



February 12, 2021

Dear SBCSC families,

On Monday, our Board of School Trustees voted to allow elementary school students to return to in-person learning four days a week starting the 22nd of this month. On Tuesday, February 16, students attending Darden Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, and Swanson Traditional will begin that schedule. I want to thank Darden's principal Patty Karban, Lincoln's principal Tracy Strieder, and Swanson's principal Amy Troyer, and all of their teachers and staff for their work and preparation as we begin this transition from the hybrid schedule. To all who have helped make this possible; from the careful consideration of our Board members to the safety protocols enforced by our bus drivers, to the extra efforts of maintenance staff, our teachers, parents, nurses, paraprofessionals, counselors, and special education teachers—all of you have made a difference in keeping our COVID numbers down so we can now work toward getting our students back into the classroom.

To those of you who attended the meetings with family or staff for Marquette Montessori and Muesel Elementary reorganization discussion this past Wednesday, and those who took part in last week's meetings regarding Hay and Tarkington Elementary, thank you. Your feedback and concerns are heard and appreciated, and I am grateful to work within a community so dedicated to providing support to our learners, families, and educators. We are always searching for ways to deepen our community partnerships, and we look forward to chatting with many of you about your plans and hopes for the future of our district.

I wish our third graders at Nuner Fine Arts Academy the best of luck as they press on into the "Read to the Final Four" competition. Nuner Knights are in the top 68 out of 300 groups to advance to the final bracket-style competition. We are thrilled by the many hours of reading this group has put in, and the incredible progress they have made as readers over the past few months. I'd like to thank their teachers, Courtney Baranay, Emily Heynacher, and Anne Lewandowski for supporting these students.

As a reminder, although our schools and offices are closed in observance of President's Day on Monday February 15, please remember to join the working Board session at 5:30 p.m. via the SBCSC YouTube page.

Enjoy your Valentine's Day weekend, and don't forget to unplug, read a book, or watch a classic film. Keep up the good work with mask-wearing, hand washing, and social distancing. Your efforts are truly making a difference. I'm slowly completing the middle school Battle of the Books list. I'm currently finishing *Sal and Gabi Break the Universe* by Carlos Hernandez and just started *The Peculiar Incident on Shady Street* by Lindsay Currie. I'm looking forward to the May competition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Todd Cummings".

C. Todd Cummings, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools