SPARTANS
SOLON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Solon CSD
301 South Iowa Street
Solon, IA 52333
319-624-3401 · 319-624-2518 (fax)
www.solon.k12.ia.us

Date: September 9, 2022
To: Solon CSD Families and Friends
From: Davis Eidahl, Superintendent
RE: School Update

We had an outstanding start to the school year and are excited about all the learning and success our students will experience in 2022-23.

New Teachers
With teacher shortages across Iowa and the nation, we are thrilled to have filled all vacancies with highly qualified and talented educators. The only area that continues to pose a challenge is hiring highly qualified long-term substitute teachers. The instructional practices we use are forward thinking and we believe provides each and every Solon student an educational advantage. Our forward-thinking approach can be overwhelming to those who haven't had the professional training that we provide our teachers. We have the best staff and added a very talented group to begin this year. Meet our new Solon Staff by clicking this LINK

New or Expanded Programs
The district hired a full-time Industrial Tech teacher to expand our program offerings beyond our current Architectural Construction and Engineering program. Over the next 3-years, it is our goal to expand our programming to other areas of interest in Career Technical Education.

Apprenticeship Opportunities
We continually expand our career opportunities at Solon High School, providing all students a variety of experiences each year. Beginning this school year, we are partnering with Kirkwood Community College and Grant Wood AEA to offer paid apprenticeships in the health field. Interested students will take courses in the health field from Kirkwood and work as a paid intern nurse aid. This will be the first of several apprenticeships we will offer as we expand our program into other career fields. If you are a business owner and have interest in partnering with Solon Schools, please contact me.

Statewide Assessment for Student Progress
Iowa's statewide assessment results were recently released and Solon students continue to achieve far above the state average. We have had a strong focus on reading and writing across all K-12 classrooms the past five years and our student achievement reflects that. We recently started a new math initiative across K-12 classrooms, which we anticipate similar achievement to literacy in the years ahead.

You can access the achievement graphs in this LINK.

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District Growth

Solon's population continues to grow with several new housing developments. We anticipate another 500 students in the next 6-10 years. To accommodate this growth and to continue providing our students an educational advantage, we are developing a 10-year facilities plan. In March, we will be asking our community to support a bond to provide the funding for the Intermediate School expansion, as well as other needs the community identifies. This bond will **NOT** increase the district's property tax levy.

The Solon School Board lowered the property tax rate in 2015, following the last bond and has kept the rate below that for 8 consecutive years. The Board is committed to keeping the levy rate below what it was in 2015.

Solon CSD property tax levy LINK

School to Home Partnership

Our students, staff and families, together, give Solon an educational advantage and keeps student achievement at the top in Iowa. We appreciate our partnership and invite you to contact us with questions pertaining to your child's experiences and opportunities.