



August 20, 2021

Dear SBCSC families,

We've had a great first full week back in our classrooms, and I'm seeing and hearing good things as we embark upon our semester. Our students, staff, and educators have been doing an outstanding job staying safe and masked, and we continue to work together to ensure that we can all enjoy a healthy, in-person learning experience. Keep up the good work.

Our students have a busy weekend ahead of them! Tonight, we celebrate our home kickoff football games. Adams will compete against Northridge High School at TCU School Field; Clay will play the Osceola Grace Eagles at Clay Middle, and Washington will take on Hammond Central at Jackson Field. We're wishing our Riley Wildcats the best of luck as they travel to Michigan City to compete against the Michigan City Wolves. Clay High School graphic design students in Mr. Benjamin Murray-Oates' class will have their own booths at the South Bend Art Beat at Howard Park. This is an exceptional group of artists, and I hope you'll visit them at booths D272, and D274 tomorrow from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Also Saturday, SBCSC Alumni choir will perform at Century Center Bendix Theater during the "Fresh Start Inspiration Concert" from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Doors open at 5:15 and the event is free. I'll be there with Kareemah Fowler, assistant superintendent of business and finance, and St. Joseph Circuit Court Magistrate Judge Andre Gammage, organizer of this year's event. This concert will celebrate last year's Fresh Start expungement initiative when more than 800 people had criminal records expunged and license-reinstatement fees waived. We'll have transportation and enrollment representatives there to answer questions.

WNIT highlighted our City Wide Classroom initiative with the City of South Bend and EnFocus this week. If you missed it on Wednesday evening, you can catch it online at WNIT.org.

Mark your calendars for an upcoming ESSER/ referendum community meeting to provide continual input into how the funds will be used:

- Wednesday, August 25, 5:30 - 7 p.m. at the Kroc Center, 900 W. Western Avenue, South Bend
- Wednesday, September 1, 5:30 - 7 p.m. at the River Park Branch Public Library, 2022 E. Mishawaka Avenue, South Bend.

If you're 12 or older, we encourage you to get your COVID-19 vaccine. You can learn more at ourshot.gov.

It's been a challenging year, and I'm pleased to share that all full-time employees who qualify and worked last year will receive a \$1,500 stipend on September 17. This is a truly well deserved bonus.

Remember to read a book, watch a classic film, and check out a new album. Have a great weekend, everyone!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Todd Cummings".

C. Todd Cummings, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools