## Tom Strickler

Superintendent of Schools

## November and December Board Meeting Schedule

To begin tonight, I want to remind our community of a few adjustments to our upcoming Board meeting schedule.

Typically, we meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. However, with our annual Board Reorganization Meeting required during the first week of December, we've adjusted our November and December calendars.

Our November Action Meeting will be held next Tuesday, November 17, at 6 p.m.

In December, we'll hold our Reorganization and Workshop Meeting on Tuesday, December 1, followed by our Action Meeting on Tuesday, December 15.

We encourage our community to mark these dates and continue staying engaged with the work of our Board.

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## This Is My Elizabethtown Story

I also want to share another new communications initiative we launched this week called This Is My Elizabethtown Story.

This student-centered series gives our students an opportunity to share, in their own words, the experiences, relationships, challenges, and opportunities that are shaping their time at EASD.

It's part of our broader effort to tell the Elizabethtown story, but what makes this series different is that we're letting our students tell their own stories rather than telling those stories for them.

Our first features highlight Bella's experience finding her place behind the camera, Hunter's preparation for a future in agriculture, Morgan and Jane's growth through NextGen Orchestra, and Matthew's experience continuing his learning at EASD.

Each story is different, but together they highlight the impact of our teachers, programs, and opportunities on the students we serve.

We encourage our families and community members to visit etownschools.org to explore these stories, and we look forward to sharing many more student perspectives throughout the year.

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## Secondary School Complex Building Project

I also want to provide a brief update on the Secondary School Complex Building Project, particularly our efforts to involve students and staff in the design process.

Recently, a group of High School students representing all four grade levels participated in a focus group with representatives from RLPS Architects. Our teachers also participated in a separate session.

These conversations gave students and staff an opportunity to review preliminary building concepts, ask questions, and provide feedback on everything from classroom locations and shared spaces to parking, traffic flow, and outdoor learning opportunities.

I think it's especially important that the people who use our schools every day have opportunities to help inform the planning process.

And that engagement will continue. We're planning a similar opportunity for community members after the new year, with additional details to be shared as plans are finalized.

We appreciate the thoughtful participation of our students and teachers as we continue working through this important project.

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## Veterans Day Ceremony

And to conclude my announcements this evening, I want to recognize an important event taking place tomorrow.

On Wednesday, November 11, at 10:15 a.m., Elizabethtown Area High School will host its annual Veterans Day Ceremony in the High School auditorium.

This meaningful tradition brings together students, staff, families, and local veterans to honor the men and women who have served our nation.

The program will include musical performances, student readings and reflections, the presentation of colors by our Navy National Defense Cadet Corps Color Guard, and special recognition of veterans in attendance.

The ceremony will also be livestreamed on our District YouTube channel, allowing families and community members to join us virtually. A link to the livestream is available on our District website at etownschools.org.

I'm looking forward to joining our students and community members for this ceremony and expressing our appreciation to those who have served.

To all of our veterans, thank you for your service, your sacrifice, and your commitment to our country.