

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:
Living our Strategic Priorities



Please Vote on or before Nov. 5.

**A Message from Lewiston-Altura Public School District Principals:
Dave Riebel, Elementary School & Dr. Cory Hanson, High School**

One of the strategic priorities for the Lewiston-Altura school district is to hire, maintain, train, and support staff to be as effective as possible. We benefit from great people working within our schools, developing relationships with students and families. We have many staff who continue to work 20 and 30-year careers serving multiple generations.

When safe, caring environments are created and relationships are formed with students, learning happens! We see it every day in our schools. We must retain good people to continue to meet and overcome learning challenges faced by students.

Student success is shaped by what our schools can offer students academically and in activities. The more opportunities we offer, the more our students will develop as the future leaders of our communities. Successful programs are guided by high quality, teachers, advisors, directors, and coaches. We know that the success of our students is tied to the knowledge, continuing education, and longevity of our staff.

Concurrent enrollment is a great example of a program that supports our students by offering college credits for classes students take at the high school. To qualify to teach concurrent courses, a teacher must hold a master's degree with 18 credits in that single content. We are blessed to offer our students these concurrent credit options: 6 credits in ag education, 6 credits in choir, 9 credits in English/Communications, and 8 credits in math. Our students do not have these opportunities without highly qualified staff. Our community should be proud that our teachers are providing students the opportunity to receive almost an entire year of college – at no cost to parents – because they meet these high qualifications.

From FFA to student council to math league and drama, another area where our students stand out is activities. This is directly linked to teachers and staff who help them find their spark and encourage them to learn and grow towards lifelong learning.

Many students are currently participating in two or three sports as well as in multiple activities. Our students put on a variety of events to entertain the community; events that bring our communities together. These activities are guided by experienced and qualified staff that spend countless hours working closely with students.

There are two important questions on the ballot in the November 5 General Election, that impact the strength and quality of our schools and community. Question one is an operating Levy for Learning that will allow the district to continue to provide quality programming, attract and retain quality teachers and staff, maintain current opportunities for students, and reduce future budget cuts. We encourage everyone to visit the cardinalstrong.net website for information about the Levy for Learning and the Bond for Buildings questions on the ballot.

The success of the school district hinges on continued collaboration with the greater community. Get informed and cast your vote on Election Day to ensure a bright future for Lewiston and Altura.

Levy for Learning. Bond for Buildings. Learn more at www.lewalt.k12.mn.us