

Dear High School Faculty and Staff:

I just wanted to interrupt your summer respite with a few tidbits to get you thinking about the new school year on the horizon. First, I would like to introduce some new staff who will be joining us this fall. **Brynne Stellner** joins our English Department and 9th Grade Academy team replacing Kathy Kopseng, who also retired this past June. Brynne is a recent graduate of Luther College. Three new additions to our special education department this fall, including **Shawna Molloy** who replaces Lisa Weis, who now resides at the middle school, **Laura Vind**, who fills a new position added as a result of increased student enrollment, and **Dylan Golla**, who replaces Aurora Kubach. **Tessa Kiesow** will be taking over for the departing Kim Horner as co-coordinator of our TORCH program, teaming with Teddy Gelderman, who will serve in a part-time role this year. We are still looking to fill a part-time position in our technology and engineering department. Maggie Jewison was set to replace the retired Ron Zoromski, but unfortunately had to resign from the position. The posted position will likely be filled by a licensed art teacher for the year (graphics and photography classes) and then revert back to a full-time technology and engineering position for 2018-19. New staff yet to be determined will also join our team in the coming weeks as instructional and special education assistants.

Fresh off a year of parenting leave, **Mary Robia** returns to the social studies department in a part-time role. **Jon Whitney**, who was her long-term sub, steps in for Scott Peterson, who is now dean of students at two middle schools in Prior Lake. Welcome, and welcome back, to all of you!

Regarding Workshop Week...

- Teachers new to the district will report to the middle school the morning of *Wednesday, August 23rd*, and will continue their orientation *Thursday, August 24th*.
- First day of *all staff* workshops, *August 28th*, is classroom worktime, with a breakfast, sponsored by the site council starting the day at 7:30 in the cafeteria. Plan on stopping down for some food and take a moment to meet our new staff members!
- *Tuesday, August 29th* begins with breakfast at the MS at 7:30 and an all-staff meeting in the MS auditorium until 9:30 a.m. The remainder of the morning includes activities lead by your site council, followed by “laptop transition & support” time in the afternoon.
- *Wednesday, August 30th*, we will start in the lower cafeteria at 7:30 with a variety of staff development offerings throughout the morning in various locations at the high school. The afternoon is devoted to department meetings.
- Finally, *Thursday August 31st* begins with two hours of district time devoted to PLC organization, followed by building level activities led by your site council. The afternoon is your time for classroom preparation.

A more detailed schedule of building staff development activities should be in your email inbox by now sent by site council chair Shari Karlsrud. District SD activities will be available in detail from MaryGrace Hanson somewhere near where you found this letter online!

(cont.)

Finally, a couple of items for your attention...

- Student Schedules go live on August 22nd, the same day that students report for pictures and incoming 9th graders have a chance to tour the building with LINK leaders. If you are available, feel free to come wander the building greeting our new students!
- First Day of school: 9th graders arrive at regular time for LINK activities. All staff needs to be out of rooms from 9:30-11:00. All students run **10 minute class/5 minute passing time** schedule starting at 12:30 p.m. **We will end the day with a building-wide meeting in the gym** (lead by the RaiderNation Team). Students will be released to the gym at 2:10 p.m. 9th graders will have nothing w/ them when they come to your classes. LINK leaders will not be in 7th hour.
- We will do class meetings again this fall. Class meetings will occur on Friday, September 8th. 12th graders: period 3; 11th graders period 2; 10th graders period 5; 9th graders period 7.

I wish each of you a enjoyable remainder of the summer break, and we'll see you on the 28th!

Sincerely,
Joel