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To: Board of Education
From: Dr. Mark Maus, Superintendent
Re: Superintendent Update
Date: February 19, 2025

Members of the Board of Education,

Each month, there will be an update to the Board highlighting our work within our district and the community. Strong communication and partnerships are part of our strategic plan and essential to our work. Topics for this month will include:

- Feed Northland Kids
- Get on the Bus Event through Real-World Learning EMKF
- Calendar Update

Student and Staff Recognition

Real-World Learning Student Voice Ambassadors:

This year's Student Voice Ambassadors have been actively representing their peers and our district through leadership, collaboration, and service. They have participated in peer meetings at the Kauffman Foundation Conference Center, completing client projects as part of their program. Their involvement extended to College and Career Day at the high school, where they served as ambassadors, escorting industry partners throughout the building. Looking ahead, they will sit on a panel at the middle school before registration, sharing insights on elective and practical arts classes to help younger students make informed choices. Most recently, the ambassadors attended the Get on the Bus luncheon at Union Station on January 30, joining over 600 attendees for this impactful event. Each student played a key role:

- Autumn Blankenship (Senior) – Speaker/Award Presenter
- Andrea Burns (Junior) – Greeter/Interviewer
- Alexis David (Junior) – Speaker/Program Narrator
- Charlie Lamer (Senior) – Production Assistant/Stage Crew

Their dedication and leadership continue to make a difference in our schools and beyond!

Joelie McCrary - Grow Your Own MPER Spotlight:

As part of our membership through the University of Missouri Partnership of Education Renewal (MPER), we have multiple ways to learn about research-based, learn from other districts, and share our story. Having a strong teacher pipeline is something districts across the country are working on, and it continues to be a focus for MPER districts. Recently, MPER set up an opportunity for districts across the state to learn from local districts that positively impact the profession. Mrs. Joelie McCrary was able to share on behalf of Smithville and specifically shared about how to set up and implement a high school course. She discussed everything from curriculum to implement to how to set up student internships.