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For Immediate Release

Statement from Superintendent Dr. Keith Hilts

The Wausau School District strives everyday to be a model of high expectations for every member of our school community:

- High expectations for behavior
- High expectations for achievement

When you strive for excellence, you sometimes fall short. And we have. Some of our students experienced situations that fall short of our expectations.

What do successful people and successful organizations do when expectations aren't met? Do we reject the people who do not meet those expectations? Sometimes. Yes – when the behavior calls for it.

When appropriate, a preferred path is to use the situation to grow from. That is our path.

The Wausau School District does not tolerate disrespectful behavior. But, what does it mean to not tolerate disrespectful behavior?

“Not tolerating” disrespectful behavior means:

1. We denounce the behavior as not acceptable.
2. We take action to reinforce district expectations to treat all people with respect.
3. We engage all parties in learning to ensure we all know how to treat all people with respect.
4. Lastly, we monitor situations to ensure everyone is meeting our high expectations.

When we reject people who do not meet expectations, we foster division.

When we do the hard work to teach and reinforce and coach and support and monitor high expectations for behavior, now we have a whole group of people who are more capable and more likely to meet our expectations.

That is how we improve ourselves and our community. That is how we get closer to being the model for high expectations for all the members of our community.

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