



Update from the Superintendent

To: Parents and Guardians
From: Mark McQueen, Superintendent
Date: April 3, 2025

April is a month full of opportunities to celebrate what right looks like in Bay District Schools. From recognizing the dedicated professionals who serve our students to honoring the volunteers who give so much of their time, April is a time to reflect on the unwavering commitment of our Team of Teams and the incredible people who make a difference every day.

This month, we have already celebrated Autism Awareness Day (April 2) and Paraprofessional Appreciation Day (April 2), highlighting the importance of inclusion and support for all students. It's also Volunteer Appreciation Month, and we are beyond grateful for the countless individuals who generously invest in our schools. Whether they're reading with students, mentoring, or lending a hand at events, our volunteers help shape the future in powerful ways.

April also allows us to honor the professionals who work behind the scenes to keep our schools running smoothly. Here are a few of those observances that fall within April:

- **Media Specialist Appreciation Day:** April 4
- **Assistant Principal Appreciation Week:** April 7–11
- **Bus Driver Appreciation Day:** April 22
- **Administrative Professionals Day:** April 23
- **After-School Professionals Week:** April 21–23
- **Public School Volunteer Week:** April 21–25
- **School Library Month:** All month long

These celebrations are an excellent opportunity to pause and express our gratitude to the individuals who go above and beyond to support our students, teachers, and school communities.

Of course, we can't forget that April is also the Month of the Military Child, a time to honor the resilience and sacrifices of our military-connected students. To show our support, we'll proudly wear purple on #PurpleUp Day, April 15, and we encourage everyone to participate in recognizing these incredible children. We're honoring one military child at each of our schools throughout April, and we're so proud of all of them, their families, and the legion of military families they represent. Getting caught up in our busy schedules and the many demands on our time is easy, but making time for gratitude is also incredibly important. April is a month that gives us multiple

opportunities for appreciation and a time that can help remind us why we do what we do. I hope you'll take time this month to express gratitude to those who make a difference in your school or department.

Together, we are putting the 'A' back in Bay, ensuring our schools are places where excellence, dedication, and service thrive. Thank you for your unwavering commitment to our mission and for being part of this incredible team.