

Board President's Report

September 19, 2022

Jacob Wyland

Today marks 3 weeks since the start of school. We are pleased to report that the first few weeks have been a great start for our students and families. We are looking forward to a wonderful school year that gets back to a more normal setting following the last three.

The School Board and Superintendent have met and mutually agreed upon goals for the 2022-2023 school year. Tomorrow morning, the Superintendent's goals will be posted on the District's website for public view.

This will be the last time that Dr. Steinhauer works along with our Board to set goals for the school year, as he has notified us of his intent to retire at the end of this school year, in June of 2023. While this isn't when I will share my most heartfelt send-off, I do want to take this time to extend my sincerest gratitude for his strong leadership and work in the Mt. Lebanon School District. And I would like to thank him for giving us a full school year to complete our search for a suitable replacement.

The search process has begun as of last week with the District completing and sending out RFPs to a list of consulting firms that work in the field of education. Additionally, the RFP has been placed on the District's website and on social media. The deadline for submission is on October 28. Submissions from the search consultants are being collected by Kristen James at the administration building.

Also, this evening we have the honor to recognize an employee for an extra mile award. Mr. Jeremy DeLuca who is a music teacher and the percussion director with our District was nominated by over 32 families.

Each nomination was heart-felt and sincere in their gratitude for the work of Mr. DeLuca.

In one nomination, a parent writes, *"More than anything, Jeremy goes the extra mile every day to ensure that every student is seen for exactly who they are. He brings out the best in everyone and holds his students to the highest standards..."*

Another writes, *"endorsing Jeremy for the extra mile award doesn't even approach how thankful I am for all of the exceptional work that he has done not only for my son but for all of the members of the percussion program past or present."*

One family said, “Jeremy is clearly an outstanding teacher of music, but he is so, so much more than that. His positivity was unrivaled during the pandemic when he not only kept up spirits by communications and sheer force of will, but he also made tough decisions such as canceling concerts, travel, or other events. He did this with grace, kindness, and a strong core of responsible leadership.”

If I were to continue with excerpts from all of the letters, we would be here for quite a long time this evening. My takeaway from reading these submissions is that Mr. DeLuca is a wonderful and deserving recipient of this award and we are pleased to welcome him this evening to accept it.