

Dear Burlington Community:

In the past month there have been numerous requests for the School District to provide comment in response to rumors circulating on social media channels that ended up having zero merit or basis in fact. These include a 40 percent teacher turnover rate, an administrative refusal to have Sen. Bernie Sanders speak at BHS graduation, and most recently claims the Superintendent received a \$13,675 bonus. These falsehoods are not helpful in supporting our schools or building the credibility of our District. This action also detracts from the progress our District has made and the many accomplishments of our students over the past year.

The District administration is committed to providing transparency to the public and offers a number of opportunities and avenues to achieve this throughout the year.

Given that information shared on social media outside of the official district accounts can contain a multitude of falsehoods and inaccuracies, and by the District responding to these claims it can give attention to unsourced or exaggerated information, the administration will not spend its time and staff resources on refuting every inaccurate statement as we move forward.

Social media is a great space for community dialogue, examination and speculation. We realize most people use it as such and respect the process for varied opinions. The District will continue to use its official social media presence as one of its many methods of communication and outreach to the community. The administration encourages community members to reference official District communications for accurate and factual information.

The District has worked to further develop and improve its communication channels and networks, and our team looks forward to the launch of a new website and communication strategies this fall as this process continues.

Let's continue to work together as a community to provide the best education and support for our children.

Thank you

—————**YAW OBENG - SUPERINTENDENT**—————