

Jackson County School District

Community Update – April 27, 2021

Superintendent: Dr. John D. Strycker



“My New Best Friend”

This story may sound made up, but in fact it took place this morning.

Even though I do everything I can to start my day on a positive note, including a morning run, prayer, and devotional, today started with a series of discouraging events. As I attempted to shake off the morning’s disappointments, I received a call on my way out of the house regarding disparity over the facility bond project. It then crossed my mind to slow down and take a moment to say an extra prayer seeking clear direction for our school district.

I felt led to stop by a particular K-2 self-contained special education classroom during my morning school visit because I always enjoy my time in this particular room. I will not say which school I visited to protect the identity of the students, but upon walking into the room, a little girl immediately opened her arms and said, “There is my best friend.” I was taken back a bit as I looked up to God and said, “Wow, really?” I went over to her and asked if I could help her with her handwriting practice sheet. She said, “Please.”

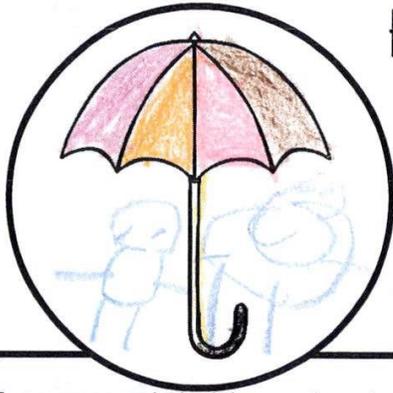
We worked on our “U’s” as she pointed out that I needed to “really practice my small u’s.” I am the kind of person who is always in a rush, but I decided to slow down and take all the time I needed to work with her. As we finished the worksheet together, she took a crayon and drew a picture at the top. I asked what the picture was. She said, “That is me and that is you. We are best friends!” In that instance, all of the worries of the morning faded away. I thanked her, gave her a hug, and rushed out of the building to hide the emotions I was feeling. Driving to my office, I thanked God for that blessing and for the renewed clarity and strength to move forward.

Regarding the bond, I simply ask that our community keep things in perspective. We all care about our students. Many, like myself, are very passionate about education and providing the very best for our school district. In the end, on May 18th, the community will decide if we are moving forward with the current plan or not. No matter the outcome, we will still be one school family, and we will continue serving our students like that of my new best friend. They deserve it.

Thank you for reading,
John

JOHN

B.

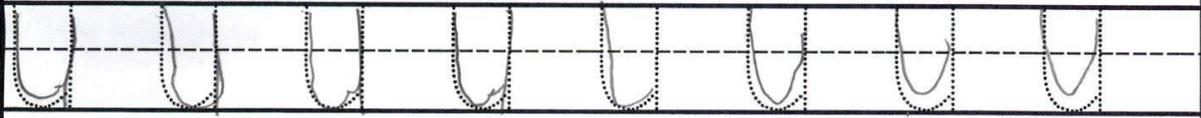


Handwriting Practice

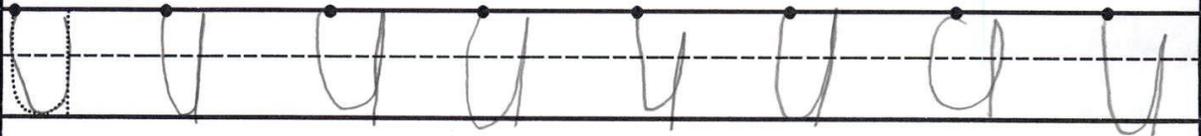
U u

Name _____

Trace each letter, start at the top.



Write the letter on your own, start at the dot.



Trace the words, then write them on the lines below.

umbrella

Ulysses

umbrella

Ulysses