

## ANDERSON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 41

10040 COTTONWOOD ROAD  
BOZEMAN, MONTANA 59718

March 12th, 2020

To the Anderson School Board,

Please accept this letter of intent to resign from my position as the Superintendent of Anderson District 41, effective June 30th, 2020. These 6 years at Anderson School have been rewarding and filled with incredible opportunities. It has been an honor to serve this community and preside over this exceptional school. I will never forget the opportunity to drive a school bus with 24 fourth graders into Yellowstone National Park for a 3 day expedition or the chance to perform in our production of Mary Poppins with 80 students at the Emerson Cultural Center. And I am especially thankful for the opportunity to be the principal for my own two children for 5 of those years alongside a fantastic staff.

My decision to walk away from Anderson has been difficult as we prepare to break ground this spring after two years of strategic planning, design meetings, and going door-to-door to pass our first facility project in 20 years. I greatly appreciate the extension of my contract through 2022 at the regular board meeting in January of 2020. You have offered an opportunity to continue working with incredible teachers and a chance to see through the completion of the building project that will positively impact this community for decades. This is a wonderful job in a beautiful place and I appreciate your confidence in my performance to lead what I consider the best school in the Gallatin Valley. It has not been an easy decision to decide to leave Anderson School District during this exciting time.

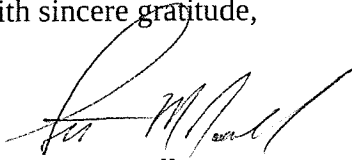
Becoming the administrator at Anderson School has given me the opportunity to be a part of a state recognized MTSS system and work each day with an incredible staff. The teachers, bus drivers, office staff, chefs, interventionists, and many others are the heart of this school and deserve our respect and appreciation for the job they do each day. I have witnessed their efforts to “do what is best for kids” and my own two children have thrived in this supportive environment filled with outstanding professionals. The staff and the system at Anderson operate so efficiently that I have often joked that if I were to “get hit by a bus tomorrow” they wouldn’t miss a beat. It is why I know I can walk away as caring people work as a team throughout the building to meet the high expectations of this community. This staff has pushed me to be better, supported me personally and professionally, and afforded me the opportunity to make mistakes and grow. They are second to none, and have my respect as a father and colleague. I appreciate

the chance I have had to create wonderful relationships with many amazing individuals who are committed to public education.

I will greatly miss connecting with the students, my frequent lunch buddies, and the high fives or fist bumps in the hall. I have enjoyed building relationships with many wonderful students, parents and community members. To our parents and community members, thank you for making this a special place and positively impacting the lives of ALL students. Your children are precious and will be what I miss the most.

I submit this resignation with a heavy heart and mixed emotions. I look forward to returning to the valley frequently with my family to visit our friends and also see the incredible facility transformation that will take place over the next 18 months. Thank you for all you have given to me the last six years and I know this school will continue to thrive with an involved community and new leadership. Keep kids first, continue to invest in people, and.... Go Panthers!

With sincere gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott McDowell", written over a faint circular stamp.

Scott McDowell  
Anderson School Superintendent