Thank Your School Board!

February 19-23 is School Board Recognition Week in Minnesota. I want to begin by thanking them for accepting the many important responsibilities that go with this position.

School board members throughout the state take their responsibilities seriously, and the Cedar Mountain School Board is no different. Our school board members are committed to the students who attend Cedar Mountain – what they learn, who teaches them and what kinds of facilities house their classrooms. Board members must pull together as a team to work toward a common goal — helping students achieve. Though they may individually disagree on certain issues, their role as a board is to consistently strive toward that goal. Board members contribute hundreds of hours of time each year leading their districts. Whether it is developing policies, hiring administrators, listening to staff and student concerns, or recognizing outstanding programs, board members always keep their eyes on the goal of student achievement. They also work hard to listen to all sides of issues, and they base their decisions on what is best for Cedar Mountain and our students.

The time spent in board meetings represents just a small fraction of the hours school board members spend in leading their districts.

The seven people who comprise the Cedar Mountain school board are: Joe Sullivan, Doug Mathiowetz, Angie Jemmings, Tim Sandgren, Jennifer Rose, Ash Heibel, and Brycen Christensen. They represent you, and they take this responsibility seriously. They understand the importance of working to improve student achievement and helping students learn the importance of hard work and responsible, respectful behavior.

I know our school board members are visible and active in our communities. On behalf of our students and staff, I'm asking that you take a moment and tell them "thanks for caring about our children's education." They are working together to make Cedar Mountain the best it can be.

National FFA Week

The Cedar Mountain FFA Chapter is celebrating National FFA Week February 17-24. Cedar Mountain has an outstanding FFA program that offers students many opportunities to participate in programs and competitions. Cedar Mountain FFA members have successfully competed against schools throughout Minnesota, and local members have won at the regional, state, and national level. Hannah Wilts, who is in her third year as FFA advisor, has worked with students to help them continue be successful. Ms. Wilts believes strongly in the FFA formula for success – learning by doing. It is this real life application that is the key to the future success of FFA members.

Here is the schedule of activities for National FFA Week at Cedar Mountain:

 $\frac{\text{Tuesday February 20}^{\text{th}} - \text{College Day}}{\text{Wednesday February 21}^{\text{st}}} - \text{Tractor Day (Drive your Tractor to School Day)}}{\frac{\text{Thursday February 22}^{\text{nd}}}{\text{Chore/Farmer Day}}} - \text{Blue and Gold Day}}$

Ag Olympics will be held on Thursday. Traditionally contests have included the tire roll, nail pounding, hay bale toss, pedal tractor race, corn shucking, and tug of war.

Early Dismissal and Parent/Teacher Conferences on February 26

Spring Parent/Teacher Conferences are Monday, February 26 from 12:30 to 6:30 p.m. Students will have a 12:10 dismissal on February 26. Please note the extended time for conferences to allow teachers to meet with more parents and talk about how we can work together to provide the best education possible for our students.