



WOODBURY CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A Leader in Personalizing Education

June 19, 2020

Dear Woodbury School Community,

As this school year comes to a close, I want us to take the time to reflect on our practice and collectively celebrate the tremendous achievements of our students during this year. A few months ago, the world came to a near grinding halt due to the COVID-19 health crisis. Our community made the choice to continue moving forward to support our students and to establish a “new normal” during this unprecedented time that was marked by a genuine commitment to serve students and meet their needs with care and compassion.

We have witnessed our school community meet the challenges that Covid-19 presented with great resolve; together, our students, staff and families have attacked this challenge with adaptability, fortitude, and grace. Teachers found new ways to teach and connect with students and parents, while our students found new ways to learn and engage with their teachers and classmates. Our parent community took on new roles and worked tirelessly to support their children and schools. We should all feel a sense of pride when we reflect on what was accomplished over these last few months. Although it has not been perfect, it has been inspiring and I thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Message to the Class of 2020: To our graduating senior class of 2020, you have demonstrated a depth of character that the entire Woodbury community can be proud of and celebrate. As your superintendent, an educator and a father, I have a deep appreciation for the sacrifices you have made during this time. There are no words that can make up for what has been lost or changed, but please know that you will forever be remembered for your strength and tenacity as you navigated a senior year that was far from what anyone could have envisioned. On behalf of the Woodbury City Board of Education, district staff and the entire community, we salute you. You have made an indelible mark on the Woodbury community and we wish you well as you embark upon this next exciting phase of your life’s journey.



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What's Next: Our district administrative team is working diligently on planning for the 2020-2021 school year. We will provide our staff and community with updates and solicit your direct feedback as we continue this critical work, so please check your email regularly. We are asking you to fill out this [Parent/Guardian](#) survey as a way to gather data to help us make informed decisions.

This district will form a re-entry team that will consist of administrators, board members, teachers, non-instructional staff, parents and student representation. This team will work together to construct a plan for learning for the 2020-21 academic school year.

Respect and Care for Each Other: Finally, I wanted to say a few words in light of the events that have gripped our nation in recent weeks. As one of the most diverse school districts in the area, Woodbury's strength can be found in our diversity and our willingness to unite as one. As such, we abhor racial injustice or inequality. Together, in partnership with our students and families, we will continue to support a culture that celebrates diversity and promote an educational environment of respect and tolerance.

Thank you again for your unparalleled partnership and support during this challenging year. On behalf of the Board of Education and our district, we hope you and your families have a joyful, rejuvenating and safe summer.

Educationally yours,
Andrew T. Bell, Sr.