



Central Elementary School is Putting Students First!

Welcome back to all of our students and families! I hope that everyone had a safe and happy summer break. Over the last few months, we have been preparing for your return and are looking forward to another wonderful year here at Central Elementary School!

One important change for this school year affects our schedule. Due to our improved performance in English/Language Arts last year, Central will not be required to have an extended day in 2018-19. As a result, the hours for our student day will return to 8:10 AM – 2:50 PM. Please keep this change in mind as you make your transportation plans for this year.

At Central, we strive to provide a safe, nurturing, and engaging learning environment for each student. We will continue offering stimulating extracurricular programs, such as the National Elementary Honor Society and Science Olympiad team, which encourage students to fulfill their potential. Other programs that Central Elementary will offer this year include Acaletics, iReady, and Accelerated Reader. Each of these programs is designed to improve students' abilities in either leadership, reading, mathematics, or science.

In addition to rigorous academic work, the faculty and staff of Central Elementary also places great importance on educating the whole child. That is why we will be continuing our work with the *Character Counts* program, focusing on character development. Based on six characteristics of outstanding citizenship, this program provides a framework for teaching good character. Among these characteristics, also called pillars, are trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. By integrating these pillars into our instruction, we will ensure that students have the foundation necessary to be ethical, productive members of society.

We will be continuing our work with the Academic Parent Teacher Teams (APTT) program at Central this year, as well. Last year, we saw a significant number of parents attending these meetings, a clear indication that our parents value having the opportunity to meet and discuss children's progress during the school year. It is wonderful to have the chance to hold these meaningful conversations, and we are grateful that we have the opportunity to do so. Parents will receive more information about this program, such as meeting dates, at Open House.

Regardless of the program or activity, Central Elementary School is committed to ensuring that all students grow both as learners and as people, and we will be offering programs and events to support that mission. At Central, we are *Putting Students First*, each and every day!

We cannot wait to see everyone at Open House! Until then, please enjoy a safe and happy rest of your summer!

Sincerely,

Dr. Joseph G. Stanley, Principal