



## Introducing the KMMS Family Advisory Council

### What is this?

Beginning in the fall of 2021, our middle school launched a Family Advisory Council, composed of an amazing group of parents, students, and district leaders. The purpose of the group is to provide input and feedback on a variety of issues around learning and life at KMMS. This group has really engaged in that purpose and has been very helpful to us this school year.

### Who are we (and what KMMS environment did or does your student attend)?

Carrie Foss - Create, Navigate	Kelly Fouts - Create, Navigate
Denise Halvorsen - Navigate	Courtney Hudson - Discover
Brenda Johansen - Discover	David Karasek - Navigate
Angela Meyers - Discover	Natalya Morrow - Navigate
Ellen Stabelfeldt - Navigate	Sarah Steineke- Create
Alayna Villa - student at HS <sup>2</sup>	Michael Wawrzyn - student at KMHS
Mike Comiskey, Principal	Holly Myhre, Director of Secondary Teaching & Learning

These individuals volunteered to join the group by responding to a recruitment drive in the fall of 2021.

### What have we been doing?

We spent some time initially getting to know one another by focusing on experiences and memories from our early adolescence that were noteworthy and formative in who we are today. The stories all held a common theme of connections - to peers, to adults, and to new learning. It was a great start.

During subsequent meetings, we spent time looking at our [KMSD Graduate Profile](#), and how it connects to the middle school years. We turned then to life at KMMS, some challenges we face, and what our achievement and survey data tell us about how well we are performing. David Karasek, one of our members, helped the KMMS leadership team present to our school board on January 13th. [Here's a link to that meeting.](#)

### How can you help?

The Council is now turning to the greater KMMS community for help:

- Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, April 13th at 5:30 p.m.** to attend our KMMS Family Listening Session. We will provide a summary of some of the issues facing our school and seek your feedback on a variety of questions about how we might move forward to serve our young adults.
- Complete a short survey about your views on the middle school years. We will be sending a survey link to our existing 4th through 8th grade parents and guardians, seeking to connect to our present and future students. This survey results will of course help guide our discussion on the 13th.

We will be sharing updates here in the LaserFocused about once a month as we wrap up the 21-22 school year. The Council will continue into the next school year and will be open to new membership as we move forward. With the departure of Mr. Comiskey as our principal, the new school leader will be continuing this group and its important work.