Greetings,

Considering everything that's been going over that last couple of weeks, I thought I'd keep it light this week. I think we all need a little reprieve from all the stuff. So let's talk about snow and Super Bowls!

First, I think we've all gotten way too comfortable with mild winters and have forgotten what winters used to be like. You know, like the fact that it snows during the winter months. I don't recall the last time we had multiple snowstorms in one season. If anything, I remember having to wait until late February or early March to get some skiing in because aside from artificial snow, the mountains weren't getting much. Yet, not only has it been somewhat cold this year, but we've had snow several times already. And it looks like we are getting two storms in the next few days, one on Saturday night and one again Tuesday evening into Wednesday. We're keeping a close eye on next week's storm as it might impact us on Wednesday. As much as we used to wish for a snow day or two, we don't have any snow days built into this year's calendar, so should we close, we'll have to make up the day in the Spring, starting with Memorial Day weekend and then going into the April break. So I wonder, will people still be wearing their pajamas inside out or putting spoons underneath their pillows? Regardless, I'll keep everyone posted and should a decision to close be made, I promise to notify everyone as early as possible. Now we'll just have to wait and see. But to answer Olaf's question, *no, I don't want to build a snowman*.

Aside from waking up to snow on Sunday, I'm sure many of us will be tuned into the Super Bowl to see if the Chiefs are able to do what's never been done - that is win three Super Bowls in a row. While there might be a sentiment that the country is somewhat divided right now, dare I say that I think most Americans don't want that to happen? What is it about the Chiefs that has garnered so much hate? I mean even Giant fans who really have a hatred for the Eagles are rooting for the Eagles! (*Okay, maybe not all of them.*) Maybe it's the whole Taylor Swift thing. But love her or hate her, everyone's kinda talking about the Chiefs and in terms of marketing, just saying that perhaps it's genius. I've decided to go into this year's Super Bowl with an open mind - I'll root for the Eagles while listening to Taylor Swift songs.

I can appreciate how all of the above is a lot of gibberish. But sometimes we need to take a break from everything that's so serious. There's a lot, I know. This weekend, let's embrace the snow and how pretty it can be; and enjoy the Super Bowl, a great American tradition that brings people together. Besides the competition, there are the commercials and the halftime show - so much entertainment! And for those of you who are not football fans, there is always the Puppy Bowl! Above and beyond all this, maybe take a moment this weekend to engage in a little gratitude, just a minute or two to appreciate what you might be fortunate for. Despite these challenging times, for me, I feel fortunate to be in a position where I can hopefully make a positive impact, and fortunate to be here in South Country.

As always, it's a real privilege serving this community as your superintendent of schools. Have a great weekend, *Shake it Off,* and go Eagles!

Tony Santana

#clipper**PRIDE**