

# Inspire Learning. Unlock Potential. Empower Achievement.

### **ADMINISTRATION**

Shannon Bisgard, Superintendent

Nathan Wear, Associate Superintendent & Chief Academic Officer

Bob Read, Associate Superintendent & Online Learning Principal

JT Anderson, Chief Financial Officer & Chief Operating Officer

Karla Christian, Chief Officer of HR & Executive Director of Public Relations

Leisa Breitfelder, Executive Director of Student Services

Jeri Ramos, Executive Director of Technology Services

Brittania Morey, School Board President

## **DISTRICT SCHOOLS**

Bowman Woods, PreK-4 Tina March, Principal

Echo Hill, PreK-4 CJ McDonald, Principal

Indian Creek, K-4 Kelly Kretschmar, Principal

Linn Grove, PreK-4 Lori Manley, Principal

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

Westfield, K-4 Ed Rogers, Principal

Wilkins, PreK-4 Amanda Potter, Principal

Boulder Peak, 5-6
Dan Ludwig, Principal

Hazel Point, 5-6 Chad Buchholz, Principal

Excelsior, 7-8 John Christian, Principal

Oak Ridge, 7-8 Travis Axeen, Principal

High School, 9-12 Jeff Gustason, Principal

Compass Alternative Center Steve Goodall, Principal February 15, 2022

Dear Honorable Iowa House Education Committee Members,

The Linn-Mar Community School District Board of Education would like to urge you to vote NO on House Study Bill 672. This omnibus education bill includes provisions that would be detrimental to Iowa's public schools.

Establishing the Students First Scholarships will lead to decreased funding for 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 the Individuals 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 many.

Private schools do not have the same financial transparency as public schools. Private schools are not required to defend budgets or get voter approval for additional expenditures. Only public schools are required to have locally-elected officials who oversee policies and provide oversight to the community. Nonpublic schools have no required local oversight and, thereby, have no accountability to the community or the taxpayers that would fund them through the program created by HSB 672.

Rather than diverting tax dollars to private entities, it is imperative to provide public school with the resources they need. Public schools serve 97% of Iowa students. The focus of public tax dollars should be on public schools. Public schools need additional funding, not fewer resources. This legislation does not address the needs of the 97%...the majority of Iowa families.

HSB 672 does not serve the families of Iowa and we encourage you to vote "no" on this legislation.

Sincerely,

Brittania Morey, School Board President Clark Weaver, School Board Vice President Barry Buchholz, School Board Member Sondra Nelson, School Board Member Melissa Walker, School Board Member Rachel Wall, School Board Member



# Inspire Learning. Unlock Potential. Empower Achievement.

### **ADMINISTRATION**

Shannon Bisgard, Superintendent

Nathan Wear, Associate Superintendent & Chief Academic Officer

Bob Read, Associate Superintendent & Online Learning Principal

JT Anderson, Chief Financial Officer & Chief Operating Officer

Karla Christian, Chief Officer of HR & Executive Director of Public Relations

Leisa Breitfelder, Executive Director of Student Services

Jeri Ramos, Executive Director of Technology Services

Brittania Morey, School Board President

## **DISTRICT SCHOOLS**

Bowman Woods, PreK-4 Tina March, Principal

Echo Hill, PreK-4 CJ McDonald, Principal

Indian Creek, K-4 Kelly Kretschmar, Principal

Linn Grove, PreK-4 Lori Manley, Principal

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

Westfield, K-4 Ed Rogers, Principal

Wilkins, PreK-4 Amanda Potter, Principal

Boulder Peak, 5-6
Dan Ludwig, Principal

Hazel Point, 5-6 Chad Buchholz, Principal

Excelsior, 7-8
John Christian, Principal

Oak Ridge, 7-8 Travis Axeen, Principal

High School, 9-12 Jeff Gustason, Principal

Compass Alternative Center Steve Goodall, Principal February 15, 2022

Dear Honorable Iowa Senate Education Committee Members,

The Linn-Mar Community School District Board of Education would like to urge you to vote NO on Senate Study Bill 3080. This omnibus education bill includes provisions that would be detrimental to Iowa's public schools.

Establishing the Students First Scholarships will lead to decreased funding for 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 the Individuals 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 many.

Private schools do not have the same financial transparency as public schools. Private schools are not required to defend budgets or get voter approval for additional expenditures. Only public schools are required to have locally-elected officials who oversee policies and provide oversight to the community. Nonpublic schools have no required local oversight and, thereby, have no accountability to the community or the taxpayers that would fund them through the program created by SSB 3080.

Rather than diverting tax dollars to private entities, it is imperative to provide public school with the resources they need. Public schools serve 97% of Iowa students. The focus of public tax dollars should be on public schools. Public schools need additional funding, not fewer resources. This legislation does not address the needs of the 97%...the majority of Iowa families.

SSB 3080 does not serve the families of Iowa and we encourage you to vote "no" on this legislation.

Sincerely,

Brittania Morey, School Board President Clark Weaver, School Board Vice President Barry Buchholz, School Board Member Sondra Nelson, School Board Member Melissa Walker, School Board Member Rachel Wall, School Board Member