

Dear School Community,

We hope to provide clarification regarding the distinction between actions taken by the Board of Directors as a whole, and individual School Board members acting on their own. As an initial matter, the Board of Directors of RSU 57 is a legal entity only in its collective capacity. This means that the School Board only has legal authority over the conduct of our RSU 57 Schools when a quorum of School Board members is present at an official School Board meeting, and the School Board may only act by means of a majority vote made in public session.

Individual School Board members only exercise the authority and responsibility of their position when the School Board or a committee of the School Board is in legal session or when the School Board has expressly delegated authority to that individual to act on its behalf. By School Board policy, only the School Board Chair and the Superintendent of Schools may speak on behalf of our School Board.

The Board of Directors of RSU 57 has adopted a number of School Board policies, including a School Board Member Code of Ethics Policy (Policy BCA), a Non-Discrimination Policy (Policy AC), and an Educational Philosophy/Mission Policy (Policy AD), which collectively make clear that RSU 57 will provide an inclusive educational environment where all students and employees feel valued, regardless of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, ancestry, national origin, or disability.

To the extent that individual School Board members may from time to time express views on school-related matters, whether on social media or by other means, that are contrary to RSU 57's established core values, such views are solely that of the individual and are not reflective of the educational values of School District or the School Board itself.

Sincerely,

Superintendent of Schools