

Board of Education President's Report

Mark Curtis

January 19, 2022

Good evening students and families of Samuel Bissell Elementary and R.B. Chamberlin Middle School, I am Mark Curtis and I am honored to serve as your Board President. I hope you all have enjoyed your extended break due to the first snowstorm of the year. Although parents were probably dealing with snow removal and getting from point A to point B, I'm sure many students took time to enjoy the snow and have some fun.

As we look to return to our buildings, I wanted to first acknowledge the observance of Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday and remembrance of his accomplishments this past Monday. I am hopeful that we all took the time to truly reflect on the meaning of his struggle and the impact of his sacrifice in making the world a better place. There are many quotes of his to draw inspiration in all that we do as a society. As we continue to navigate these difficult times providing education to our students, I'm reminded of a quote that underscores our mission of ensuring that our students are well rounded. We have made a commitment in educating the whole child. Dr. King said, "we must remember that intelligence is not enough. Intelligence plus character-that is the goal of true education". Each and every student in this district is unique in their abilities and we continue to work to bring out the very best in them.

I would like to take a moment to thank those community members who expressed interest in filling the vacancy on this board of education. The work we do isn't easy and your willingness to step forward takes courage and commitment and we sincerely thank you. As a board, we remain steadfast in our commitment to work collaboratively in the spirit of moving this district forward. Each of us, while unique in what we bring individually, has a shared goal in functioning efficiently and professionally. We are committed to being good stewards of local tax dollars, continuing to provide timely and relevant communications to our families, getting feedback that is critical to our decision making, and supporting our staff in executing our strategic plan. We seek to avoid the things that may distract us from doing what is in the interest of our district. Simply put, we are eager to get to work.

Now, without further delay, I will turn the meeting over to our Superintendent, Mrs. Powers.