

August 2013

Dear High School Faculty and Staff:

I hope this letter finds you well, and that your summer break has been as adventurous or as calm as you intended it to be! Our building is undergoing a few changes, most of which have either to do with security or food service. The cafeteria is undergoing a cosmetic makeover in preparation for Fall, and the plan is to have doors outfitted with new security hardware and technology later this fall. In addition, the custodial crew has been working tirelessly to clean and prepare the building for your return later this month. It will be good, once again, to have the building bustling with life after the quiet of summer break.

As I typically do in this letter, I would like to introduce some new staff who will be joining us this fall. It will be a much shorter paragraph this year, however. **Tim Beigert**, a veteran middle school industrial technology teacher, joins our team, replacing Steve Taggart, who moves to the middle school this fall. **Carrie Duba**, our school psychologist from two years ago, makes her return to the high school, replacing Jacquie Ims, who will serve the Greenvale Park students this year. Beyond the classroom and special services, please make sure you stop in the main office or special education office to welcome **Nancy Sparby**, who joins the secretarial team, replacing Kathy Clark, who moved to the guidance office in June to replace the Washington, DC-bound Lee Thorson. Finally, some new names on returning faces: Mary Schmitt becomes Mary Robia (married in the summer of 2012), and Jill Ertl is now Jill Kohel (married earlier this month).

A few specific items for your attention:

- Regarding the first day of workshops, we have some great activities planned that will have you moving around the building in groups. Please dress comfortably.
- Also, regarding the SECOND day of workshops, please look for information coming from Site Council about the potluck breakfast they have planned.
- We do not have an August schedule/picture day this year. Instead, students will be receiving their iPads on August 15th and 20th, and electronic schedules will go live on August 20th. If you have any interest in helping w/ iPad distribution on either of those days, please let me know. Your help would certainly be welcome!
- First Day – 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 15 minute class/5 minute passing time schedule starting at 12:30 p.m. 9th graders will have nothing w/ them when they come to your classes. LINK leaders will not be in 7th hour.
- Picture day is September 30th.
- MEET THE TEACHER NIGHT this year is the evening of September 9th, from 6:30-8:30. Please mark your calendars for this event.

Regarding the start of school, teachers new to the district will report to the middle school the morning of *Monday, August 19th*, and will continue their orientation through *Tuesday, August 20th*. On *Monday, August 26th* and *Tuesday, August 27th*, NHS faculty will report to the high school for breakfast, staff development activities (4 hours each day planned by Site Council) and work time (4 hours each day). *Wednesday, August 28th* and *Thursday August 29th* are each slated for 2 hours of district staff development time (ipads, PLCs, department meetings), with the rest of the day given to you for work time.

I wish each of you a restful, enjoyable remainder of the summer break, and look forward to seeing all of you on the 26th.

Sincerely,
Joel