



Shannon Bisgard
Superintendent

Nathan Wear
Associate Superintendent
& Chief Academic Officer

JT Anderson
Chief Financial Officer &
Chief Operating Officer

Karla Christian
Chief Officer of HR &
Exec Director
of Public Relations

Leisa Breitfelder
Executive Director of
Student Services

Jeri Ramos
Executive Director of
Technology Services

Sondra Nelson
President
Board of Directors

DISTRICT SCHOOLS

High School, 9-12
Jeff Gustason
Principal

Excelsior, 7-8
John Christian
Principal

Oak Ridge, 7-8
Travis Axeen
Principal

Boulder Peak, 5-6
Dan Ludwig
Principal

Hazel Point, 5-6
Chad Buchholz
Principal

Bowman Woods, PK-4
Tina March, Principal

Echo Hill, PK-4
CJ McDonald, Principal

Indian Creek, K-4
Kelly Kretschmar, Principal

Linn Grove, PK-4
Lori Manley, Principal

Novak, ECBP/K-4
Carol O'Donnell, Principal

Westfield, K-4
Ed Rogers, Principal

Wilkins, PK-4
Amanda Potter, Principal

March 3, 2021

The Linn Mar Community School District Board of Directors would like to urge you to vote NO on House Study Bills 240, 242, and 243. Each of these bills contain provisions that would be detrimental to Iowa's public schools.

Establishing a voucher program, even in this limited capacity, will lead to decreased funding for our public schools. It is our position that public tax dollars should be used to fund public schools and ONLY public schools. Unlike private schools, public schools provide educational opportunities to ALL students, regardless of race, gender, or socio-economic status. Unlike private schools, public schools must follow all guidelines established by the Americans with Disabilities Act and Individual with Disabilities Education Act. Unlike private schools, public schools must provide accountability and transparency to their community and to the State of Iowa. Private schools are not universally accessible by Iowa families. This legislation would benefit a few, at the expense of the many.

Rather than diverting tax dollars to private entities, it is imperative to provide our public schools with the resources they need. Public schools serve 94% of Iowa students and funding has not kept up with costs in recent years. Our public schools need additional funding, not fewer resources. This legislation does not address the needs of the 94% - the majority of Iowa families.

The establishment of charter schools also serves to reallocate resources away from serving ALL students to serving the few. Again, charter schools have little accountability to the public. While public tax dollars provide their funding, there is not the same level of oversight by a local, publicly elected Board of Directors in that school district. This gives control of tax dollars to a few people, who may not be representative of the local school district.

House Study Bills 240, 242, and 243 do not serve the families of Iowa and we encourage you to vote "no" on this legislation.

Sincerely,
The LMCS D Board of Directors

Sondra Nelson, President
Cara Lausen, Vice President
Barry Buchholz, Board Member
Tim Isenberg, Board Member
Rachel Wall, Board Member
Brittania Morey, Board Member
Clark Weaver, Board Member