

## **Report of the Superintendent**

I am genuinely honored to serve as the Superintendent of Schools for SAU 83 and present this annual report to the Fremont residents. At present, the Fremont School District maintains an enrollment of 360 students spanning from Pre-K through Eighth Grade at Ellis School, along with an additional 157 students attending Sanborn Regional High School.

The spring and summer of this past year marked a period of heartfelt farewells to several staff members who pursued new opportunities, embraced retirement, or embarked on other ventures. Despite these departures, Ellis School has been fortunate to welcome a cadre of exceptional educators to our community. These new additions have swiftly and positively influenced our learners and their families, leaving a lasting impact.

This year, our educational endeavors have been fortified by a comprehensive building-wide focus on delivering high-quality, research-backed, and intentional Tier One instruction. The concerted efforts of our educators have been centered around the implementation of evidence-based practices, ensuring that each student receives a solid foundation for academic success. This strategic emphasis on tier one instruction is pivotal in shaping an educational landscape that prioritizes both efficacy and intentionality. Through continuous professional development and a shared commitment to excellence, our educators have not only embraced this year's focus but have significantly advanced the standards of educational quality within the Fremont School District.

Our educators have invested invaluable time during teacher professional development days, early release days, and other professional sessions, delving into a myriad of crucial topics. A considerable cohort of teachers is actively engaged in an intensive LETRS course, enriching their expertise in essential literacy instruction. We have continued our focus on refining our curriculum documents, with teachers revising competency statements to enhance specificity and relevance within the context of classroom use. Ensuring these statements are comprehensible to both students and their families is a priority. Moreover, teachers have undertaken the task of crafting proficiency scale rubrics, providing a clear roadmap for learners and families to understand proficiency levels and aspire to achieve at the highest standards. A meticulous examination of curricular gaps and overlaps as students progress from one level to the next showcases our teachers' commitment to cohesive educational progression. Additionally, our educators are leveraging data from SAS testing and other metrics to identify common strengths and weaknesses in math and English Language Arts, steering our instructional strategies toward targeted improvement. Beyond academic professional development, our staff has proactively participated in discussions surrounding the critical subject of social and emotional health, demonstrating a holistic commitment to the well-being of our students.

SAU 83 stands firm in its commitment to propel forward the future high school project, especially with the impending conclusion of our current tuition agreement with SAU 17 for ninth through twelfth grade students on June 30, 2026.

The commendable work of various search committees has not only laid a robust foundation but has also enabled the School Board to seamlessly continue its essential work. We express sincere gratitude for the dedicated efforts of these committees. The School Board remains resolute in its commitment to presenting a proposed Tuition Agreement on the March 2024 ballot.

To delineate the upcoming phases of this initiative, a tentative timeline is outlined as follows:

- Initiation of Negotiations for the Tuition Agreement(s).
- Presentation of Details regarding the Agreement(s) at the 2024 Deliberative Session.
- Community Vote on the Proposed Tuition Agreement in March 2024.

This methodical timeline underscores our commitment to a comprehensive process as we navigate this pivotal moment in our educational landscape.

Our physical infrastructure receives meticulous attention from our dedicated facilities staff and the past year has seen the successful completion of several improvement projects. A thorough inspection and resolution initiative addressed issues with one of our boilers, ensuring optimal functionality. Repairs to the Main Office Mini-Split Condenser were promptly executed, restoring efficiency to this crucial component. Significant overhauls in the sprinkler room involved the replacement of aging, leaking, and corroded valves and pipes, enhancing the overall safety and integrity of our facilities.

Noteworthy enhancements extended to the installation of new carpeting in the front vestibule, providing a safe, welcoming and refreshed ambiance. The thorough maintenance of our outdoor spaces included crack sealing, seal coating, and restriping of the driveway and parking lot, accompanied by the application of anti-slip textured yellow safety paint on all curbing around the facility.

Leveraging safety grants, our complex has incorporated additional safety features, contributing to an environment that prioritizes the well-being of all occupants. In tandem with these projects, the refinishing of all floors has revitalized the aesthetic appeal of our educational facility. Our facilities team is committed not only to daily cleaning but also to regular deep cleaning and disinfecting, ensuring a clean, safe, and conducive environment for all.

Our deep appreciation extends to the collaborative efforts of our school staff, school board, parents, and community, all united in the shared goal of providing the very best for our learners—those who represent our future. A heartfelt thank you resonates with the Ellis and Sanborn staff for their unwavering dedication to the growth and development of our Fremont learners. The Fremont School Board deserves commendation for their steadfast commitment to ensuring a high-quality education for each and every student under their care. Equally, gratitude is extended to the parents and community members whose steadfast commitment plays a pivotal role in educating and nurturing the potential of our future leaders. Together,

this collective effort creates a foundation that empowers our learners to thrive and shape a promising future.

Sincerely,  
Ellen H. Halliday

**The Ellis School “*Word of the Year*” for the 2023-2024 School Year:**

