

Dear Norman Public Schools Educators and Families,

We hope this message finds you well. We at Norman Public Schools and Professional Educators of Norman want to start by expressing our appreciation for the incredible support and investment our district has received from our school board, city leaders, and county leaders with regard to our priority of keeping students and educators safe in each of our schools day-in-and-day-out. Their support of our ongoing safety and security measures has been evident and invaluable, and we are truly grateful.

However, we must share an urgent concern that may require immediate action. Despite the security measures we currently have in place, we know that schools always remain vulnerable. As such, we know there is an ongoing need for SROs at all of our schools and particularly our elementary schools.

As you may have heard, the Norman City Council stated in open session of its meeting earlier this week that it is considering an indefinite pause on funding additional school resource officers from the Cleveland County Sheriff's Office. The Council also stated an intent to hold a joint meeting involving city and county leaders to better inform their decision to move forward with SROs at our elementary schools – protecting our youngest students.

If we insist on having officers at our secondary schools, board meetings, and city council meetings for adults, why would we not also insist on providing the same protection for our elementary schools? While we wholeheartedly support constructive dialogue, and are happy to answer any specific questions the council members have at any time, we hope that progress will not be held up as we continue toward our goal of having at least one resource officer at all school sites by January 2024.

We need your help – elected leaders need to hear your voice. They rely on your honest feedback on all sides of an issue as much as they appreciate ongoing conversation and dialogue with leaders. For your convenience, you can find contact info for elected

leaders by clicking these links: <u>Norman Board of Education</u>, <u>Norman City Council</u>, <u>Cleveland County Commissioners</u>. School is still in session, and we worry about any delay that could potentially change the safety measures already in place at our school sites. It is important that leaders hear your thoughts.

Together, we believe we can convey the message that the safety of our children truly is a top priority for not only our school district but also our entire community. Thank you for your understanding, support, and dedication to the safety of our students and staff. Thank you for any outreach and insight you may provide to our community leaders as we work to move forward positively and productively toward safe and nurturing outcomes for ALL.

Dr. Nick Migliorino

Superintendent, Norman Public Schools

Ms. Adrienne Hall President, PEN