend school all day, every day to maximize their learning. But, it is critically important for students to be in school on Count Day to ensure the District receives the funding resources it needs to support all of our students and families. Finally, the Fall season brings the rich tradition of Homecoming at Redford Union Schools. This year's festivities will be held on Friday, October 6th. Please note that there will be a half-day for students that day. I hope that you are able to come out and cheer on our Panthers – including our marching band, cheerleaders, and Varsity football team – as they look to make us proud in defeating the Cardinals from Melvindale HS.

Stay Panther Strong,

Jasen Witt
Superintendent