

## HOPE NOTE

June 1, 2019

All HOPE Teams met on May 16<sup>th</sup> to begin planning for the 19-20 school year initiative: Creating the Ideal Learning Experience (ILX) for our students. To clarify, the ILX reflects our “ideal best” for students in our district. The ILX means that every hour of every day...each learner:

- Is met at his/her learning level;
- Understands the relevancy of what he/she is learning;
- Is challenged and successful;
- Is learning skills and concepts; and
- Looks forward to coming back tomorrow.

That may seem like a tall order, but we owe it to our students to deliver. As mentioned in previous HOPE Notes, this initiative rose to the top of the list in our January meeting and fully aligns with our mission statement. Prior to the meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup>, we asked each participant to complete a survey, indicating the things that needed to change in order to reach our ideal best. During the meeting, we worked in teams (K-12) to identify root causes of any barriers to reaching our ILX. Finally, just as we did when planning our SEL initiative for the 18-19 school year, we ranked all root causes to identify the top 5.

An ILX subcommittee will be meeting on June 4<sup>th</sup> to review meeting notes and prepare recommendations for the leadership team to develop our district-wide action plan this summer. As we begin our **courageous** journey to re-imagine school for our students, take some time to visit the link below (thanks to Patty Frye) and ask yourselves the question: What is school for?

But first, prepare yourselves. The contents may shake the very foundation of your existing work, but don't let that deter you. We are all operating within our current system because it is familiar. It doesn't make us bad people or poor employees. However, we are obligated to re-imagine education once we realize that the system is no longer viable for a growing number of students. So, what is school for? Let's talk about it. ☺

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PsLRgEYf9E&vI=en>

Thank you for another successful school year. You have done an amazing job implementing SEL, district-wide. Our journey was *not* perfect, but we made a great deal of progress and I am honored to lead this district. Once all of our data are in, I will be sharing some of this year's successes with you in August during my opening address. I wish you the very best as you begin your summer break in the coming days, and look forward to continuing our journey in the fall. Take care and be well.

In partnership,

Tamara Willis, Ph.D.  
Superintendent

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### Piece of the Puzzle



Each and every one who gave your very best in the service of our students during the 2018-2019 school year. We cannot succeed without you.