



# **BOLD Public Schools**

**I.S.D. # 2534 Bird Island-Olivia-Lake Lillian School District**  
**Dale Brandsoy, Superintendent**

Brett Benson - K-4 Principal  
Jim Menton - 5-12 Principal  
Derek Flann – Activities Director/Community Education Director

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May 7, 2020  
Parents and Community

Subject line: An update on our facilities

To BOLD parents and community members:

On behalf of BOLD Public Schools faculty and staff, I want to express our deep appreciation for the support we have received from our community during this unprecedented time.

As our nation and state take on the challenge of this global pandemic, we recognize the value of education in the daily lives of our students and our staff. We miss seeing kids in our classrooms, but we are equally in awe of the resilience of our students and teachers who have adapted quickly to distance learning. We are also grateful for the hard work and sacrifices of parents who are helping us make this happen.

While we are focused on the immediate needs of our students and their families, we have not lost sight of the future. In that spirit, I want to share with you the district's plans for addressing the long-term needs of our school buildings.

Sections of our buildings are nearly 100 years old and don't meet modern standards for health, safety and education. These issues aren't going away and will undermine our educational goals if they aren't addressed.

That is why district staff and the school board are discussing how to resolve the physical deficiencies of our schools. We know that there will be a time when we have managed the current health crisis and we want to be ready when it's time to re-engage about the district's future.

We face some significant challenges. Despite our best efforts, major fungal growth has returned to Bird Island Elementary due to a variety of building component failures. Environmental and building construction experts have concluded that the air, mold and water infiltration problems are so profound that our children and staff should be relocated until these issues can be resolved.

Recognizing the urgency, the School Board approved a motion on April 27 to move all students and staff to the Olivia Campus for the 2020/2021 school year. The advisory committee will continue to assess the best long-term options for Bird Island Elementary. The goal is to develop a plan that will minimize disruptions, followed by a long-term solution that meets our safety and financial expectations.

*BOLD is an equal opportunity educator and employer*  
*Web site: [www.bold.k12.mn.us](http://www.bold.k12.mn.us)*

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Meanwhile, the district remains interested in a partnership with Renville County Hospital & Clinics to address education and wellness needs within the school district. Understandably, the hospital is focused solely on COVID-19. I will keep you updated as we explore this opportunity down the road.

Once again, let me say how much I appreciate everyone's support during this difficult time. If you have questions or concerns, please contact me at [dale.brandsoy@bold.k12.mn.us](mailto:dale.brandsoy@bold.k12.mn.us) or 320-523-1031.

Stay healthy and safe.

Dale Brandsoy

Superintendent

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