

August 18, 2010

Dear Students and Parents:

On behalf of the Helen Keller Family & Community, it is truly my pleasure to extend a warm and heartfelt welcome to you as we begin the 2010-2011 school year. September is the time of year to reconnect with old friends and welcome new friends. We at Keller Elementary are very pleased to welcome everyone **BACK TO SCHOOL!** To those students and parents who are new to Keller, we extend an especially warm welcome and best wishes for an exciting and productive year in your new school. We hope that you will quickly feel at home and will become involved in the activities of our school through the PTA and your child's classroom.

Our faculty members have been very busy this summer. Some of the teachers have participated in staff development workshops that enabled them to further their expertise in various curriculum areas and refine their classroom management skills. Others have spent valuable time previewing instructional materials for use in our educational program. All have been in to prepare their rooms and create inviting learning environments for your children. It has been a productive summer for our professional staff. Working together as a team we will move forward in our mission this new school year to create a nurturing, disciplined, and challenging environment in which all students can learn at optimum levels and become responsible members of society. We have so much to be proud of as a staff, family, and community. This is going to be a very special year for our school.

Some important dates to mark on your calendar include:

- **Pre-fall Conferences** on Thursday, Aug. 26: Teachers will be contacting families to set up short student-centered conferences on this day.
- **Kindergarten Orientation** from 2 to 2:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 27: This is an important informational meeting for all families with kindergarten students.
- **Meet & Greet** from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 27: Students can meet their new teachers and see their new classrooms. Class lists will be posted at noon this day.

- **First day of school** on Wednesday, Sept. 1: This is a FULL SCHOOL DAY! Students will be dismissed at 3:30 p.m. ***Morning kindergarten will be dismissed at 11:40 a.m.***
- **Curriculum Night** on Thursday, Sept. 16: You will not want to miss this event. There are many new and exciting changes happening this year, inside and outside of the classroom, that our teachers would like to share.

Important changes and additional information:

- Bea Feit will not be teaching this year due to health concerns. We will miss her and would like to thank her for her many years of dedication to student learning.
- Katie Visker will be teaching second grade.
- Jeffrey Erickson will be completing his principal internship this year at Keller and will be teaching sixth grade.

Please take time to visit our school [website](#). Here you will be able to:

- Locate school supply lists: A great tool for back to school shopping.
- Print and complete the Student Profile Form. Please bring this with you to support the pre-fall conference with your student's teacher.
- Sign up for Parent Access.
- Stay connected and up to date with important school and district announcements.

Once again, I am very excited to be working with our students, parents, and staff at Helen Keller this year! Together, we can continue to make our school a rich, wonderful and exciting place for all children.

Warmly,

Tim Stonich  
Principal