

A new day is an opportunity to make a new connection!

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"The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall." - Nelson Mandela Curbing Teacher Burnout During the Pandemic by Nora Fleming

District Highlights

This week was full of meaningful events and discussions. Teachers began to come to school to close out classrooms and prepare student belongings



for pickup later in June. I spoke to the few that were in the buildings on Wednesday and it was an emotional process for them and for me. The end of the school year always brings sadness and joy as most transitions do. This year is extra sad. There is no getting around that. It will be important for us to create and find joy too. This will begin with STEAM Challenge Day/Field Day planned for this Friday and next Tuesday. I am heartened for the other activities under discussion to close out the year. We are all craving connection and ways to bring meaningful closure to the year. More info to come.

In other news, we are very thankful to have our 20-21 school year budget passed by the Board of Finance in place of a referendum vote. Having our budget stay as adopted by the Board of Education is critical as we look to meet all of the challenges that next year will bring. I have been impressed by the teamwork by all of the boards and Hebron employees throughout the budget adoption process. It was an unusual budget process, starting with the superintendent transition as the budget was proposed and finishing without a vote. Hebron clearly prioritized education in the adoption of this budget and the children will be the beneficiaries. Bravo to all!

Professional Development Corner! The Hidden Brain is a gem of a podcast. <u>The Choices Before Us</u> was a recent episode that I would urge you to check out. An abundance of choices is a good thing, right? In the United States, where choice is often equated with



freedom and control, the answer tends to be a resounding 'yes.' But researchers say the relationship between choice and happiness isn't always so clear-cut. This week, we talk with psychologist Sheena Iyengar about making better decisions, and how she's thinking about the relationship between choices and control during the coronavirus pandemic. Check out the <u>#BrightFuture archives</u> (scroll down) for other podcast and book recommendations.

Do you have a resource, quote, or article to share? District committees can also communicate news via this newsletter. Just email me at <u>tbaird@hebron.k12.ct.us</u>. Have a great week!