



June 10, 2020

Elmbrook Families,

Your partnership in the education of your children has never been more necessary and evident than in these past twelve weeks. Thank you for helping us navigate virtual learning and for inspiring and supporting the extraordinary effort of our students. We are so proud of our students, staff and our entire school district for what we have accomplished together.

As shared in Dr. Hansen's video message sent earlier today and linked below, there were several key agenda items at last night's board meeting. The most significant of these were the Citizens Forum, where stakeholders can speak on any topic not on the Board agenda that evening, Facility Reopening for Summer Activities, and the approval of our School Reopening Task Force Membership.

Citizens Forum Comments

Several current and former students, as well as other stakeholders, participated in the Citizens Forum and shared several perspectives about how their education in Elmbrook fell short in the areas of racial dialogue and understanding, equity, and social justice. The feedback was honest and sincere, and was centered on helping our District serve our current and future students in improved ways.

While our equity work the past two years has focused on student opportunity and equitable access to the curriculum, our students and alumni have reminded us that we must also address our curriculum, culture and workforce diversity if we are to meet our objective of preparing students for life, college and career.

As we do with any complex challenge, our District leadership team and school board is committed to working together with our students, families, and alumni to address issues of race, equity, and opportunity in our schools. Last night's feedback was another step forward in a long journey that will help our district become better.

In addition to the Citizens Forum comments, a petition was circulated last week and signed by over 1,400 alumni with specific calls for action. Also, several personal experiences and reflections were shared via a Google form that will be posted in the Board Meeting minutes at the July Board Meeting. To view the Citizens Forum comments, go to this Board Meeting [video](#) and fast forward to 15 minutes to begin the agenda item.

Task Force Membership Approval

The Board of Education approved a 34-person task force designed to guide School Reopening in the Fall. The District received interest from 253 staff and family members willing to serve on the Task Force, and used a variety of lenses to select and recommend membership. More information about the Task Force, including a list of the members, can be found on this [webpage](#). Families will receive regular updates from the District on the Task Force's work as it unfolds over the summer.

Facility Reopening for Summer Activities

The Board of Education approved the administration's use [group size recommendations](#) issued by the Waukesha County Health Department (currently set to 100 people) to determine School District of Elmbrook facility access for internal and external uses while also directing administration to pass along COVID 19 cleaning costs as appropriate. This guidance will inform the District's approach to summer camps, park and recreation activities, and external group needs. More information will be communicated by the coordinating group, as guidelines, procedures, and timelines are established.

Superintendent Video

Superintendent Hansen's [June update](#) was sent to families and staff earlier this afternoon.

Virtual Learning Survey

Thank you for the 1,700 responses we have already received on our end-of-year virtual learning survey sent to all families. If you have yet to complete it, you will receive a reminder email prompt Thursday morning. The deadline to complete the survey is Tuesday, June 16.

Thank you again for your commitment to education and for an amazing school year!

Have a great summer!

Chris Thompson
Chief Strategy Officer