



ANTIOCH SCHOOL DISTRICT 34

Inspiring personal excellence.

Dr. Bradford Hubbard, Superintendent

May 28, 2020

Dear Antioch School District 34 Stakeholder,

"I miss them already." - #HubbardSisters

My daughters, Calla (10) and Bryn (8), have for years said, "I miss them already," immediately upon leaving, walking away from, or pulling out of the driveway of grandparents, family, and friends. Since they were little, I have found this to be adorable, sweet, thoughtful, and a sign of how much they love those around them. Additionally, to inspire that instant emotion and spark that genuine reaction, they must reciprocally feel that same love.

Today was the last day of school for our #D34Pride students and staff. In exiting my office this evening and sitting down in the front seat of my car, before I could even turn the key in the ignition, "I miss them already" started racing through my head. Now, it consumes me.

Some of you I have known for years, some I have been lucky enough to meet recently, and others I have not had the pleasure of your acquaintance just yet. Regardless, I have worked as hard as I know how to serve you and provide you with the love, support, care, dedication, decision-making, and leadership that you deserve. This has been an incredibly difficult situation for us all, but every time I have felt intimidated, overwhelmed, or uncertain, I have taken a step back and reminded myself that my family and I have, thus far, been spared so much of the pain, grief, fear, and direct impact that so many others have faced, navigated, and been dealt. This realization and reminder has kept me grounded, focused, and inspired to stay the course and find the resolve to make it to where we have found ourselves today – the end of the school year.

I have tried in many ways and through a variety of vehicles to articulate just how honored and humbled I am to be here. Sitting in my seat in D34 is like sitting atop a powder keg. The last two and a half months have taught me a lot, but more importantly, it has given me so much appreciation for the capacity, achievements, potential, and success of this place and the people that make it a living, breathing organism. I am motivated by how you have reacted to the unknown and so proud of the way you finished this school year. From our staff, to our students, to our families, to our community, everyone has done their part to respond to a global health crisis and do what we could to ensure it did not become an educational crisis in the process. We adapted, adjusted, and accepted a new reality and a challenge unlike anything we have ever seen. You are remarkable. You are extraordinary. You are amazing.

On the eve of the first day of your summer vacation, I encourage you to find some time to reflect on and take stock of all you have accomplished this year; especially in how far you/we have come in these last few months. You have earned this break and you have earned my respect. Take the summer to connect, show gratitude, love, read, learn, play, grow, and give. Know that come next Fall, regardless of our reality at the time, D34 will stand ready and be prepared to serve you, your needs, your wants, your goals, your wishes, and your dreams.

I wish our 8th grade graduates the best of luck and fortune in high school, and I wish our retirees the best of health and happiness in their retirement. Know you will always be considered a critical part of our D34 Family.

Be well, healthy, and safe.

I miss you already...

Dr. Bradford Hubbard
Superintendent

Antioch School District 34

964 Spafford Street
Antioch, IL 60002
847-838-8401

Mary Kay McNeill Early Learning Center

817 N. Main Street
Antioch, IL 60002
847-838-8901

Hillcrest Elementary School

433 E. Depot Street
Antioch, IL 60002
847-838-8001

Oakland Elementary School

818 E. Grass Lake Road
Lake Villa, IL 60046
847-838-8601

W.C. Petty Elementary School

850 Highview Drive
Antioch, IL 60002
847-838-8101

Antioch Upper Grade School

800 Highview Drive
Antioch, IL 60002
847-838-8301

www.antioch34.com