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

As the calendar turns to October, we know that all across our district's 225 square miles we will begin to see many indications of the Fall season! From pumpkins to Packers, to hay rides to Homecoming, there are so many things to enjoy during these coming months.

Here are the highlights from the regular Board of Education meeting held on September 30:

- It was great to welcome our student board representatives back after the summer off. We appreciate what was shared about the digital tool Minga, Oriole Time, and Jumpstart to name just a few. Looking forward to this student engagement with us throughout the year!
- Director of Student Services Dr. Stacy Gahan, Special Education Teacher Chris Callaghan, and Learning Support Specialists Dani Klink and Jedd McCormack shared a special education post-secondary transition update. Great work is being done to increase opportunities for these students both with post-secondary education as well as competitive employment. As a result of Ms. Callaghan's work, the district secured a \$100,000 Transition Readiness Grant to support this work!
- Director of Student Services Dr. Stacy Gahan also shared an update on the district's mental health and well-being work. Dr. Gahan provided information on the work of our student services team, our school-based providers, and the Sources of Strength work over the summer with peer leaders.
- The budget hearing followed by the annual meeting will be held on October 28 at 5:45pm in the Drama Lecture Hall. All district taxpayers are welcome and encouraged to attend. As part of that process, the board approved publishing the district's preliminary 2024-25 budget. Difficult decisions have been made, but the district has reduced the projected budget deficit from over \$1.5 million to near \$200,000.
- Lastly, School Board President Tracy Hennes shared an update including encouraging everyone to exercise your right to vote on November 5 and having your voice heard. Please click [here](#) to see all of the information regarding the district's upcoming referendum.

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.

Go Orioles!

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