

Super News 9-5-19

Families & Educators of CCSD,

We welcomed a number of families new to Clear Creek this year. It's exciting getting to know our families, discovering the gifts each new student brings to our school community. And, it's inspiring to see how inclusive our Clear Creek students are as they welcome new friends. That's a tribute to the adults in Clear Creek who help our students be great people. Thank you!

We had some great news last week as the Colorado Department of Education released new performance ratings for schools and districts. A School Performance Framework (SPF) is one measure of how a school or district is performing, and it uses standardized testing information to calculate these ratings. It's based on the prior year's academic performance on Colorado Measure of Academic Success (CMAS) as well as secondary measures such as graduation rates. Every school in CCSD is now rated "performance", as is the district as a whole.

Another celebration is recent action taken by our Board of Education to put additional dollars into compensation. Already having approved an increase earlier this summer, the Board revised the plan to differently impact teachers with additional years and/or education. This will certainly support our educator recruitment and retention efforts. And, as we recognize the complex work our educators do in our district, these are the types of conversations we need to continue.

The Board has also taken under consideration a request from CCCEA, the Clear Creek County Education Association, to be recognized as a collective bargaining unit. CCCEA has shared their rationale of desiring a process for their voice to be included in decisions and to have bargaining rights in compensation conversations. These are important concerns for which to seek a solution. A collective bargaining unit will require a contract to be written and agreed upon between the Board and the educators. Additionally, the groups will engage in negotiations annually. Teachers in our district care deeply about working collaboratively and feel their voice can move the district forward.

I'll end on a great quote by George Couros, "Whatever individual learners need to succeed is where we begin. Innovative teaching and learning is about creating opportunities that empower all learners -including us- to thrive."

Future Super News editions will be tailored to families one week, and educators the next. I'm looking forward to sharing specific information with both groups.

Thank you for your support of our kids in Clear Creek!

Warmly,

Karen Quanbeck

Superintendent & Chief Learner

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