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Wednesday, July 1st, 2020

To the Communities of Chelsea and Tunbridge:

I want to begin by thanking all of the community members for reaching out to both the First Branch Unified District Board and me with concerns specific to the current state of the budget, merger, and plans for how we best move forward to support the students of Chelsea and Tunbridge. This is the first of what I expect to be regular communication between myself and the communities of Chelsea and Tunbridge. I understand that we are in very unsettled times, but I'm confident that with steady leadership, proactive communication, community building, and a focus on student achievement/outcomes we can move forward in creating something very special for the students of the First Branch Unified District (FBUD).

I want to personally invite you to join us for the upcoming FBUD board meeting on Wednesday, July 15th. You can access this meeting virtually by emailing a board member prior to the meeting. They will then forward your email address to the WRVSU offices in order to ensure that you receive the meeting link. The board plans to address several of the concerns that have been raised by the citizens of both towns during our meeting on July 15th. In addition, the board will look to take action on forming a FBUD 21-22 school restructuring committee that will include stakeholder groups across both towns to research, plan, and propose the best route forward both fiscally and educationally for the students of Chelsea and Tunbridge.

The meeting will also include consultation from our school district attorney in order to ensure that the greater public and FBUD board fully understands what we can legally pursue as a district as we move forward to create educational opportunities of excellence. I understand that I'm new to the organization, but I've spent my entire life living in the greater White River Valley. Therefore, I know that we can work together to create something very special for our students, while also making certain it is fiscally responsible. I'm eager to officially begin this work!

With great appreciation and optimism,

Jamie Kinnarney
Superintendent of Schools, WRVSU