

May 11, 2023

Hello, Panther Families!

As the current school year draws to a close, I wanted to briefly highlight some important things for our Redford Union Schools community for this summer and the 2023/2024 school year. These are exciting times within our District.

- 1. Thanks in large part to our community's support of the zero tax-increase bond proposal, we will have another full summer of construction that will result in continued improvements of our buildings for students and staff. In addition to last summer's renovations at Keeler School and Beech Elementary, the current school-year construction projects at MacGowan School and within our District auditorium and auto shop are well underway and will draw to a close at some point this summer. Additionally, significant classroom and interior corridor renovations will take place this summer at Redford Union High School as that building is transformed into our new Secondary Campus for students in 7th Grade through 12th Grade with the Junior High and High School students occupying defined spaces within this single campus.
- 2. At the Elementary level we are excited for our return to "neighborhood" schools at both Beech Elementary and the renamed Hilbert Elementary. Families will be able to have all of their elementary-aged students in a single building location for these important and formative school years. More information will follow in the weeks ahead so that both our District resident and Schools of Choice families will know which location will be their "home" elementary building. Additionally, as we consider adjustments that will help to improve learning and behavioral outcomes for our students over time, a decision was made to return our 6th Grade students to the Elementary level. Accordingly, both Beech Elementary and Hilbert Elementary will be a "neighborhood" school to students from Kindergarten through 6th Grade beginning with the 2023/2024 school year.
- 3. With the traditional school year drawing to a close, our Summer School programming is right around the corner. While we certainly understand the importance of our kids and families having an opportunity to take advantage of what our summers here in Michigan (and elsewhere) offer, summer learning loss is a reality for many students. Due to this reality, the District will be offering Summer School programming for our students and families during certain periods of summer. For our families of elementary-aged students, the District has partnered with the YMCA to offer some extended-day programming that will offer a mix of summer learning and summer fun. More information on the Summer School opportunities for Elementary, Junior High, and High School students will follow this communication if it hasn't already been shared.

Thank you for your time and for your partnership in your child's (or children's) education.

Stay Panther Strong!

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Jasen Witt Superintendent