

Dear Madison Family,

I wanted to inform you that I have accepted the position of Executive Director - South & West Washtenaw Consortium (SWWC) and will transition to this position in November. The Executive Director facilitates Career & Technical Education (CTE) programming for the consortium school districts of Dexter, Milan, Saline, Ypsilanti Lincoln, Chelsea, and Manchester.

I started my career teaching Agriscience at Manchester, a member of the SWWC. As many of you know, my doctoral research and studies focused on CTE, specifically the career decision-making process of high school students as they participate with CTE courses. I am excited to utilize my research with students in these six school districts as I begin a new chapter in my educational career. Throughout the past seven years I did not seek to serve as a school superintendent anywhere but Madison. However, as Executive Director of the SWWC I am extremely excited to assist students who choose CTE as a means to make an informed decision about their post-secondary plan. I will be working directly with the Madison administration and board to determine "next steps" and a path to search for and select the next superintendent of Madison School District.

I arrived at Madison August of 2012 and for two years was able to work for and learn from Mr. Hartley before taking the helm as superintendent. I was fortunate and am extremely grateful that the "cupboards were full" when I took over. I am honored to have worked with a team that, throughout the past seven years, committed itself to enhancing the positive reputation of Madison School District. I recognize that many over the past several decades have worked tirelessly to establish Madison as the destination district in Lenawee County.

Through the efforts of students, faculty, staff, administrators, parents, volunteers, community leaders, and alumni of Madison Schools numerous aspects of the Strategic Plan and Madison's "2020 Vision" Facility Maintenance Plan have been accomplished. This progress represents the community's continued desire to provide a stable yet progressive learning opportunity for all students, faculty, and staff at Madison.

Highlights include:

- District awarded over \$750,000 in grant funds
- Completed renovation of the Madison Indoor Athletic Complex
- District is participating and has a student-athlete on the Lenawee United Hockey Team, the first high school hockey co-op in Lenawee County
- Established and expanded youth athletic programming through the Madison Youth Athletic Council (MYAC)
- Initiated energy efficiency projects throughout campus including weatherization, installation of internal and external LED light fixtures, and replaced classroom windows that face the courtyards placed insulated Drive-It on the exterior of specific areas, and will install a solar array later this fall
- Partnered with the Michigan Fitness Foundation, MDOT, the Lenawee County Road Commission, Madison Township, and the Kiwanis Club of Adrian to initiate the Safe Routes to Schools (SR2S) project (sidewalk project)
- Renovated several middle school classrooms with paint, flooring, drop ceilings, and LED lighting
- Renovated elementary and middle school restrooms
- Installed air conditioning in middle school classrooms
- Developed a Master Plan for the football field and track with construction proceeding on the press box, team room, bleachers, connection to Township water, a new well for irrigation of the field, and an electrical upgrade
- Enhanced the District Website to communicate information to families in a more effective manner
- Continued to strengthen health-related CTE programming through the Biomedical Technology program and courses
- Continued to expand the orchestra (strings) program

- Continued to fairly compensate our employees
- Implemented social emotional learning throughout campus and established partnerships with the Family Medical Center (FMC) and Community Mental Health (CMH)
- Maintained student enrollment, including a sustained school of choice population of over 50%
- Focused efforts to provide a positive culture and climate for those who educate and learn at Madison School District

Through these efforts, and others, the Madison family continues to live the vision of Madison School District, “Developing individual excellence through rigor, innovation, and personal attention”. I am honored to have had the opportunity to work - and continue to work with you – until my departure.

Sincerely,

Ryan L. Rowe, Ph.D.
Superintendent – Madison School District

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