



October 2, 2023

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

Happy Monday, and what a beautiful stretch of weather as we look ahead to more fall-like temperatures by the end of the week.

Following is a summary of the regularly scheduled school board meeting held on September 25th:

- Student Learning and Achievement
 - Director of Curriculum and Instruction Ms. Stevy Schlieve shared an update on the work being done to foster the educational and life-ready capacities of all learners. The foundational components of this work can be found through a focus on instructional practices, curriculum, grading and assessment, and academic and career planning. I encourage anyone to reach out to Ms. Schlieve to learn more about the work being done to impact our students' achievement.
- Telecommunications Tower
 - Telecommunications companies continue to reach out to the district with interest in placing a cellular tower on the district-owned property. After discussion on the financial incentives being offered, there was no desire or interest at this time to have any ongoing conversations.
- Tennis Complex Update
 - It has been wonderful seeing the district and community benefiting from the new tennis complex that sits just across the street from Hartford Union High School. There have been a few pieces of the project still needing to be completed, and in recent weeks, you may have seen the building, landscaping, and signage of the complex completed. The remaining items to be addressed are tree trimming, replacing the storage unit with a shed, and putting the donated pavers in place to support the project.
- Citizen's Advisory Committees
 - The school board has approved two such committees, one focused on facilities and one serving as our required human growth and development committee. At the board meeting on September 25, the board clarified a few tasks for the facility committee, including the need for monthly updates, the request to assure the committee is truly a representation of our entire district, and that a communications plan is established based upon the needs identified. In regards to the human growth and development committee, the board was not able to come to an agreement on approving the members of the committee and more information on those interested in serving on this team will be provided to the board as we move towards the school board meeting in October.
- 2023-24 Projected District Budget
 - The school board approved the preliminary 2023-24 district budget which is currently \$670,000 over budgeted revenues. The tax levy is projected to increase by 2.19% and the mill rate will decrease from \$2.25 to \$2.05 per \$1000 of a property's assessed value. Mr. Rob Nelson, Executive Director of Business Services/Human Resources and I will host a community

engagement night on Monday, October 16, 2023, from 5-6 p.m. in the Drama Lecture Hall. These are very important financial times for our district, and I highly encourage you to consider attending this opportunity to learn more about school funding and our district's current financial situation.

Thank you again for your engagement in the work of our district! 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!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey A. Walters".

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