



September 24, 2021

Dear SBCSC families,

This week was packed with events, many of which celebrated the way our community has risen above the challenges of the past 18 months, continually working to serve and support one another. On Wednesday, we announced Swanson Traditional School was named a National Blue Ribbon School. Congratulations to our community at Swanson, particularly Principal Amy Troyer and our outstanding teachers for earning this prestigious recognition. We are thrilled and so proud of you all. The team at Swanson threw an awesome pep assembly to announce the big news, and we can't wait to travel to Washington D.C. in November to receive the award.

Earlier that day, we welcomed U.S. Secretary of Education Dr. Miguel Cordona to Madison STEAM Academy where he thanked our food and nutrition workers, bus drivers, teachers, and students for their perseverance and hard work. I want to thank the Secretary and his staff for choosing Madison. I also want to thank Indiana Secretary of Education Dr. Katie Jenner, Mayor James Mueller, our Board of School Trustees, and our union-both local and state-wide-leaders for joining. Most importantly, thanks to our food and nutrition workers, bus drivers, teachers, and students for meeting with him.

I had the pleasure of attending the [South Bend Alumni Association](#)'s Hall of Fame dinner on Tuesday evening at Century Center. This event raised over \$600,000 for extracurricular activities for our students, and it was an honor to join in celebrating our community of longtime supporters.

On Thursday, I attended the "College GO Week" tailgate at Brown Community Learning Center, where we enrolled students for 21st Century Scholars scholarships, enjoyed music, food, and festivities. Thanks to the Student Services team for their organization of the event.

Later Thursday evening at the Kroc Center, Kareemah Fowler and I were presented with the Salvation Army's "Doing The Most Good" Award. This award was accepted on behalf of all of you; our food and nutrition staff, our bus drivers, maintenance staff, buildings and grounds staff, nurses, teachers, paraprofessionals, principals, counselors, security guards, and parents. We only are able to provide resources for our learners because of your hard work. Thank you. And thanks to our friends at the Kroc and their sponsors for this recognition.

Tomorrow, I'll be at the County City building to honor the lives of those lost to homicide in our community for the National Day of Remembrance for Victims of Murder. Together with members of our Common Council, Mayor Mueller, and members of our School Board of Trustees, we stand united against gun violence and the wasteful loss of life in our community.

I wish our Adams Eagles a happy homecoming this evening. They'll be playing New Prairie at School Field. See you there.

Remember to read a book, watch a classic film, and listen to an album. Have a great weekend, everyone!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Todd Cummings".

C. Todd Cummings, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools