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**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 two months, we have been preparing for your return and are looking forward to another fantastic year! Along with those programs that have a proven record of success, we have some new initiatives that we will be implementing this year.

While we have been busy working, we hope you have been busy reading! This year, we will focus on encouraging a love of literature. You will see evidence of this all around our campus! We will be holding reading-centered activities throughout the year and will be continually recognizing (and rewarding) those students who demonstrate their love of reading. It is so important that students love this activity, so be sure to use the rest of your summer break to do just that! Enjoy a good book and get ready to share when you come back to school! In fact, you may be able to write about the things that you’ve learned and display these during our monthly Writing Display Days, which we will continue to hold in 2016-17.

We will be continuing our work with the Academic Parent Teacher Teams (APTT) program at Central this year, as well. We were floored by the outstanding level of participation that this program had last year, and we know that both parents and teachers value 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.

This is the sixteenth year that Central’s Bilingual Academy of Spanish and English (BASE) has been in operation. We are very excited about the impact that this has had on our students’ abilities to be both bilingual and biliterate. Teachers in the BASE program work to ensure that students are better-prepared for work at the secondary level and beyond, as these skills are highly-valued in today’s world. We look forward to continuing our work in this area, and to ensuring that our students excel.

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 reading, mathematics, or science. Another thing these programs have in common is that they encourage learning by making it fun. This is important because that is also what Central’s approach will be this year. We will be working hard to learn a lot, but will be having a great time while doing so!

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, which will be held from 5:00 PM until 7:00 PM on Monday, August 8th! Until then, please enjoy a safe and happy rest of your summer – and keep reading!

Sincerely,



Joseph G. Stanley, Principal

Central Elementary School