

12/30/2023

RE: Winter Taxes

Dear Britton Deerfield Community,

On behalf of the Britton Deerfield Board of Education we want to thank all those that attended, and participated, in this month's Board meeting. It was rewarding to showcase all our Students of the Month and to have our Student Council members as active participants in their school and at our meetings. It is our honor to continue to mentor our student government.

In just a few weeks many misunderstandings and rumors have circulated in the media and social media regarding what happened with the winter taxes. Mr. Gresens, an attorney from Thrun Law Firm and a school tax expert, donated his time and expertise to the district to answer questions from the Board and the community. His goal was to set the facts straight regarding what tax was missed, the general amount of persons affected, and how that mistake had to be immediately rectified no matter where the mistake originated. To be respectful of his time, that issue was the only item of discussion for the Board during the December meeting.

Moving forward we understand we, as a district, can only control our systems and processes in this matter. The timeline of events and communication trail is the next goal of understanding for the Board. We are thankful for and understand our business office successfully files thousands of documents on behalf of the school district and the Board every year. We will allow Mrs. Johnson an opportunity to complete her internal investigation on this matter and develop recommendations.

To remain completely transparent with our community, the Board will refrain from a closed session meeting at this time. This includes a pause on the Superintendent evaluation and the Board self-assessment until a satisfactory resolution has occurred. We anticipate that to occur no later than the next regularly scheduled board meeting. Until then we humbly request to allow the Board to work through this issue and help us minimize rumors. Please send all questions to Mrs. Johnson or me. All Board email is answered within 7 business days or less. We are greatly appreciative of your support, and wish all of our community a happy and safe New Year!!!

Respectfully,

Jennifer Spaulding  
President  
Britton Deerfield Board of Education