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February 6, 2025

Parents, Staff, and Friends of the Hartford Union High School District,

While Mother Nature appears to have forgotten what January in Wisconsin is all about, I know the warmer-than-normal temperatures have many of us dreaming of an early spring. As we pass the midpoint of the 2024-25 school year, I am continually reminded of the many great things happening at HUHS!

Here are the highlights from the regular Board of Education meeting held on January 27:

- The Hartford Union High School District received twelve statements of qualifications from well-qualified construction managers interested in performing and leading the work stemming from the passing of the referendum in November. With the support of Matt Wolfert from Bray Architects, the district's core team interviewed five firms and the board approved the recommendation of CG Schmidt to serve in this very important role. The district, grateful for our community's support, is very excited to continue this exciting journey side by side with Bray Architects and CG Schmidt!
- Related to the referendum, but with a financial lens, the school board approved PMA-Wisconsin Investment Services Cooperative to serve as our bonds proceeds management firm, where they work to maximize interest income, protect the principal, and assure we are compliant with IRS arbitrage rules and regulations throughout the project and beyond.
- In the state of Wisconsin, school districts are not required to provide transportation to and from school for any students who live within 2 miles of the campus they attend. There is an exception, and that is if any area within that two-mile boundary has been identified as unusually hazardous. If any such areas have been identified, a school district must have an unusually hazardous transportation plan and that plan was submitted and approved by the board this past Monday.

Lastly, I want to share my appreciation for those who attended the January school board meeting. Our current leadership team has been working together for two years, and the results are evident. Improved student outcomes, closing a budget deficit two years in a row, and successfully passing a referendum are just a few examples of why this district is heading in the right direction.

One of the responsibilities of the school board and the administration is to consider and vote on personnel decisions. To assure the district protects the confidentiality of the matter at hand, these discussions are held in closed session, driven by reasons outlined in state statute. Again, closed sessions are confidential in fairness to all involved.

Our team is excited for the future and proud to do so working side by side with each of you! I appreciate each of you serving as a champion for HUHS and am looking forward to the great things we will accomplish moving forward together.

Speaking of some of the exciting things coming up, please watch for the latest edition of the Ovation newsletter as well as our website where you will see amongst other things, updates on our referendum work and a preliminary design and construction schedule now that we have our construction management firm

identified.

Lastly, thank you to Mr. Tristan Johannes, Ms. Jenny Guillen, Mr. Ian Gronbeck, Mr. Adam Majerus, Ms. Tiffany Stapleton, and Mr. Kenneth Mueller for your interest in serving as a school board member. A reminder of the primary on February 18 which will reduce this field from six to four for the election on April 1 to fill the two seats being vacated by Mr. Craig Westfall and Mr. Don Pridemore. Much appreciation to Craig and Don for your years of our service to our district!

As always, I appreciate your engagement in the work of our district and if you ever have a question or would like to discuss something further, please don't hesitate to reach out. Please also remember our customer service [link](#) if you, at any time, would be interested in providing feedback, or have a question about the work we are doing at Hartford Union High School.

Take care of yourself, and each other, and may you enjoy all that this February in Wisconsin brings you!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jeff Walters", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mr. Jeffrey A. Walters, Superintendent
Hartford Union High School District