



**REDFORD UNION SCHOOLS, DISTRICT NO. 1**  
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August 23, 2022



Dear Panther Families,

I hope you are enjoying what has been another incredibly beautiful Michigan summer. At Redford Union Schools, this summer has been a productive one with the start-up of construction associated with our voter-approved 2021 Capital Bond Project, including significant renovation(s) to Keeler School (this year's home to MacGowan Elementary staff and Pre-K through 1st Grade students), Beech Elementary, and other District property. Additionally, many members of our dedicated team have been working diligently over the past several weeks in preparation for welcoming students and staff back to school, and I wanted to provide a brief update before the school year begins.

With the first full day of school slated for Monday, August 29, 2022, we remain committed to the health and safety of our entire school community, as well as to a successful year ahead focused on the academic and emotional growth of our students. The 2022/23 school year is shaping up to be a very important one, with funding from the federal and state governments providing our District with additional resources so that we can continue to support students and families still feeling the impacts of the pandemic.

In July, Governor Whitmer signed a \$19.6 billion School Aid Budget as passed by the Michigan Legislature, effectively raising per-pupil funding and making significant investments to support our most vulnerable student populations. As a result of the budget, we will also see an increase in funding for essential programs, including mental health services, special education, staff retention, school safety initiatives, and more.

Heading back to school is an exciting time for everyone involved; teachers and other District staff have the opportunity to see their students' smiling faces again, while students are eager to learn and see their friends after months apart. We hope this time is equally exciting for you and other families, as we have the opportunity to work together again to make Redford Union Schools a tradition-rich and future-focused environment where students feel empowered and comfortable to learn and grow.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (313) 242-6002.

We look forward to a successful 2022/23 school year. Thank you for serving with me and our District staff as a partner in your child's (or children's) education.

Sincerely,

Jasen Witt, J.D.  
Superintendent  
Title IX Coordinator