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**Emmett School District  
Superintendent's Report September 16, 2024**

**District Updates**

As we conclude our fourth week of the school year, I am proud to share that we have successfully transitioned to a four-day school week for our students. This shift represents more than just a change in scheduling; it reflects our deep commitment to making decisions that are in the best interest of both our students and staff. This decision was grounded in careful consideration of what will best serve our educational community in both the short and long term.

As we move forward, it is essential to recognize that the heart of our district extends beyond academics. For example, our Emmett Middle School staff and students came together in a moving ceremony to honor the victims of 9/11, demonstrating to our students they are part of a community that values connection, respect, and remembrance.

September 12th I received a call every superintendent dreads—one of our buses was involved in an accident with a large tractor-trailer. Driving to the scene, unsure of what I would find, I realized how much more our school district is than just bus schedules or classrooms. Thankfully, all were safe, and it was another reminder of how our dedicated staff go above and beyond every day.

There have also been uplifting moments—like when our teachers and administrators received unexpected praise from students and parents for making a positive impact on their lives. Or when we came together as a school community to celebrate our hometown traditions with the Homecoming Parade. These connections are what truly define the Emmett School District. We are more than the numbers; we are a family.

Yet, with this sense of family also comes great concern. As I sit here today, my thoughts go out to a young student who was struck by a vehicle while crossing Highway 52 and Mill Road Thursday evening. This intersection is dangerous, and tragically, it has claimed lives and devastated families in our community. For years, the Emmett School District has advocated for improved safety at this intersection. We have reached out to the Idaho Department of Transportation, requested speed limit reductions, and collaborated with the county roads department in asking for a stoplight.

Now, we are faced with another tragedy. When is enough, enough? Do we, as a district and community, take matters into our own hands? Should we work with the city and county to install flashing pedestrian lights along the highway, even without state approval? Should we place flashing red stop signs on Mill Road, north and southbound, to protect our children and residents?

As superintendent, I am tired of waiting for state action. I am ready to move forward with solutions that can save lives. This is a call to action for our entire community. We must demand that both Highway 16 and 52 be made safe for our schoolchildren and everyone in Emmett. Together, we can and must protect our future.

Thank you for your time and continued support.