

August 2023

Dear BPS Families:

I hope you are enjoying this fine summer weather. Now that we have passed the Independence Day holiday, like all the stores, I am sure you are thinking about “Back to School.” I am Jeff Fastnacht, the new Superintendent of Bismarck Public Schools. It is my honor to be working for BPS serving the students, families, and community. For the past five years, I have held the position of Assistant Superintendent for Mandan Public Schools. This allowed me to build strong relationships with many of the stakeholders in the BPS community. I look forward to building on these partnerships and establishing new ones in service of the BPS Vision: “Together, our strong relationships build inclusive, collaborative, and innovative environments that create agency and inspire a passion for learning, excellence, and discovery.”

Over the summer the central administration services of the district moved from our previous offices on Washington Street to our new Central Administration Building (CAB) at 128 Soo Line Drive. This office is located in the southeast corner of Bismarck near the Expressway. This transition allows us to realize our core Values of “Excellence, Inclusion, Innovation, and Leadership” more fully by allowing Hughes to offer expanded Career & Technical Education (CTE) opportunities for 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students. As our community continues to grow, we are feeling the need for labor in all facets of our economy. Helping our children find their passions and align their learning to those passions is critical to address this need. CTE programs are not exclusive to trade skills, but opportunities for all students to obtain the skills necessary for them to pursue their passions and be ready for the world of work.

It is with a humble heart and extreme gratitude that I serve as the Superintendent for Bismarck Public Schools. As I begin this journey, I know there is much to learn, but I am excited for the opportunity to work for you and BPS educators as we focus on helping every child find their passion and educational path as we strive to meet the BPS Mission: “Empower every learner to thrive!”

Respectfully,



Jeff Fastnacht  
Superintendent