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Michael G. Maguire
Superintendent

June 5, 2020

Dear Union Ridge Families and Staff,

As we enter our summer break, I want to touch base with our school community. Our students missed out on many opportunities due to the immediate closing of schools on March 19th, 2020 because of Covid-19. Eighth grade students had a virtual graduation, field trips were missed, athletics were cancelled and students missed out on valuable hours of instruction with their teachers. Combine all of these disappointments with the fact that students were away from their friends and valuable social emotional growth opportunities. Students not only learn from their teachers, they learn from their peers.

One of the many events that was cancelled this past year was our Husky of the Year Assembly. This assembly recognizes character. Students are selected for this honor by their grade level teachers. Each year, we choose a student from each grade to receive this honor. This is one of my favorite assemblies because the criteria to win this award is based on the Husky qualities. Teamwork, Determination, Loyalty, Be Strong, Work Hard, be a Husky. These students model excellence in character and demonstrate kindness, acceptance and tolerance on a daily basis. These students help enhance the positivity of our school climate and culture.

As I watch the news these days, I can't help but think about the sad realities we face as a society. The tragedy in Minneapolis reminds us to maintain compassion for all viewpoints and beliefs. We, at Union Ridge School, do our best to help our students develop a strong moral compass and embrace diversity. I'm always impressed with the way children accept each other; we can all learn from them. Let's continue to talk with our children and help them process their feelings. These are very difficult days in our world and sometimes children just need to be heard.

I'm wishing each of you a fun and safe summer. If you need any support during this time, please feel free to reach out to me or any other staff member at Union Ridge School.

Sincerely,



Michael Maguire
Superintendent