

From the desk of Superintendent Michelle Jensen...

"I love going to the feed store and drinking coffee and talking about how much rain we need."

[Thomas Haden Church](#)

Whether it's the feed store, gas station or local cafe, good conversation over a cup of coffee can often lead to great ideas. Having lived in Deerfield for many years, I have had the privilege to sit in on some of those conversations from time to time. Following up on the community feedback at the Forward...Together event this past summer, this is a good time to become the host(ess) of some of those conversations as we continue to prepare our children and grandchildren for an ever-changing world.

Beginning in January, I will be hosting a monthly *Chalk Talk* at the Deerfield Public Library. These conversations will take place on the second Tuesday of each month from 10:00-11:00am in the library meeting room. And because all good conversation should be accompanied by food, I will be serving coffee along with other breakfast foods and beverages. Like the commercial, I hope that community members will come for the food and stay for the (fun) conversation.

Our first *Chalk Talk* on Tuesday, January 12 will be a listening session for community members to share ideas and suggestions for future topics to be discussed each month. Subsequent months will then feature a brief presentation on a topic paired with open discussion time for any other questions or thoughts that participants might wish to discuss.

I believe that educating our children is a community effort especially in a small community like Deerfield where so many organizations work together to serve our students and families. Working together we can continue the district's mission of excellence and equity in educating our children.

See you January 12th at the library.