February 2022

To the Residents of RSU #3:

The start of the 2021-22 School Year brought RSU 3 back to “normal” 5-day, in-person learning. While it wasn’t exactly like school pre-COVID, having our students back in school and to continue to maintain the in-person learning has been our goal since the start of the pandemic. Our students and staff have had to navigate through every changing state COVID expectations; including physical distancing, masking, and more.

Throughout this year, I am again grateful for the support of our schools from our families and greater school community. As we continue to progress through the school year and beyond, we will continue our efforts to build relationships within our school community and beyond. I do want to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of all the staff in RSU #3. They have brought their best efforts to working with our youth this year and deserve a huge thank you.

This past year, the pandemic brought new challenges to RSU 3 that have also been seen in the private sector. Staffing has been a significant obstacle this year. A shortage of substitutes in all areas, a lack of applicants for open positions, and more have proved to be difficult for all of us in RSU 3. There have been position openings in RSU 3 since the school year began.

RSU 3 continues to access and utilize Federal Grant monies available to schools. Grant monies have been used for facility improvements to include ventilation, energy efficiency, and sanitation; student supports to include additional academic support staff, social & emotional resources, and additional health support (staff, pooled testing, rapid testing); and staff supports including instructional practice training, assessment training, and social & emotional training.

Our schools continue to work hard to support our students, implementing new methods of instruction to meet their needs in this ever changing environment. We continue to support our students and staff with adequate access to technology for instruction. The high school continues to make growth and meet the needs of their students by redesigning the course offerings and clarifying procedures and expectations for students. Although we have made great progress, there is always more work to be done.

The administration and the RSU 3 Board of Directors are working diligently to build a budget that is fiscally responsible while meeting the ever-changing needs of our students. As we progress through the next few months, I look forward to continued conversations with stakeholders that allow us to move our school system forward in a positive direction.

Again, I want to emphasize my gratitude to the support our communities have for the education of all of our students. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Mr. Charles D. Brown,

Superintendent of Schools