



October 30, 2023

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

Happy Monday, and thank you to our parents, students, and staff for a successful first quarter of the school year as we wrap up our first nine-week grading period this coming Friday. There is much to celebrate, and I am proud of the work being done across our district!

Following is a summary of the meetings held on October 23rd:

- At the district's annual meeting, which includes motions that are required and made by those that reside within our district's boundaries, the following motions were approved:
 - School board member salaries remain the same as the prior year.
 - The district will pay all actual and necessary expenses when any school board member is traveling in performance of duties.
 - In accordance with state revenue limit calculations, a tax of ten million, eight-hundred two-thousand, ninety-seven dollars will be levied on all taxable property within the Hartford Union High School District.
 - The school board is authorized to sell any property belonging to and not needed by the district.
 - The school board is authorized to provide for the prosecution and defense of any action in proceedings in which the school district is interested.
 - Next year's annual meeting will be held at 5:45pm on October 28, 2024.
- Here are the highlights from the regularly scheduled October school board meeting:
 - Lily and Jaxon joined us as the new student representatives from the Class of 2027. Welcome, and great job to all of our student board representatives who spoke about a number of things, including the district calendar, academic and career planning requirements, post-secondary opportunities, and connected Wednesdays! Thank you for your leadership and engagement in our district!
 - Principal Kelly Lam shared data from the Pre-ACT tests previously given and spoke about the testing culture being developed to support the improvement efforts happening in our district.
 - The school board approved a 4% increase in compensation for all support and administrative staff.
 - Nineteen members, representing the community, parents, clergy, the school board, staff, and health care were approved to serve on the Human Growth and Development Citizens Advisory

- Committee.
- Start College Now applications were approved, supporting requests from approximately two dozen students who are interested in technical college coursework next semester.
 - The 2023-24 district budget was approved, showing a \$649,464.44 deficit. The district certainly will work to outperform this budget, but the district's fund balance will cover up to this amount to balance the revenues being brought in, and the expenses the district faces during the 2023-24 fiscal year.
 - The total property tax levy was approved, showing a 2.19% increase over last year. The mill is \$2.05 per \$1,000 of property or an 8.89% decrease from last year's rate of \$2.25.

Thank you again for your engagement in the work of our district! We have significant budget challenges ahead, with the projection for the 2024-25 school year being almost double the deficit of this year. Please continue to monitor our newsletters, social media, and email communication for future opportunities to engage further in these very important conversations.

A new tool available for all stakeholders to access our school board agendas and supplementary materials is BoardDocs. Please click [here](#) to take a look around! Also, please visit 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.

Go Orioles!



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