

School Board Organizational Meeting
July 1, 2015
Ms. Van Doren's Statement

I would like to thank Mr. Lander for his leadership this year. As I began my work on the School Board last September, I had a lot to learn very quickly. We had some huge decisions to make and I feel like I hit the deck running a sprint. I cannot thank Mr. Lander enough for his leadership and the time he spent ensuring I had the information I needed to make decisions at this table. We continue to have huge issues before us as the school system continues to grow. We need to work together closely, as a Board and as a community. I have to thank Mr. Lander for leading us and making sure that we stayed connected with the community in all of our work together. It has been important for me to honor a pledge I made to make sure that we have strong collaboration with the County Board. I think we have had a sea change in the way our Boards' and staff work together. I think our community is demanding this close collaboration. We no longer can make decisions in the silos of the school system and the County. We have to work closely together. I have served on the Community Facilities Study Committee as a liaison with Mr. Lander. We are committed to helping not only our Boards, but our staffs work closely together. Our resource constraints and our community demand this of us. We need to work as one. Mr. Lander, thank you for helping push that agenda forward. Thank you the positive approach in working with our County colleagues and putting the structures in place to make that happen. Thank you.