

November 7, 2019

State Superintendent Carolyn Stanford Taylor's letter to the School District Boundary Appeal Board regarding the Palmyra-Eagle Area School District's Resolution to Dissolve (Presented by David Carlson who is serving as the State Superintendent's boundary appeal board representative)

School District Boundary Appeal Board and public attendees:

Thank you to those who agreed to serve on the School District Boundary Appeal Board to review the dissolution order of the Palmyra-Eagle Area School District. I appreciate your willingness and acceptance of the critical roles and responsibilities required of you as board members. I also would like to thank the community members, school district staff, parents, students, and others in attendance for being engaged in this challenging process. While this is a difficult and emotional process, I trust the well-being of our students will be everyone's ultimate goal.

My sincere hope is the state mandated school district reorganization process regarding dissolution under Wisconsin State Statue 117.10 will consider the educational welfare of the Palmyra-Eagle students as its number one priority. Additionally, it should be understood any action under this law has the potential to affect neighboring school districts and their students and this impact must also be a prime consideration of the boundary appeal board.

The affirmation or denial of the Palmyra-Eagle Area School District's decision to dissolve is the sole responsibility of the seven member school district boundary appeal board, of which the state superintendent has one vote. I am optimistic that as the boundary appeal board hearings proceed, additional solutions to meeting the needs of all affected students will become evident through provided testimony and discussion.

Please know, I will be receiving regular updates from my boundary appeal board representative, David Carlson, and DPI staff as this process moves forward. Be assured, regardless of the outcome of the boundary appeal board's decision, the DPI will continue to assist all affected school districts to the extent that we have the statutory authority to do so.

Thank you again for your participation in these proceedings as you work towards the best resolution for our students in Palmyra-Eagle as well as those in nearby districts.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Stanford Taylor

State Superintendent of Public Instruction

CST: bt