

(4/9/25 – District Administrator’s Corner Article)

An incredible community member, who has devoted 10 years of service to our schools, is retiring from her position on the River Valley School Board at the end of April. Sara Young has served as the School Board representative in the Village of Spring Green with tenacity and dedication, through thick and thin. During her term, she also served on the Board’s Budget, Technology, and Curriculum and Instruction Committees.

Sara has served through 3 superintendents, 5 business managers and 6 referendums. Her tenure has endured a federal pandemic, 2 Wisconsin Governors, and all or part of 4 United States Presidential terms. Sara has helped 958 students successfully receive diplomas from our institution.

In general, all School Board members help to govern our schools by being a partner to the leadership in the district. Our leadership team has had the great fortune of working with a variety of incredible members on our Board. With every decision, Sara has paused to ask the question. She has been careful and thoughtful in her role. She carefully represented her community in our district, but also tried to keep the big picture in mind. Sara has tried to always accentuate the positive, whether it was student success or district progress. She served as an ambassador for the district, especially when troubling issues were occurring in our community or district. She shares her insights and reaches out to offer her help. Sara hasn’t been afraid to tell the truth and to highlight areas of growth. She is an incredible role model for young citizens as they consider community service.

Sara Young has always led with student learning and student needs as the centerpiece of her mission. Pause and think of the state and federal initiatives and policies that have changed in 10 years in education. To name a few:

- School to work programs and apprenticeships
- Distance Learning, gaining 1 to 1 devices for students, and cybersecurity
- Changes in Special Education, Inclusivity and IDEA compliance
- School security measures, trainings, and mandatory reporting
- Jump Start, Early Start, 3K, 4K, and 5K changes
- After-school programming and before-school assistance
- Mandated testing from our state and federal government
- Private schools, charter schools, and virtual schools
- Closing buildings, revenue limits and the politics of educational funding

Sara and her husband, John, have been incredible advocates for our school community. Their hearts and hard work are examples of stewardship in The Valley. Sara will continue to work and serve and advocate—just with fewer meetings on Monday and Thursday evenings. She has governed relentlessly and kindly, and we are grateful for her devotion to the students and families. We will miss her. Sara Young...our hat is off to you.

Sincerely,

Loren Glasbrenner, District Administrator
River Valley School District