

## The VHEDC is a group of business leaders engaging with community stakeholders to enhance the economic vitality of our community.

October 7, 2019

Dr. Wayne Kazmierczak & ISD 624 School Board Supintendent, ISD 624 4855 Bloom Ave White Bear Lake, MN 55110

Dear Dr. Kazmierczak and School Board Members:

Please accept this letter as our formal endorsement of the upcoming bond referendum for White Bear Lake Area Schools. We recognize that the District has been strong financial managers of resources receiving AA bond rating from S&P's every year since 2010, and excellence in financial reporting awards 19 consecutive years.

We understand that this bond referendum would impact improvements for all buildings and allow the district to prepare for projected enrollment growth, along with other security improvements which help create and sustain a strong community. The VHEDC Board of Directors recognize the need for strong schools to maintain and improve the success of White Bear Lake Area Schools. By creating these improved learning spaces, we see an even brighter future for your schools.

Your emphasis on Career Pathways, facilitated with such programs as the Gen Z Connections, along with many of the local industry partners has proven to be successful for the students involved as well as the business community. This collaboration between schools, business and nonprofit economic development has been beneficial to the entire community.

We look forward to our continued partnership which can only be enhanced by the upcoming bond referendum.

Sincerely,

VHEDC Board of Directors

## 2019 Board of Directors

Eric Johannes, President, IC System

Ed Jambor, Vice President Lake Area Bank

Joy Vander Heiden, Secretary Schwing America

> Brian Deuel, Treasurer Olsen Thielen & Co.

Scott Haupt, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Short Elliott Hendrickson

Debby Gustafson, Past President Twin Cities Metro

> Becky Bjorgum Innovize

Mary Buerkle Buerkle Automotive Group

> Mark Duea, GDO Law

Jill Funck H.B. Fuller

Matthew Heimann Larson Engineering

> Colette Jurek Xcel Energy

Dr. Wayne Kazmierczak White Bear Lake Area Schools

> Callie Koeniger, Cummins

Cindy O'Donovan Right4 Your Business

Mike Pelto Midwest One Bank

> Sara Stafki F&M Bank

Kyle Sommer Toshiba Business Solutions

Rob Thomas Lakeshore Area Players

Thomas Voegele Comcast Business

Marty Welch Children's Discovery Academy

> Kevin Whelan Peoples Bank Midwest

Mike Enright, Advisor Cities Credit Union

Gerry Urban, Advisor Urban's Farm & Greenhouses