



ALLEN PARK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

an uncompromising commitment to excellence

Riley Education Center

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Michael H. Darga
Superintendent of Schools

January 24, 2019

Dear APPS Staff and Community Members,

The month of January marks the observance of School Board Recognition Month. This is an opportunity to show our year-round appreciation for these servant leaders and begin to better understand how they work together to prepare today's students to be tomorrow's leaders. They are the true super heroes contributing to the success of our students – ordinary citizens with extraordinary dedication to public schools.

As a state, Michigan has faced many challenges, but the key to a brighter future is a strong public education system. Public education is the backbone of American society, and local school boards are deeply rooted in U.S. tradition. It's the foundation on which our democracy was built. The Allen Park Board of Education continues to do the most important work of the community – that of educating our youth.

Our school board members establish a vision for the education program, design a structure to achieve that vision, ensure our schools are accountable to the community and strongly advocate for continuous improvement in student learning. The job of a school board member is tough, the hours long and the thanks few and far between. Too often we're quick to criticize school board members without really understanding the complex nature of their decisions. Now's the time to thank them for their untiring efforts!

We are asking all members of the community to take a moment and thank a school board member. Whether you personally see them out and about, write them a note, send a card or attend a meeting – they will appreciate hearing from you.

At the Board of Education meeting on January 28, 2019 beginning at 7:00 p.m., students from Allen Park High School will play an important role in honoring the members of the Board of Education this year. APHS Art and Career & Technical students, along with their teachers, Ms. Jelane Richardson and Mr. Jeff Goulasarian, are creating a special gift for board members, and members of the APHS Jazz Band, under the direction of Ms. Kristi Kruger, will perform a few musical selections.

Thank you to the men and women who dedicate countless personal hours to ensure the needs of our community are met by our public schools. We salute the public servants of APPS whose dedication and civic responsibility make local control of public schools in our community possible. We applaud them for their vision, voice and commitment to improving student achievement and fighting for the best for all of our students.

The men and women serving the Allen Park Public School District are: *Mr. Michael Klein, Mr. Robert Loyd, Mrs. Jeannette MacDonald, Mr. Gordon Miller, Mr. Rick Moynihan, Mrs. Julie Sheppard and Dr. Jennifer Warren.*

Sincerely,

Michael H. Darga
Superintendent of Schools

Allen Park Board of Education

Gordon Miller, President • Michael Klein, Vice President Operations • Robert Loyd, Vice President Human Resources
Jeannette MacDonald, Vice President Teaching & Learning • Rick Moynihan, Vice President Extracurricular Issues
Julia Sheppard, Secretary • Jennifer Warren, Treasurer