

RICHFIELD JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1

SCHOOL BOARD

Blair Rogacki (2017)
Brian Gallitz (2017)
Chad Gartzke (2019)
Paul Propst (2019)
Dawn Sericati (2018)

RICHFIELD ELEMENTARY

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PLAT ELEMENTARY

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ADMINISTRATION

Mrs. Tara Villalobos
District Administrator
Mr. Jeff Carron
Principal

www.richfield.k12.wi.us

September 23, 2016

Dear Parents,

Last year, our districts sent out two joint letters to the community. These letters informed residents that we had initiated informal discussions regarding consolidation. In the second letter, we discussed the benefits of a consolidated district:

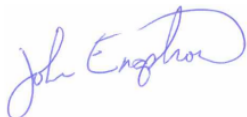
Potential benefits include: bringing the community together around a single school district; creating a more optimal-sized district; providing shared services; and growing the current level of service provided to students, parents, and staff.

Since that time, both boards have passed resolutions to move forward with a more formal consolidation study. In August, the districts contracted with the Applied Population Laboratory at UW-Madison to conduct an enrollment study. This study will help to verify the attendance of each district individually and collectively. Once that is complete, Baird will conduct a Fiscal Impact Study, similar to the one they did in 2012. These projects should both be done by January 2017. Upon study completion, the administration of each district will meet to review, discuss and analyze results. This information will then be presented to both school boards at a joint school board meeting.

The purpose of all of this is to determine if consolidation is a viable opportunity for our districts. The essential question is whether or not each district can continue to provide current levels of service as independent organizations, or if a new, consolidated district would create enriched educational and extracurricular experiences for our students and families. Additional considerations include opportunities for fiscal efficiency, community building, and collaborative learning for staff and students.

We will continue to keep everyone apprised of any and all updates, and look forward to sharing the results with the community and obtaining feedback. If you would like further information now, please feel free to visit either of our district websites. We appreciate your trust and support in our school districts, and will continue to keep you updated with any developments.

Yours in Education,



John Engstrom
District Administrator
Friess Lake School



Tara Villalobos
District Administrator
Richfield Joint School District No. 1



Ellen Duhamel
Board President
Friess Lake School



Blair Rogacki
Board President
Richfield Joint School District No. 1