Dear Representative Meyers,

First and foremost, I hope this letter finds you and your family safe and healthy during these unprecedented times. I appreciate your leadership and willingness to adapt through this entire process. Your support for the citizens of Wisconsin does not go unnoticed and is very much appreciated by all stakeholders.

The purpose of my letter is to provide you with factual, accurate information regarding the Hayward Community School District and the challenges we have faced brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. As you know, this was a rapidly changing process, with new guidelines and directions almost coming to us on a daily basis. The Hayward Community School District, along with many districts across the state, pride ourselves on being systemic and having policies and procedures in place to assure each student receives the best opportunities to ACHIEVE. The past few months have been anything but systemic. We have swam through unchartered waters with flexibility and the ability to embrace adversity. School grounds were closed, however learning was far from closed here in Hayward. Our staff, students, families, and community members continued to be resilient and as enthusiastic as possible in regards to our student’s educational process. Here is a list of what we have been doing in Hayward in reaction to the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Over 800 meals per day were delivered using school busses.
- Most students have been participating in virtual instruction since April 1st. Unreliable internet access and cell phone coverage was a challenge for many.
- All students received a continuity of education packet, which contained 4th quarter curriculum.
- Alternative plans for the 2020 graduation commencement have been created.
- Numerous banners and posters have been displayed across town.
- In an effort to assist our local economy and take care of our staff, we have maintained all employees on our payroll.
- Available PPE was donated to local law enforcement and the Hayward Hospital.
• Purchasing of mobile hot-spots for students and staff to access broadband services.
• Building supports for social-emotional needs of students upon their return.
• Senior parade through downtown.
• Extensive Talent Development to improve our virtual instructional process.
• Curriculum and student assessment review to identify learning gaps.
• Implementation of interventions to compensate for loss of learning and regression.

I am very proud to work with the dedicated team at the Hayward Community School District. Our educational plan was not designed to provide at-home instruction. Our families were not prepared to operate within this model of delivery. We have done the best we can under the current situation. I have never been more proud of our resilient students, staff, and community here in CANE COUNTRY!

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this letter. I look forward to discussing future challenges and opportunities that resulted from the COVID-19 closure of school grounds. Please feel free to give me a call if you need anything from my end and I will be happy to assist.

Please stay healthy and well.

Sincerely,

Craig Olson