

October 23, 2023

Dear Parents, Caregivers, and Community Members,

It is with mixed emotions that I share with you my decision to retire at the end of this school year in June 2024. When I came to HCSD nearly seven years ago, I had no intention of staying longer than a few years, but I fell in love with our District and our community and soon wanted nothing more than to remain. It has been my honor to serve and I could not be more thankful for the privilege you bestowed on me.

My decision to come to HCSD is, without a doubt, the best decision I could have made as an educator. My years in HCSD have been some of the most rewarding of my entire 33 year educational career and that is because of our educators, our students and our community - thank you for your deep caring and support of our District.

Over the years our District has accomplished so much including all the work we did to keep our students in school during the pandemic. Amidst the turmoil of conflicting opinions and ever-changing guidance, we found our way to the right path by always putting the needs of our students first.

I have had the honor of working with exceptional educators who are totally committed to the success and well-being of our students. We have weathered challenges together and have always worked to find the best outcomes for the students in our care. It has been nothing short of amazing!!

During this transition, I know our educators and community will stay centered on the heart of our District's success: We *collaborate* with all our constituencies. HCSD is bigger, stronger and more important than any one person in it. Together, we truly are greater than the sum of our many parts. I know change can be challenging, but I also know you are in good hands with our educators, site and District leaders and our Board of Trustees.

Ultimately, each of us is just "passing through" an institution which we all strive to leave in better shape than when we started. I have done my mightiest to accomplish this goal and I hope that others view my record of achievements together with my team in the same light.

I will treasure forever the profound professional and personal relationships I have formed as HCSD Superintendent with educators, Board members, parents, and community supporters; you have been a precious gift to me. Retiring will no doubt be bittersweet. I will miss you all, but I am confident I am leaving HCSD in capable hands that will chart a bright future for the District!

Thank you again for your incredible support of our District. I look forward to many wonderful days ahead for HCSD.

With much love and gratitude,
Louann

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