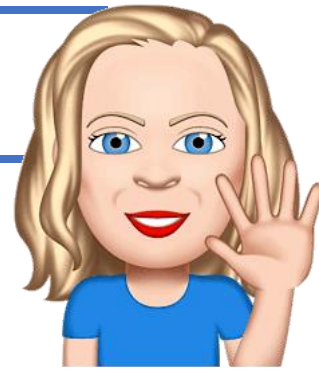


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*Work hard, be kind, and amazing things will happen.*

*Conan O'Brien*

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July 28, 2020

Niobrara School Families,

Above all, we hope each of you and your families are safe. We hear repeatedly that these are unprecedented times and that we need to prepare for a new normal. Well, this new normal leaves much to be desired, especially when it comes to the education of our children. Our current reality makes everything we do as caregivers and educators extremely difficult and complex. And, while we know things have not been easy, we will get through this together.

We look forward to starting the school year and although we wish conditions were better, maintaining your child's safety is our first concern. We are fully committed to ensuring that your student is provided with a high-quality learning experience and they are offered the support they need for their emotional well-being. We accept this challenge and our staff is working to develop the resources and capacity to better serve you and each student every day.

We sent you a survey this summer and I want to say thank you for responding and for sending us feedback, questions and concerns. We continue to make improvements and innovations in response to the current conditions and we will remain focused on providing your students with a high-quality education, ways to monitor student growth and mastery, and services and support for their well-being. Your continued engagement will also be important in their education.

Our path forward and hopefully out of this pandemic will be a rough road to navigate. Know that you don't have to go it alone. We are here for you and we have support and resources that we can offer you and your family.

We know that many of you are juggling several things right now and we want to work together with each and every family to help reduce your anxiety, make learning more consistent in your household and provide you with the support you need. By working together, my hope is that we can safely bring our students back to school. Your guidance at home and in the community paying attention to public health recommendations of social distancing and hand hygiene is greatly appreciated.

Margaret Sandoz, Superintendent

