

Scott County School District 2 Staff, Students, Parents, and Community at Large,

Tonight is the formal notification of my retirement from the position of Superintendent of Scott County School District 2 officially on June 30th. In a collaborative agreement with the school board, my last day of service will be on Friday, January 31st.

In a fulfilling career spanning 30 years in education, including the past 25 years within Scott County School District 2 and the last 12 years as your Superintendent, it has been an immense blessing and an honor to serve alongside the dedicated teachers, staff, and students of Scott County School District 2. I am incredibly proud of our collaborative efforts and accomplishments over the years and deeply grateful to our school family for your unwavering dedication to our students in providing the best possible learning environment and school culture.

Together, we prioritized our students and staff's safety and security by:

- **Enhancing school safety** and implementing School Resource Officers at all 6 schools by collaborating with our city and county government agencies
- **Streamlining safety protocols** and communicating our safety plans and protocols across the district to ensure a safe and secure learning environment for all
- **Increasing student support** by adding three social workers across the district to meet the social-emotional needs of our students and nurses in every building to support wellness

Furthermore, we embraced 21st-century teaching and learning by:

- **Integrating the best 21st-century technology tools** into our teaching and learning environment to prepare our students for the next steps in life and to meet the challenges of the global pandemic with excellence--The work that we did during the pandemic was some of the most challenging of my life, but our teachers and our families offered unparalleled virtual education.
- **Prioritizing academic growth**--Through the hard work and dedication of our teachers and staff, our students perform at or near the top of the region in assessments such as iLearn, iRead, and SAT.

I also appreciate the hard work of our team by recognizing these projects:

- **Managing eight different bond projects**, to modernize and enhance district infrastructure and facilities, resulting in improved classroom spaces such as the new band room, choir room, classroom wing, and weight room at SHS as well as the classrooms at VFES--Other bond projects include several new roofs, HVAC systems, parking lots that improve traffic flow and parking areas, and entry and office spaces designed to secure buildings. Additionally, we updated and improved the playing surfaces across all the sports venues including adding Bermuda grass where appropriate. We did this with our community in mind by maintaining a low tax rate and staying tax-neutral.

- **Expanding sports and club offerings** from elementary to high school, introducing programs like archery, bass fishing, bowling, and numerous elementary sports--Notably, we successfully brought football back to Scott County School District 2 after a 31-year absence and upgraded the playing surface, bleachers, press box, scoreboard, restroom, and concession areas.
- **Increasing academic dual credit offerings, CTE offerings, and internship opportunities** for our high school students while preparing them for enrollment, employment, and enlistment opportunities beyond high school

In the past year, I have called on our faculty and staff to make sacrifices on our road to recovery. Your devotion to our district and ability to rise to challenges inspired me. Thank you!

To my administrative and director team and our dedicated faculty and staff, never lose focus of your why: why you devote yourself to such a noble profession. Do not forget that we are here to offer our students the best opportunities and provide hope where we can.

I am deeply grateful to the Board of Education, my colleagues, and the entire Scott County community for their unwavering support throughout my career. I have been blessed to meet some of the most amazing human beings in my life in our school district and our community, and I will always be grateful for our time together. I have learned a great deal from the opportunities provided here. I chose not just to work but also to live in Scott County because I wanted to serve and improve my community. I wanted to be all in and devoted to our vision for the future. The grace of God has kept me and led me. When I have been a blessing it has been because of Him, and if I have missed the mark at times, it is because I am human. Yet His grace has been evident in all of my life; all the glory goes to Him alone.

Scott County School District 2 will continue to excel and provide an outstanding education for students. I wish you all the best in the days to come.

I want to leave you with this, Numbers 6:24-26 "The LORD bless you
and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you
and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you
and give you peace."

Godspeed, Scott 2!