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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sun Praire Area School District Responds to Recent News Coverage

SUN PRAIRIE, Wis. (Apr. 22, 2023) - The Sun Prairie Area School District has seen various media accounts of the incident that is the subject of a letter from the Wisconsin Institute for Law and Liberty. While we do not know the source of the information that has been shared about this incident, we need to make one thing clear: several accounts of this incident are ill-informed, inaccurate, and incomplete. While student privacy and other laws prevent the District from addressing the specific events that occurred, we can share the following information:

- All individuals involved in this incident were students enrolled in the District.
- The District addressed this incident after it was brought to the District's attention.
- The District took steps to ensure a similar incident does not recur.
- The District talked with the students and families who were involved who came forward.
- The District offered and provided support to the involved students and their families.

Further, and to be clear:

- The Sun Prairie Area School District does not condone any student of one sex being present in a state of undress in the presence of students of another sex.
- The District does not condone a student of one sex showering in the presence of students of another sex.
- What happened in this incident was not in line with our District's practices.

Unfortunately, what is playing out in the media is based on assumptions about this incident that are simply untrue. We know it is easy to blame schools for events like this when people are outraged. The simple truth is that this incident should not have happened. But it did, and the District addressed it long before the recent publicity.

School districts across the country are striving to protect and support all students. Districts must balance the dual goals of supporting transitioning students while also protecting the privacy interests of all students. The Sun Prairie Area School District is committed to doing so in a manner that is grounded in our <u>mission</u>, <u>vision</u>, <u>and equity statement</u>. The District stands in support of all of its students and will continue to ensure that all students' rights are protected.

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