

Dear Families,

Aug. 11, 2009

Welcome back to High Peaks! We are so glad to be starting another year even with dust, hammering, and painting. The building is going to look really beautiful in a short amount of time, and we'll be enjoying all our new spaces.

High Peaks is a focus school in Boulder Valley School District, focusing on Core Knowledge. This year, Boulder Valley is focusing on newly revised curriculum documents that just came out. We'll be doing some alignment with those documents to make sure we are covering what is necessary. In general, our Core curriculum meets and exceeds Boulder Valley expectations.

This year our CSAP scores were awesome, and I'm very proud of students, teachers, and staff for the great work. We have some of the highest scores in the district. Also, and very importantly, our students showed growth last year in each area. Growth models are how we look at data more closely to ensure that students not only achieve but improve their scores.

We have some staff changes. Marla Terwilliger is our new librarian and will be here two days a week. BSCIS has two librarians for another two days a week, and the library will be closed Fridays. Beth Struble, returning from maternity leave, will be our literacy teacher, and Ann Miller will teach fifth grade with Lynne Dolph. Everyone else is returning.

Construction in the classrooms is just about complete. The new carpet looks great, as does a fresh coat of paint everywhere. The north end is running behind, with the library, gym, music, and art rooms opening later. We'll do specials classes in classrooms for a week or so.

Attached is a calendar for the year, and it is also posted on our website. You can find most school information on our website at <http://schools.bvsd.org/hp>. Many thanks to our webmaster, Aileen Pierce, who has updated the site daily these last few weeks!

Finally, our Welcome Back Family Picnic is scheduled for Tuesday, August 18th from 5:00 p.m. -6:30 p.m. This is a chance to visit with friends and meet the teachers. Please join us on the west lawn. This is a bring-your-own event, and popsicles will be provided by the ED Team. I look forward to meeting and greeting all of you, and we are off to a great start!

Rosemary Lohndorf

Principal, High Peaks Elementary