



# CARDINAL CORNER

July 28, 2025

“The principal goal of education in the schools should be creating men and women who are capable of doing new things, not simply repeating what other generations have done.” As a pioneering psychologist in child cognitive development, Jean Piaget spent a large portion of his later life advocating for strong schools that offered a well-rounded educational experience for students. He understood that schools have an incredibly influential role in developing how our students think, act, and feel and that a quality education will help them become citizens who can make extraordinary contributions to our communities.

As a Thorp community, we all have a shared responsibility as citizens to actively engage in our educational system, and participate in ways that will help our schools be the strong, positive force for children that Piaget described. One of the primary ways community members can engage in the educational success of our school is by attending meetings and holding constructive dialogue with our elected School Board members. These amazing community members all share one thing in common; they want the absolute best educational experience for the children of Thorp.

Some of you may know that the Board has identified 4 goals to prioritize for our school district. They are as follows: Build & Sustain School Culture, Create & Implement a Comprehensive School-Wide Improvement Plan, Academic Success, and Leadership Development. The work of the staff in the school district is framed by these 4 goals which have been set by the Board. They drive our goal-setting, planning, day-to-day operations, and help us to prioritize personnel and funding.

In the coming weeks of The Cardinal Corner, I'll be sharing what the school district already does and plans to do in order to meet the goals set by the Board. I'll describe challenges that we face in the school, celebrations that we are having, and exciting new developments for the upcoming school year. I also plan on including reflections about how we are doing as a school district to meet the goals identified by the Board. My hope is that The Cardinal Corner will not just keep you informed, but that it will help you be engaged as an active member of our educational community.

Last week I wrote that “(a)s Thorp is united for our children, I have no doubt they'll go far!” As you learn more about the school district and what is happening, I hope that you'll consider attending more Board meetings, expressing your thoughts and feelings to the Board or myself, contacting teachers more frequently, following us on our socials, and getting involved in volunteering. This is what a community that is united around their children's education looks like. If we all contribute to our school district's goals in any way we can, we'll take a role in ensuring our students have the best education possible and that we are creating men and women who are capable of doing extraordinary things!

*Adrian Foster*  
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT