

Dear Iron Bluff and Stone Pointe Elementary School Families,

Please accept my sincere apologies that the excitement of this new school year has been dampened by construction delays and associated concerns. One thing I love about being an educator is that each year offers a new beginning and a fresh start. And while this is still a new beginning, I do understand that these issues have caused concern and mistrust.

I have raised three children over the last 26 years in this school district and am the proud grandfather to two more future Elkhorn students. I share this as insight into the standard and guidepost for my leadership, as we work to protect your most prized possessions, our students, always and in any situation. Given that, we would never knowingly put your child in a situation of danger. The optics of the past week are sure to give pause, but I assure you that the belief remains that our schools are safe for our students.

Children will always model how those around them respond to adversity. In this moment, we can appreciate the model of our principals and teachers who have looked forward to the perfect new beginning. While the school itself is incomplete, the teachers, staff, and administration have overcome that challenge to create welcoming learning spaces that mirror the care and dedication of quality educators: friendly faces, colorful bulletin boards, and engaging lessons that welcome students to a new school year. They are our light going forward, and we celebrate their work for children even when it is difficult.

Furthermore, the crosswinds of the past week have led some to question basic transparency. We will always work toward improving communication, especially in a crisis, and I will always be truthful with you. I share your frustration with the situation, but we have a clear path forward that we are sharing with you today as we look ahead and embrace the opportunity to make this the best year yet for our students.

It is our hope that the attached documents provide additional insight and answers to your questions, and I thank you for taking the time to review them.

Sincerely,

Bary Habrock