



GALENA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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SUPERINTENDENT
Jason R. Johnson, Ed.D.

November 23, 2022

Dear GCSD Families and Community Members,

With the anticipation continuing to build for the upcoming holiday season in what I hope will be a blessed, joyful and cherished time for your family and friends, I am reminded of a statement that a beloved mentor of mine often makes, “Count the sunny moments.” In essence, we have the opportunity to choose between focusing on the challenges of daily life, the stresses at hand and/or the endless deadlines approaching. Yet, even in those times, we also have the ability to ensure someone else has a magical day, to marvel in the beauty of this great state and to truly “give thanks” for the opportunities that we are afforded in life. The task at hand – To assess all of the value in our lives and to celebrate it daily as there is always a ray of sun to be found.

On this note, my family continues to work diligently at this pursuit of being grateful, as we will be focusing our efforts on extending our appreciation to those who have selflessly offered their resources to us throughout our first weeks in our home (And an on-going battle with stove-pipe), for the opportunity to watch our daughter grow before our eyes (In that my wife and I work extremely closely to her classroom each day) and to the entire community of Galena as we’ve been welcomed with open arms and love living here!

Having been able to collaborate with a wide-array of district staff and observe their efforts in recent weeks, this team believes in your child(ren), that your children are the reason they are pushing for progress at every opportunity and that supporting the Hawks is their daily ray of sun.

These rays can also be found in further progress at the district as we are excited to begin offering our first After-School Acceleration Academy in January for Pre-K through Middle-School students, are working diligently to further expand CTE opportunities for students in less than two months and will be engaging with you starting in January to help us further craft the district’s direction for the next five years through the on-going strategic planning process.

In closing, please find that sun as often as possible and know that I am happy to take your call if there is anything I can do to enhance your child(ren)’s education or simply to say hello.

Warmest of Holiday Wishes,

Jason R. Johnson, Ed.D.

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