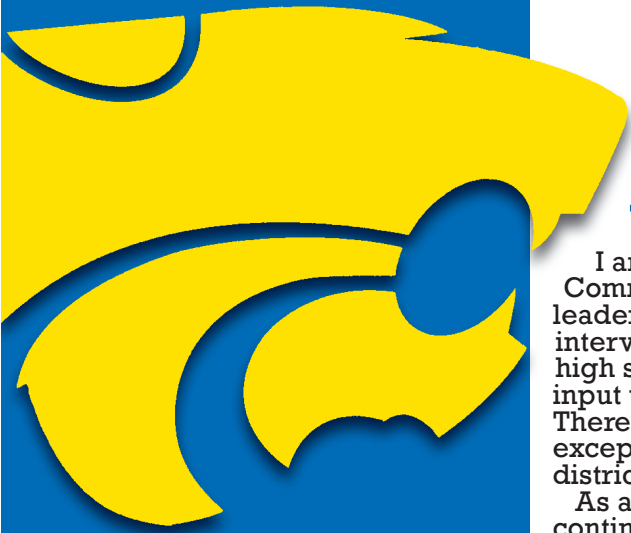


August 2022



# LEARNING & SUCCESS FOR ALL

## WEATHER CANCELLATIONS & DELAYS:

Be sure to update your contact information in Infinite Campus to receive weather-related school phone messages and texts. If we start late on a Wednesday, we **WILL NOT** dismiss one hour early.

# HUMBOLDT Community School District

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE  
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@OfficialHCSD

@humboldt\_csd

# Message from Superintendent Jim Murray



## WELCOME BACK!

I am very excited to welcome our students to Humboldt Community School District! Our district administrators and teacher leaders have developed a strategic plan to improve instruction, intervention, and classroom environment. I am very proud of the high standards set by our stakeholders and school board. The input we receive guides us as we strive for excellence in all areas. There is no room for complacency. This new school year is no exception, as there is much to be excited about regarding our district's continuous improvement initiatives.

As always, please approach me anytime to share input for bettering our school district. It continues to be my privilege to serve you as Superintendent.

Sincerely,  
Jim Murray, Superintendent

The Humboldt School Board Members recently approved the district's goals and priorities for this school year.

- Provide a safe, nurturing, and drug-free environment for all.
- Educational excellence and equity for every student.
- Strengthen communication and stakeholder partnerships.
- Fiscal responsibility

For each issue, I will share strategic initiatives for meeting those goals, and I'll begin with our highest priority; Provide a safe, nurturing, and drug-free environment for all.

- Staff will continue receiving professional development from the Trauma Informed Online Academy to have the skills to identify and meet the needs of students struggling social-emotionally.
- We are forming a committee of stakeholders, including law enforcement, to examine and improve our facilities and procedures. Trained experts will review each building's safety and security measures in place. We plan to schedule a vulnerability assessment with the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management team.
- We are working with architects to design a secure front office entrance to the high school. We are hopeful plans can be completed by midyear, and construction will begin next summer.
- We will continuously bring the drug dogs into high and middle school.
- We installed vape detectors in almost all middle and high school bathrooms.
- The high school installed alarms on the exterior doors.
- We installed panic buttons in all building offices that contact law enforcement in an emergency.
- We implement Positive Behavior Intervention and Support, PBIS, in kindergarten through eighth grade, which provides consistency in expectations and a common language for all.
- Mental health professionals provide services for individuals in our schools thanks to the support from Humboldt County Memorial Hospital.

## "THE REAL DEAL"

I continue to get great feedback from this portion of the newsletter. Our community members don't want to hear that everything is well, as they know education is a challenging profession.

- Last year we had a handful of seniors who did not graduate high school. Attendance issues, substance abuse, learning disabilities, and mental health remain our primary obstacles. As early as preschool, we identify a small group of students with the highest risk of not graduating. We work to build relationships with families and proactively put interventions in place.
- **Help Wanted!** We need custodians, food service workers, and teacher associates.
- One of our district priorities is fiscal responsibility. The current condition of the economy will challenge our finances. I'm greatly concerned about supply chain issues and fuel costs.
- We have a small group of students in the district who display bold behavioral issues such as eloping, noncompliance, physical aggression, shutdowns, and anger management.

## Moving the Multipurpose Building: New Athletic Training Complex Construction Begins

### WHY A NEW FACILITY?

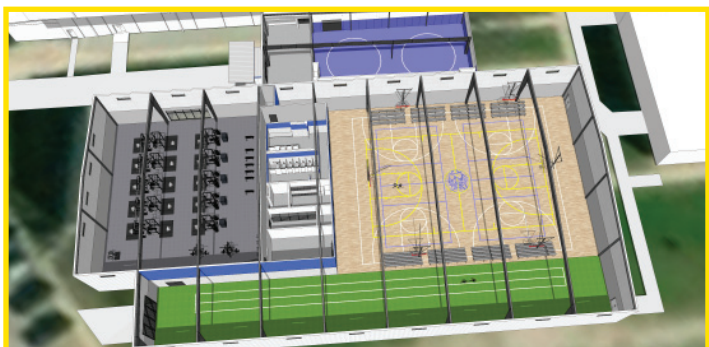
Student weight room and wrestling participation numbers are bursting, and athletes need more space. The current practice gym floor needs to be replaced. We explored putting an addition on and updating the existing Multipurpose Building. That expense and bringing it up to all fire and construction codes made our facility committee decide to move toward a new structure.

### WHERE WILL THE NEW FACILITY BE LOCATED?

We are locating it right where the current steel Multipurpose Building is. Unlike the existing building, the new training facility will connect to the high school.

### WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE CURRENT MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING?

The current building is a fantastic donation by the Athletic Boosters over twenty years ago. We plan to move the building to the northwest side of the practice field. It will be useful. With the demolition of the old middle school, we'll need the storage space. Thank you to our past Athletic Boosters and current ones for the outstanding support we receive.



### WHAT WILL WE DO DURING CONSTRUCTION WITHOUT THE SPACE?

The Humboldt Recreation Center has been gracious about allowing us to use their space as a temporary solution. We are exploring lots of options. We will be creative with the basketball practice schedules. Youth basketball teams may notice less gym availability for next year.

### HOW DOES THIS FIT INTO OUR FACILITIES PLAN?

The district has a facilities plan that prioritizes additional classroom space with a gym at Taft Elementary, more classroom space at the Humboldt Middle School, and a front, secure office entry space to the Humboldt High School. We are adding additional restrooms to the athletic complex near the concession stand and football field. We hope to complete those designs in November and begin the construction bid process. Our hope is for construction starting the spring and summer of 2023.