

REDFORD UNION SCHOOLS, DISTRICT NO. 1

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Website: www.redfordu.k12.mi.us

May 20, 2025

Dear Panther Families,

Throughout the month of May, we celebrate courage, reflecting on the many ways our school community continues to embody this important character trait through leadership, dedication, resilience, and celebration. Staff within the District have encouraged our Panthers to practice courage by trying new things, standing up for others, and persevering after a setback.

Before we share what we have been up to this month, I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the parents and community members who supported the bond issue on the May 6th ballot. Your continued commitment to our schools is deeply appreciated. With your support, we are able to make important advancements in our facilities and programs while ensuring our schools remain safe and welcoming environments for all students. Thank you for investing in the future of our students and our community.

Earlier this month, we recognized our principals on **School Principal Day**, a moment to thank our school leaders for their unwavering commitment to our students' growth, **learning**, and well-being. Their courageous leadership is a cornerstone of our District's success. We also celebrated **National Teacher Appreciation Week**, honoring our incredible educators who show daily courage in their dedication to teaching and mentoring the next generation. Their tireless work fuels our District's mission of being "Tradition Rich, Future Focused," and our District would not be the same without this incredible team of professionals. Thank you, teachers, for the passion you bring into every classroom all year long.

On May 2nd, **College Decision Day,** we provided our seniors with the opportunity to stand proudly before their peers to share their post-graduation plans. Whether attending college, entering the workforce, joining the military, or pursuing other meaningful paths, the assembly was a reminder of the courage it takes to look toward the future with hope and ambition. We are Panther Proud of every senior for making it to this stage in their lives.

On May 11th, **Mother's Day**, we took a moment to celebrate the mothers, grandmothers, guardians, and caregivers in our community whose love and courage guide and uplift our students every day. We are grateful for all that you do.

Looking ahead, we have several exciting and important events to wrap up the school year for our senior class. **Senior Final Exams** are scheduled for May 20–22, marking an incredible milestone as our graduates-to-be conclude their high school journey. Finally, **Graduation Day** is just around the corner on May 28 — a proud, heartfelt day when we will celebrate the Class of 2025 and all they have achieved.

There can be no mention of courage in May without acknowledging Memorial Day and the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our freedoms. There will be **No School** on Friday, May 23rd or Monday, May 26th in observance of **Memorial Day**. The legacy of our fallen United States military heroes reminds us of the true meaning of service and commitment. We encourage our community to thank those who have served, or are currently serving, for their courage and dedication to protecting our country.

As summer approaches, we want to remind families that support continues, even when school is not in session. The Fresh Den will remain open and available to provide food to those in need. To inquire about the Fresh Den or request items, please reach out to Melissa Nickel at nickelm@redfordu.k12.mi.us. Additionally, our District offers the Meet Up and Eat Up program at various locations in the District, where breakfast and lunch are served to students at no cost—no registration required. We encourage anyone who could benefit from these resources to take advantage of them.

Finally, while several schools have held their very first **Best School Day Ever**, this event is still coming at our other buildings – along with a number of other end-of-year events for our students. As we get closer to wrapping up another successful school year, let's continue to support our students and each other.

It's always a great day to be a Panther!

Your Educational Partner,

Jasen Witt Superintendent