



Welcome Back Brooke Bass, Board President

Good morning!

I am so happy to be here with you in person today and not some giant head on a screen.

On behalf of the entire Board of Education, I want to extend a heartfelt welcome back to each and every one of you. Whether you're a classroom teacher, a counselor, a custodian, a bus driver, an aide, a principal, or anyone in between—thank you. You are the heartbeat of our schools, and it's your hard work, care, and commitment that make our district a place where students can thrive.

So much work was done this summer. The facilities team worked tirelessly on our buildings inside and outside. It is exciting to see all the planning of Phase 2 of the capital project come to life and I hope you all enjoy improvements. Providing the ideal environment for optimal learning is essential for our students. The board was thrilled to see the amount of professional development and training that took place over the summer. We're in the business of educating, so it's a testament to your dedication that you took the time during your summer months to keep educating yourselves.

This year, we face new changes, as we always do. The new phone policy comes to mind. Though this policy change was mandated by law, the policy itself was a result of a lot of thought and discussions amongst many and the board strongly supports it. I suspect it

may be a little rocky at first (I have teenagers) but I'm hopeful that as we head into the fall this will quickly become a non-issue.

Other challenges will undoubtedly come up through the year—but I have every confidence that with your professionalism, creativity, and resilience, we will meet them head-on. As a board, we are committed to supporting you.

At one of our final meetings of last year, the building administrators provided the board with a curriculum review. And I will repeat now what I said at the meeting. Good work is being done in our buildings. Sometimes the good work is drowned out by all the outside noise- but that doesn't mean it's not happening. So thank you for being the educators, mentors, and role models our students need. I want you to know that the board sees the work and very much appreciates the work.

Wishing you a joyful, productive, and successful school year ahead.