

April 18, 2024

Blog – Gratitude for Board Service

Why does a person desire to run for a spot on the School Board? Is it to give up two or more free nights each month? Maybe it is to be involved in complex and sensitive matters, where there does not seem to be one right answer. I don't think anyone would say it is for the money. After working with many school board members during my career, I have found out that though there are many reasons individuals decide to run for the school board, all of the reasons center around the main theme of helping create a school district that is a great place to learn for all students, a great place to work for all staff and to create an institution that fosters the values and dreams of the community.

On Monday, April 22, two of our current Board members: Chuck Hagmann and Dianne Myhre will have completed their terms of Board Service. Kerrie Schmidt and Bruce Polheber, Jr. will become the new members of the Parkview School Board. I would like to take this opportunity to say "Thank You" to Chuck and Dianne for the service they have provided to the school district and their tireless work to make this a great place to live and learn. During this past year, I have had the opportunity to work closely with both of these individuals and they will be missed as Board members.

As a Board member, Chuck had a great historical perspective of the operation of the school district. He has served as the clerk of the School Board and a member for the past twelve (12) years. In my dealings and conversations with Chuck, I saw him as an individual who served the residents of the Parkview School District well by asking good questions, paying attention to details and volunteering to take the minutes at our Board of Education meetings, a task I have not seen very many Board clerks do in my past. Dianne has served nine (9) years on the Board and had the position of vice-president during her Board tenure. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with both Chuck and Dianne.

Both Chuck and Dianne wanted to know that we were giving students the classes, skills and opportunities for them to succeed after graduation. They were both strong supporters of our career and technical education classes, our regular and advanced placement opportunities, our fine arts programs and our athletic programs. They, along with all of the other Board members, care very deeply about the Parkview School District and are committed to its future.

Both are also strong supporters of our staff and they wanted to make sure that we were treating all staff in a fair and respectful manner. They were also strong advocates of the many beloved traditions associated with the schools. I am grateful that both dedicated a large portion of their lives to service for the school district because they believed it was one of the most important things that they could do for the community.

At Monday's Board meeting, two new Board members: Ms. Schmidt and Mr. Polheber, Jr. will take the Oath of Office to be members of the School Board. I will enjoy getting to know each of them and working with both of them throughout the next school year. As I get a chance to know them better, I am confident that they want the best for our students, staff and community and will

bring their own unique skills, talents and perspectives to help make our district grow better each year.

If you get an opportunity in the near future to thank a past or present school board member for their service, please do so. They give up more than most people will ever know to help provide vision, direction and leadership to our school district.