

Dear High School Faculty and Staff:

I hope you are continuing to enjoy your summer break, but I wanted to take a moment to introduce some new staff who will be joining us this fall. First, a warm welcome to **Laura Kay Allen** who will assume the principal position on August 26<sup>th</sup> through December 20<sup>th</sup>. I am so thrilled that Laura Kay will be serving our students, staff, and community while I am on leave. **Tammy McDonough** joins our science department after many years at Northfield Middle School. Tammy's three children have all graduated from NHS! **Theresa Wilson** returns to us as a .6 Business Education teacher after a year in Farmington. She replaces Christ Gustilo. **Holly Olmsheid** and **Kathleen Wilson** join our math department after the departure of Justin Pfaffinger and Rachel Hoffelt. Holly spent the last four years at Faribault HS and Kathleen comes to us from St. Thomas Academy. NHS Graduate **Erik Burton** returns home to take a combined EL/Social Studies position (shared with the ALC) this fall. Erik has spent his post-college years so far on adventures too numerous to mention here. **Liz Musicant** joins the German Department at both NHS and the MS, replacing Oliver Reitan. Liz spent last year teaching German at Eastview HS. Finally, **Christopher Fatze** takes over our special education low incidence program (for **Meghan Kuchenmeister**, who returns to an EA position this year) after spending the last year at the MS.

At this time, we are still looking for a technology and engineering teacher to replace Steve Harner. We also will welcome **Margaret Colangelo** as a new EA to our school, and continue to look for one more to round out our amazing educational assistant team. *A warm welcome to all of our great new staff!*

Regarding Workshop Week...

- Teachers new to the district will report to the middle school the morning of *Wednesday, August 21st*, and will continue their orientation *Thursday, August 22nd*.
- First day of *all staff* workshops, *August 26th*, begins at 7:00 at the MS with an all-district breakfast and assembly. We will depart the MS on buses at 10:00 for a great staff team-building activity! More details to follow!
- *Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>* is a 1/2 day of building level professional learning followed by work time in your rooms and departments.
- *Wednesday, August 28th*, is the reverse of Tuesday, with work time in the morning and professional learning in the afternoon.
- *Thursday August 29<sup>th</sup>* is 2 hours of building level professional learning, followed by classroom preparation time.
- *Friday, August 30<sup>th</sup>* is a full day of classroom preparation time.

A more detailed schedule of building and district staff development activities will be available soon via email.

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

- School photos are being offered August 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> from 10:00-3:00. Student Schedules also go live on August 21<sup>st</sup>. and incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders have a chance to tour the building with LINK

leaders that day. If you are available, feel free to come wander the building greeting our new students!

- Counselors are completing a final check of student schedules and supervisions for both the school day and FLEX period are being assigned and will be distributed as soon as they are complete.
- I'm excited for all of you to see the changes that have been taking place at the HS this summer! An amazing new sound system in the gymnasium, paint in the halls, on the doors, in the gymnasium and cafeterias, great hallway windows that will really open up the V-wing, and the removal of more lockers for better student flow through the hallways. Looking forward to hearing what you think!

With that, I wish each of you an enjoyable remainder of the summer break! I will officially sign off on August 23<sup>rd</sup>, and Laura Kay will lead you through pre-service workshops starting on August 26<sup>th</sup> and into the school year. My family and I depart on our global semester experience on September 1<sup>st</sup> with 20 St. Olaf students in tow. I will miss this place deeply and look forward to rejoining you in January of 2020!

Sincerely,  
Joel