



Tomorrow's News Today

News From the Tomorrow River School District

From Michael Toelle, District Administrator

December 2017

A True Community School

The support during all sports seasons at Amherst is overwhelming. It's been a great fall run for all the teams, with Cross County sending a team to State, Volleyball being a match away from winning the conference, Soccer winning Regionals and being one game from making the state tournament, and the Football team winning another gold ball. For five out of the last six years our high school football team has been fortunate enough to play at Camp Randall in the state championship game. It's a rewarding experience for all the players and an exciting time for the entire school district. You should see the faces of all the elementary students light up when attending the all school send-off assembly.

I know I've said this in the past, but the connection between the older students in the building and the younger students is very important and critical to the District's overall mission. The interaction between the students isn't just at school assemblies and events – it goes much deeper and connects with our behavior program and our curriculum. We're very fortunate our older "role models" in the school are able to share their wonderful experience with all students. Success on the field, on the court, on the trails, or as part of the music program does foster success in the classroom.

In the big picture, the school spirit, community support, and allowing our young students to see their role models in action is important to the overall school mission. I know that in 2012 when our team played in Madison I had a couple of calls with questions related to calling off school. In the last few years, the calls have been non-existent. Although school was excused at 11:30 to allow more students to attend the game, every future game/event will be decided on a case by case basis, with a great deal depending on the time of the game and overall logistics. We're looking forward to the winter sports season and have high hopes for all of our teams. I can only hope we have the opportunity to make a decision in March to close or not to close for a portion of the day.

In closing, I want to address a question I've frequently been asked this school year. Several times per week I'm asked "how has the transition into your new position been?" To this point, I have to say the transition has been very smooth and the position has been everything I expected. Although busy at times, it does allow time for me to find my way to each building to keep up my contact with the staff and students. There haven't been any surprises, and overall the individual schools and the district is running smoothly. Our enrollment dipped just a few students this year, but our numbers are very strong. Financially, the District is very sound and the long-range picture is very bright. Curriculum improvements are being made and our hope is to increase the high school class offerings this spring by adding distance learning. Overall, the district goals are being met, which is a big part of my position.

As always, feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns about school activities, curriculum, or just have general question. We look forward to your attendance at our holiday concerts. Have a safe, warm, and enjoyable Holiday Season!

Go Falcons!