Dear Gilbert Alumni,

It has been an exceptionally exciting and busy time at your alma mater. For those of you who haven’t been back to Gilbert for a while, you will be pleasantly surprised at the progress and growth made in the district. A brand new multi-million dollar high school is very nearly completed and it is magnificent. The only part left to be done is the new auditorium for the performing arts which will be worth the wait. It should be completed this next month. Meanwhile, the old high school building is now the new intermediate building, and it has been extensively remodeled. The classrooms have new casework and carpeting, the commons area has been redesigned and the district superintendent’s office is in the former FFA/Industrial Tech area. We wanted it to look more like an intermediate building and the remodeling and the addition of the playground have really brought that vision to fruition. The elementary building is now housing grades K-2 and is much more spacious than in the past. We have also added another preschool section and a kindergarten prep class. The middle school in now the home of grades six through eight, and they are looking forward to a 1:1 initiative with Chrome books for all students. As you can see, the district is growing and changing in many positive ways.

In light of all of these changes, we would love to have our alumni come back and check it all out. We will be having a building dedication on September 29th at 2:00 p.m. at the new high school. We will have tours after the presentation until 4:00 p.m. We would like to invite all of you to attend this event with your families. It promises to be a special event as we begin this new era at Gilbert. If you are unable to attend this event, please feel free to stop by any time to have a look around. Obviously due to security concerns, you will need to check in with the building offices!

In addition to the building project, we have great news to report on the academic side as well. We are very proud of our students who have rated 17th in test scores in Iowa, according to U.S. News and World Report. Our students have traditionally scored well, and thanks to the continued efforts of our teachers and staff, we have been able to maintain that tradition of excellence. We have also received a number of STEM grants to help us grow in our science, technology, engineering and math programs.

Hopefully, you will be able to return either for the dedication or to watch an event in the Tiger athletic or fine arts schedule. Check the website for upcoming dates and please know you are always welcome in the district.