Dear Representative Summerfield:

I hope this letter finds you, your family, and your colleagues well. I would like to provide you with an update from Elk Mound Area School District as we address the challenges brought forth by the COVID-19 pandemic.

As I write this letter, we have 14 days remaining in our school year, despite all the challenges, we continue to provide a quality education for our students as well as free meals. This letter is to help you understand what has been happening in our school district. I am proud of our students, staff and community for the support provided during this pandemic.

When schools were closed, we were able in five days turn around to have home-based learning started. All first through twelfth graders were provided with a Chromebook. We did order 30 hot spots which did not arrive right away but have since been provided to families. However, not all homes in our district have web connectivity to sustain appropriate services. For those students, we have provided paper and pencil materials but these students do miss out on the daily interaction with their teacher through technology.

As a district, we have made a point to connect not only with our students but also our parents to check on their emotional and social state. This has been important in supporting our community.

We also have been providing over 400 breakfasts and lunches each day to our students. This has been accomplished by our bus drivers delivering the meals to each household or by pick-up by the parent on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Our plan is to continue this offering until June 5, our last day of instruction, then adjusting to once a week delivery until June 26. Our food service staff, office staff and bus drivers have worked tirelessly to provide this opportunity.

Overall, when it would take most businesses a year to implement a new model, schools across the state reinvented themselves in less than a week. By no means has this been without struggles, or is it the best way to educate students, yet we are doing our best to support our students and their families.

I hope you, your family and your staff are healthy and well. If you have any questions, I welcome your calls or emails so that I can explain our work and answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Eric Wright
Superintendent

The Elk Mound Area School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or handicap in educational programs or activities or in employment.