



January 23, 2008

To All Harambee and Crosswinds Families:

On January 22, the North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale (ISD 622) School Board voted to withdraw from the East Metro Integration District (EMID) collaborative effective July 1, 2009. Within the Joint Powers Agreement under which EMID was formed, member districts have the right to withdraw as their conditions and circumstances change. We are disappointed by this decision and realize that it impacts our whole school community — most notably those families who reside in ISD 622.

During the ISD 622 Board Meeting, a number of key questions emerged, and we will address these questions and others that you may have as they come to light. In this letter, we will share some important information regarding transportation issues:

- ISD 622 will no longer be a member district of the EMID collaborative as of July 1, 2009. However, as EMID is on a year-round calendar, our students — including those who reside in ISD 622 — are in school through the beginning of August. As a result, *ALL students who attend Harambee and Crosswinds will continue to have free bus transportation through July and into August of the 2008-2009 school year.*
- Families who reside in ISD 622 have asked about their ability to open enroll their students in Harambee and/or Crosswinds beyond the 2008-2009 school year. Please note that *EMID is in the process of exploring transportation options for these families for the 2009-2010 school year.*

We realize that this is a very difficult time for our school community and will make every effort to continue to communicate the facts surrounding this impending change. Please feel free to contact the staff and administration at EMID, Harambee, and Crosswinds with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Carl Wahlstrom

Superintendent
East Metro Integration District