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Interim Superintendent Budget Message 2019-2020

It is my pleasure to present the 2019-2020 Greater Albany Public Schools Proposed Budget. Over the past seven months I have enjoyed witnessing many of the wonderful attributes of the district. I continue to be impressed with the dedication of our GAPS staff as they strive to make a difference every day for our students. There are wonderful opportunities for students throughout the district. Our schools and district departments operate with a high level of efficiency, striving to do the most they can within the resources provided.

Our high school graduation rate continues to increase and is considerably higher than the state average. Students have the opportunity to participate in tremendous band, choir, drama, and athletic programs. Career and Technical Education flourishes as a viable part of the district curriculum offerings. I know our staff care deeply for the welfare of our students and are invested in helping our students find success.

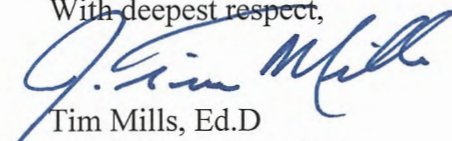
In developing the budget, our District Leadership Team reviewed the budget in detail. Our principals and department managers participated in providing feedback regarding areas for reduction and for increased investment. Despite anticipated increases in revenue, prior expenditure decisions and upcoming increases in employer PERS contributions necessitated removing roughly \$1.6 million in our budget. As the budget process evolved between January and April we began identifying areas for reductions, always with an eye towards minimizing the impact in the classroom.

This budget is intended to support the educational journey of our 9,300 students. Our objective is to maximize the distribution of revenue, while maintaining an adequate fund balance. We have made every effort to minimize the impact of an expenditure reduction of over \$1.5 million. I believe this budget represents a responsible fiscal plan that will provide a solid foundation going forward.

I have no doubt that the future of the Greater Albany Public School District is extremely bright. The new schools and building projects throughout the district are a very visible illustration of the continued support of a great community.

It has been an honor to have worked with such an excellent board of education, a talented district office staff, and the dedicated 1,200 licensed and classified staff members, all working together to create an exceptional experience for the students in the Greater Albany community.

With deepest respect,



Tim Mills, Ed.D
Interim Superintendent