

May 3, 2017

Dear EGRPS Families,

On behalf of the Board of Education, administration, and staff, I would like to thank you for your strong vote of confidence for East Grand Rapids Public Schools through your support of the Enhancement Millage.

The additional funds raised from the millage (\$211 per pupil, approximately \$617,000 for EGRPS) will be available for the 2017-2018 school year. This vote of support will have a sustained impact on our district over the next 10 years because the funds are locally controlled and will be used for teaching and learning. Our current and future students will benefit tremendously from the outcome of this supportive vote. The vote in support was critical since we were projected to have a budget deficit of \$550,000 (this deficit total assumes no contributions received from the current EGRNOW! campaign) for the 2017-2018 school year. This deficit amount exists even after cutting \$4.4 million over the past nine years from our budget. Again, your vote saved critical programs and services for our students and will help us as we work to bridge the funding gap on an annual basis.

We are truly grateful for the supporters of public education that came together in this effort across Kent County. This positive outcome represents a true community effort on the part of all our partners; parents, staff, community members, and the EGR Schools Foundation. We are especially thankful to the EGR Schools Foundation for their ongoing support. Because of their partnership with the district and their leadership role on the EGR NOW! campaigns, they have helped save vital programs and services (which otherwise would have been cut) over the past five years. As a community, we must remain vigilant in our support of public schools---both by engaging policy-makers in Lansing and by supporting efforts of the EGR Schools Foundation.

We are proud to be part of a community that values a quality public school education for all students; and we are committed to continuing that work every day.

With respect and gratitude,



Sara Magaña Shubel, Ph.D.
Superintendent