

**Board of Education President's Report**  
**Rob Felber**  
**January 4, 2023**

Well, it's deja vu all over again. I am once again honored to be chosen by my board colleagues to be Board President. This will be my third time in what we affectionately call 'center seat.' Many thanks to Tina Davis and Mark Curtis, as they both have served multiple terms as Vice President and President. As we once again rotate the officers' roles, I welcome Lea Travis to her first officer position as Vice President.

A year ago, after a long 18-day sabbatical from the board, I agreed to return. My comments and concerns a year ago were focused on the financial health of the District. I knew we were going to have to replace our long-time treasurer, and I was happy to participate in that critical decision. The reality of the challenging times, often presented by our former treasurer, and the finance committee and echoed by the entire board over the past several years is upon us. This coming year we will face these known challenges as well, as the past has proven, many unknown challenges as well. My goal and the goal of this Board is to present the reality of our District's needs and ultimately, as we have stated many times, fulfill the wishes of the majority of the community's vision for the District they want to have.

So, enough good news. I hope everyone enjoyed some time off and the ability to recharge with family and friends. This month I am starting my 40th year as a firefighter. We know to expect the unexpected, which includes many late nights, holidays, and time away from our families. This year, with the brutal return of winter, I cannot say the same for your District's administrators and key staff. Our buildings, especially Dodge suffered a huge winter-related water emergency. Despite the brutal temperatures and the calendar noting a holiday, our Superintendent spent most of Christmas and the days that followed trying to restore Dodge to safe, warm, and dry. Joining her in this holiday crisis was Maintenance Supervisor John Sommers, Mike Roshetko (Night Custodian, Dodge) and Rhonda Sakach (Night Custodian, Wilcox) regardless of the fact that it was Christmas Day. Business Manager Matt Strickland and maintenance staff member David Benton also were on hand during the crisis. Board members also toured the

damage the day after Christmas. The full report can be found in the Superintendent's Blackboard Connect message from earlier in the week. While this crisis could have been devastating, I want to acknowledge the selfless commitment that the staff and administration made to respond. PS. that WAS the good news.

I am beginning my 10th year as a board member and the only thing that has not changed is my commitment to the community. While we, whether Board, administration or community may not always agree on every topic, I pledge to continue the tradition of professional, respectful, and transparent communications. I will now turn the meeting over to Mrs. Powers for the Superintendent's Report.