



The Arrowhead Union High School District

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Office of the Superintendent, Laura Myrah

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Dear Arrowhead School Board,

It is with both sorrow and joy that I announce my retirement from the Arrowhead Union High School District, effective August 7, 2023. I have worked at Arrowhead for eight years, and in public education for 33 years. I have enjoyed and appreciated the hard work, successes, and challenges during almost 32 of those years. I have been extremely fortunate to have worked in five fabulous school districts during my career and of those, Arrowhead has been my favorite. Our students, faculty, staff, and parents/families are wonderful. I will miss them immensely.

Throughout my personal and professional life, my steadfast goal is to be happy, successful, and have a positive impact on others... in raising my children, within relationships, within my professional work, etc. Over the last year or so, extraneous influences have forced a drastic change upon the focus of my job. Consequently, I struggle to find happiness and success within my educational leadership work.

I am a firm believer that political agendas (in any direction) should not have influence within classrooms and school decisions. In the field of K-12 education as of late, I see political pressures negatively impacting educators' ability to focus on the true mission of schools-- educating kids and preparing them for successful learning, careers, and life after high school graduation. Educators' professional expertise and dedicated efforts on behalf of students should be respected, trusted, and valued. Lately, teachers and administrators are encountering mistrust, disrespect, and a forced shift in our prioritized areas of focus. It is disheartening to observe and experience this.

Let me be clear, I continue to love the students, partnering in leadership with an administration team that is second to none, working with our impressively skilled and caring employees, and learning new things myself everyday. Yet, across the country and, most distressingly, locally the field of education has been changing in a manner I cannot accept. I am at the point in my life where I am unwilling to conform to changing areas of mission, roles, and priorities that are contrary to my knowledge and beliefs about education and school leadership.

After three+ decades, it is time for me to proudly exit the K-12 education field and my position of superintendent at Arrowhead. I look forward to a new, yet-to-be-determined career path, and promise to be just as hardworking and dedicated as ever to Arrowhead through my last days of work through August 7th.

Most sincerely,

Laura Myrah
Superintendent
Arrowhead Union High School District