Dr. Jon Holmen - Superintendent



Board of Directors Eric Laliberte, President Mark Stuart, Vice President Siri Bliesner, Director Chris Carlson, Director Cassandra Sage, Director

## March 15, 2021 Board Meeting Statement from the Lake Washington School District Board of Directors

The Lake Washington School District (LWSD) Board of Directors welcomes and supports Governor Inslee's announced proclamation requiring all school districts to begin offering hybrid in-person instruction this spring. We believe that, although remote learning has worked for some, for many students the best model of instruction is in-person, in a classroom with their teacher.

This Board also views the Governor's proclamation as a minimum, not a goal. LWSD has always strived to be the highest performing school district in the state, and we have committed to providing every student a high-quality education in an inclusive, equitable, and safe school environment. Even under current conditions and constraints, our values and high standards must remain unchanged.

Accordingly, it is the Board's expectation that LWSD will exceed the requirements of the Governor's proclamation in implementing in-person learning this spring. It is also our expectation that all students who choose to remain in remote instruction will continue to receive high-quality instruction and services. Finally, it is our expectation that, if health and safety guidelines allow, all students in all grades will have the option for full-time in-person instruction next fall. As a Board, we commit to doing everything we can to ensure this happens.

As parents ourselves, we know that the past year has presented unique challenges for every family. We are grateful to our students and families for their resilience, grace, and commitment to learning. We know that it hasn't been easy.

We are also grateful for our teachers and staff who have continuously adapted during the past year and who have been unwavering in their commitment to our students. We know that a successful and safe transition back into classrooms requires partnership with our teachers and staff. Consistent with our shared values, we expect that the District and our labor partners will swiftly negotiate an in-person learning model in good faith and with a focus on what is best for our students.

This statement will be read at the March 15, 2021 Board Meeting.