

June 22, 2011

Dear Keller Families,

As we bring to an end the 2010-2011 school year, I want to say on behalf of the entire staff at Helen Keller Elementary: Thank you for another great year of learning.

I would especially like to thank the PTA for another amazing year of continued support for students and families. The PTA and Keller staff worked tirelessly to provide a learning environment that promotes lifelong learning and compassionate citizenship. The amazing work of the PTA not only impacts the lives of students inside of the classroom, but outside as well. I would also like to thank our amazing and inspiring staff for their endless devotion to our students. They truly make this school a fun and magical place to be.

Every year brings change, big and small. Below you will find most of the changes in staffing for next year. Some amazing staff members will be leaving us, and we wish them all the best. They have had a tremendous impact on our students. We have also shuffled some teachers around and are still searching for the best educators to fill any vacancies.

Staff members leaving Helen Keller Elementary:

- Jeffrey Erickson: Moving to Robert Frost Elementary
- Lindsay Rodland: Moving to Colorado
- Katie Visker: Reduction in staff
- Nancy Rusch: Moving to A.G. Bell as secretary
- Cynthia Timmons: Moving to California
- Eric Heide: Moving to Oregon

We are also saying goodbye to ELL teacher Pam Green, physical therapist Heidi Benz-Merritt, and occupational therapist Jacqueline Watson.

Change in staff members for the 2011-2012 school year:

- Charlotte Plouse: 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher
- Noah Wilson: 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher
- Elizabeth Kelley: 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher
- Elyse Reynolds : Learning Center

Grade-level classes and teachers for next year based on student population (keep in mind that this is tentative and could change before the start of school):

- 2 kindergarten classes (AM/PM, and 1 full day) – Karen Schwartz, Ellyn Holman
- 2 first grades – JoAnna Vanausdeln, Susie Allison
- 2 second grades – Charlotte Plouse, Sue Osterman
- 2 third grades – Jenn Gramley, Julie Sparks- Stuht
- 2 fourth grades – Patty Austin, Amanda Martinez
- 2 fifth grades – Renee Fife, Noah Wilson
- 2 sixth grades – Elizabeth Kelley and OPEN

Summer is always full of surprises when trying to plan for the coming school year. As you know, construction will begin on our new building this summer. We will need to make some changes for next year because we will be losing our entire upper field. A building map showing students' new morning lineup placements was sent home with your child's report card. Please look this over and be prepared for next year.

Also included with your child's report card was a Student Information sheet that you need to fill out and have ready for your Aug. 31 conference. Teachers will be contacting you in mid-August to set up these conferences. Also, here are a few other dates to mark on your calendar:

- Aug. 31: Pre-fall conferences
- Sept. 1:
  - Class lists will be posted at noon.
  - Kindergarten Orientation: 2 p.m. in the Gym
  - Meet and Greet: 2:30 p.m. in classrooms
- Sept. 6: First day of school

Everyone have a great summer and we will see you in the fall.

Sincerely,

Tim Stonich  
Principal