



November 12, 2020

Dear Fox Point-Bayside/Maple Dale-Indian Hill Families:

We want to thank you all for your time and attention to school matters and issues at this time. We realize that you are likely getting more communications than ever from your respective districts about pandemic-related topics that affect their day-to-day operations. This letter is to update you on recent discussions between our two districts regarding potential consolidation.

Throughout the long history of the Fox Point-Bayside (FPBS), Maple Dale-Indian Hill (MDIH), and other partner districts, consolidation conversations have often been a precursor to referendum discussions. In fact, prior to MDIH's 2019 referendum, the district looked to partner districts to join in a joint facility study. The most recent consolidation conversations between FPBS and MDIH, which took place during the 2019-2020 school year, resulted in a review of the potential benefits and challenges that would be faced should we move forward with legal consolidation efforts.

Though there were benefits identified, the following list represents the key challenges of a legal consolidation that the MDIH and FPBS districts identified and considered as a part of this process:

- Voters would be required to approve the legal consolidation of the two districts.
- Then, voters would also need to approve a combined *operating* referenda for the 'new' district to cover what is currently in place, which is approximately \$4 million annually (\$900,000 for MDIH + \$3.1M for FPBS). If that did not pass, the new district would immediately face a noteworthy shortfall in funding for our students.
- The MDIH community passed its referendum in 2019, and facilities improvements are well underway.
- Even in a consolidated district, facility improvements to the buildings in the Fox Point-Bayside District would still need to be addressed. An effective consolidation would likely require closing Stormonth School.
- Regardless if Stormonth closes, it is unclear if consolidating the districts would benefit the taxpayers of both communities.

As a result, we do not plan to move forward with legal consolidation discussions at this time. We will continue to work together and explore options that will benefit FPBS and MDIH students, families, and taxpayers.

Thank you again for all you are doing to ensure the success of your children and our community. As always, your feedback is appreciated. Should you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at [jdellutri@foxbay.org](mailto:jdellutri@foxbay.org) and [timothy.joynt@mapleale.k12.wi.us](mailto:timothy.joynt@mapleale.k12.wi.us).

Yours in education,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Dellutri".

Dr. Jeffrey Dellutri  
FPBS District Administrator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy Joynt".

Timothy Joynt  
MDIH District Administrator