

Parkview Blog – Week of June 26th, 2023

Feeling Supported

Today, as I was driving to school I was looking at the corn fields and seeing how bad they needed rainfall. I grew up on a dairy farm in northwestern Wisconsin and my Dad would always quote that the corn needed to be “knee high by the Fourth of July,” though I think now the quote should be changed to waist or shoulder high by the Fourth of July. The need for rain made me think about how important it is for things to be nourished or supported. Just as the crops need to be nourished by the rain and sun, so individuals also need to be nourished and supported.

What does it mean to feel supported? I think feeling supported is knowing that you have people around you that have your best interests at heart and will stand up for you in moments of need. We all have a need to feel supported. In a school system, this looks like staff supporting their students and their families; administrators supporting their staff; the superintendent supporting the staff and the students; the Board supporting its superintendent; and the community supporting the Board, administrators and staff. We all need to know that when difficult decisions need to be made that someone is standing beside us and is willing to help when assistance is needed.

I have been blessed during my career with being surrounded by great people at work and at home. I have enjoyed being able to come to work and knowing that very talented individuals were working with me to accomplish the necessary tasks needed to lead a school district. I have also had the great privilege of working with Boards that were willing to listen to my recommendations and ideas. They did not agree with all of them and I never expected that they would. I have often told people that my wife loves me and has been married to me for almost forty-four years and she doesn't agree with all my thoughts and ideas.

My hope is that during this upcoming school year, we will each be able to give each other a little grace as we move into the school year. I will do my best to open lines of communication with the Board, staff, students and community by writing weekly blogs and getting into classrooms and co-curricular events on a regular basis. I look forward to engaging people to learn what individuals like best about the Parkview School District and what areas they would like to see changed or modified. I am truly interested in your thoughts and ideas and believe that by working together we can achieve great things.

Since I have come to the Parkview School District, many individuals have told me what a great school district it is and how much they enjoy being here. I am honored to be your new superintendent and cannot wait to help you continue on your journey of educational excellence. Each day I pledge to do whatever I can to support the staff and students on their educational journey and to nourish the community by keeping them informed about what is happening in the

schools on a regular basis. I encourage everyone to help nourish and support the people around them. Life can be difficult and the encouragement you give can often times provide someone with the power and strength to move on. Thank you for the support you have shown in the past and your support in the District's future endeavors.