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January 29, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to share that, after an exciting and fulfilling career of service in public education, I am retiring from the Limestone District School Board at the end of this school year.

I feel privileged to have contributed in a variety of roles and locations over my 27 years in Ontario public school boards, provincial assignments, and on the international front. I have truly loved each of my roles as teacher, head of department, vice-principal, principal, superintendent and, for the past five years, as your director of education.

While the work in each of these capacities brought unique pleasures and challenges, I have approached each through the eyes of a teacher, and it is as a teacher that I retire. Our students have inspired every moment of my work and I delight in their stories of achievement and well-being.

When I reflect on my career in education, I see the years as a series of moments. In Limestone in particular, every interaction I have had with staff is captured vividly in my memory: proud caretakers; caring board and school office staff; dedicated administrators; committed teachers, support and senior staff. I am constantly reminded of the team spirit with which our incredible staff approach their work of nurturing the growth of our future citizens together with our families and community partners.

It has been an honour to serve as your director for the past five years, collaborating to build a progressive and ambitious strategic plan focused on student and staff wellness, innovation and collaboration. Despite ongoing challenges in public education, I am proud to say that as a board, we remain steadfast in our commitment to ensuring our collective work benefits all students and, together, this is our legacy.

My last official day will be August 31, 2020. The Board of Trustees will soon begin the process of recruitment for a new director. Between now and then, I hope to have ongoing opportunities to visit with many of you and continue to share all of the good work taking place in Limestone.

It has been my absolute pleasure to have led the Limestone District School Board. I wish you all the very best.

Warmest regards,

Deb

Debra Rantz **Director of Education**

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