

# North East School District

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**Dr. Michele Spurgeon Hartzell, Superintendent**  
**Mrs. Shelley Allen, Administrative Assistant**

**Mr. Jeffrey Fox, Business Manager**

## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RELEASE DATE: 5/20/2022

RE: RESPONSE TO 5/19/2022 BOARD MEETING AND VIDEO

CONTACT: Dr. Michele S. Hartzell, Superintendent; [mhartzell@nesd1.org](mailto:mhartzell@nesd1.org)

I want to apologize to our families and community for the acts of a few individuals that made a circus out of our May 19, 2022, Board meeting. This was a demonstration of disrespect by a handful of individuals, some being a few of my own staff, that continue to harass my teachers, support staff, administration, and school board members.

Our number one goal of the North East School District has been and will continue to be to keep our students and staff safe. Despite the many obstacles over the last couple of years, our students continue to thrive and we are very proud of how they have persevered. This is due to the hard work and dedication of our teachers, support staff, administration, and Board of Directors. We are proud of all of our accomplishments both academically and through our extra-curricular activities. Our Grape Picker family will not stand down against a handful of individuals that continue to waste our taxpayer dollars. We are focused on the education of ALL our children and the children will continue to be our priority. I stand by my Board and my teams recommendations during these unprecedented times and would not change one decision over the past couple of years. Thank you to all our families and community members that assiduously support our schools, academics, extra-curricular activities. We hear you, we thank you, and we appreciate you.

Finally, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to our North East Board of Directors. These unpaid elected leaders give unselfishly of their time and energy to and go above and beyond to support our students, administration, teachers, staff, and community. We cannot thank you enough for what you had to endure and we appreciate your time, dedication, and service to our children.