



## School District of the City of Iron Mountain

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Dear Mountaineer families,

As time is drawing near for the May 2, 2023 “One Campus for Everyone” bond election, I wanted to send one last brief communication specifically to our elementary families.

As I’m sure you are aware, this referendum has the greatest impact on Early Kindergarten through sixth grade children. Our school board, teachers, support staff, and administrators are excited about the incredible positive impact our proposal offers our students and families. There is no doubt, if this proposal passes, that Iron Mountain schools would be able to offer new and improved programming that would be second to none and the best in our area.

One of the distinct advantages of this proposal in the proposed plan is to remove fifth and sixth grade from the middle and high school aged children. Placing East Elementary students (fifth and sixth grade) back with elementary students is, without a doubt, the best for children in that age group. Educationally and developmentally speaking, fifth and sixth grade students belong with elementary aged children.

There are many other significant positive changes this proposal could offer if passed, too many to list. However, some of these changes would be new learning spaces, improved safety and security measures, better coverage for specialized services and new services currently not offered to North Elementary students. We propose new learning opportunities, and better access for parents and to all of our EK-12 staff, in addition to a host of other major positive educational changes.

The school district understands a project of this magnitude costs. However, we feel very strongly that we have proposed a project that not only addresses our immediate needs, but ensures a strong healthy school district for our children and families for the foreseeable future. When we discuss the cost of educating and partnering to raise children, most of us immediately focus on the monetary cost. However, we know that raising children has mental, emotional, and physical costs as well. While it is true this proposal will pose a financial cost to families, we believe the investment into children is the very best investment we can make.

Thank you again for choosing our district to partner with you in educating your children. We hope to be able to grow for many years to come in and we are certainly excited about the opportunity. **Please remember to vote on May 2, 2023.**

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jerry Sardina'.

Jerry Sardina  
Superintendent