From Dennis Raabe, District Administrator -

May, 2017

I admit it. I am one of those people who will eat dessert first. Truth be told, if there is not close monitoring, I might try to sneak two. Why not? I like dessert better than asparagus or broccoli, so why wait until I am too full to thoroughly enjoy the experience. I am also an individual who is prone to opening the biggest present first on my birthday or on Christmas morning. While I may not always subscribe to a "save the best for last" philosophy, however, I certainly have saved the best for last relative to my professional career.

As I now retire, I reflect on how I have been blessed to work in districts throughout our great state. I have worked for and with people I generally liked and respected, in wonderful communities, with students and families I enjoyed serving. Truthfully, however, nothing prepared me for the experience of serving the Tomorrow River School District these past three years.

I have worked with the finest group of educators I have had the pleasure of working with in my career. They are highly dedicated professionals who genuinely care about the young people they serve. In addition, they are exceptional people who value and respect each other. I have been blessed to work with members of a School Board who, despite having a wide range of experiences and perceptions, are all strong supporters of public education, public educators, and our public school. They serve with no axes to grind or hidden agendas but instead with the sole desire to make the Tomorrow River School District a better place to work and to learn. The people of this District have welcomed me with open arms. I have never been so proud to serve a District as I have been serving the people of the Tomorrow River School District. It has been an honor and a privilege. Finally, our students are incredible. They are respectful, engaging, talented, focused – young men and women I know will make us all proud in the not so distant future. For all the interactions and associations I have had, I am both grateful and thankful.

When I first accepted the position as your District Administrator, I had a discussion with a parent who indicated, "You are joining a great District, don't screw it up!" I hope I leave the District in a good place, as my predecessors have before me. My experience here has been the pinnacle of my career, and the opportunity to extend my career with the "best of the best" has been something which I will long appreciate. A sincere and heartfelt thank you to the School District of the Tomorrow River.