



PRIOR LAKE-SAVAGE

AREA SCHOOLS

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we wind down the final weeks of the school year (how can that even be possible), I would like to provide you with an update on where we are with the construction of Hamilton Ridge Elementary, as well as the latest on the K-5 attendance boundary process.

While we continue to move forward with plans for the building and construction of Hamilton Ridge, there has been a project delay that we hope will soon be resolved.

Last month, the Savage Planning Commission approved our school site design; however, the City Council subsequently raised concerns over future traffic in the Big Sky development. As a result, the Council requested PLSAS conduct a traffic study. We did provide a traffic study and City Council asked PLSAS to adjust our site design to add a through-road on school property in order to minimize traffic impact in the Big Sky Estates neighborhood.

Earlier today, the School Board held a special meeting where they unanimously approved an adjusted school site plan, which will be presented to the City Council on May 20 for its approval. The Board also adjusted the date for the land purchase agreement. If the Savage City Council approves the new site plan on May 20, we will be able to maintain our construction schedule for Hamilton Ridge.

In the meantime, for the 2020/21 school year, the School Board has received three K-5 attendance boundary recommendations from an Input Team of staff, parents and community leaders: B1, C1 and C4. No matter which option is chosen, the new elementary attendance boundaries will help ensure we have adequate instructional and co-curricular space throughout our district for our growing student population. Our goal is to maintain K-5 attendance boundaries for five-six years, given consistent growth patterns and housing development.

This has been an inclusive process, based on data, and included an Input Team with staff and parent representation from every elementary school to provide feedback. Throughout the process, the Board has listened to public feedback and is now studying the options.

The Board has adjusted the Study Session on May 20th to begin at 5:00 pm to provide time for regular business and additional attendance boundary discussion. The Board will also set aside time for additional public comment on Monday night. Please know that time will be limited in order to end the meeting in time for Board members and administrators to attend the Savage City Council Meeting at 7:00 pm. The Board is expected to take action on the K-5 boundaries June 10th.

As I'm sure you have noticed, our construction projects that are underway are really coming into focus now that we have been able to enjoy some warmer days. I am grateful for these projects that will provide staff and students with terrific teaching and learning spaces and for our community that is so supportive of PLSAS.

As we approach the last days of the school year, we are committed to finishing the year strong by helping all learners reach their full potential as contributing and productive members of our ever-changing global community. Together, we are PLSAS!

Be well,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Teri Staloch". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Teri Staloch, Ed. D.
Superintendent
Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools