



# ROCKY HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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July 27, 2017

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students,

I hope this letter finds each of you enjoying summer. I look forward to another year full of rigorous learning, building relationships, and creating partnerships with you and the community at large.

The support of our school community continues to serve as a point of pride for this building. Our family fitness night, winter concert, Dr. Seuss night, as well as many others, were some of the most heavily attended school events I have had the pleasure of participating in. No better evidence of our strong community support is the Rocky Heights' Carnival organized by our PTO. The carnival raised nearly \$13,000. Whether through donations of goods, services, cash, time, or attendance at the event, our community stepped up in a big way. This year we are bringing back McTeachers' Night through our partnership with McDonalds. Our last McTeachers' Night, in February 2016, saw Rocky Heights break the NW regional (Washington, Idaho, Montana, Oregon) record for store sales on a McTeachers' Night. Let's see if we can top it!

Here at Rocky Heights we aim to prepare every student for their next learning experience. This focus on rigorous learning experiences for our students continues to push Rocky to new heights (pun intended ☺). Last year, our school was placed in the top 15% of all schools in the state of Oregon. This includes data measuring academic achievement and growth. We still have a lot of work to do to implement and refine our current practices while always on the look-out for new and better ways of supporting our students with their social, emotional, and academic needs. There is no better group of people to do this than the professionals who walk through these doors each day.

I would also like to take this opportunity to introduce five new faces joining the Rocky Heights' staff for the upcoming school year. From Fruitland, ID Mrs. Madelyne will be teaching kindergarten. Also from Idaho, Mrs. Shareana Sparks is moving back home to teach ELD. In 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, Mrs. Michelle Morgan is coming our way from Irrigon. For 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, Mrs. Allison VanOcker from Milton-Freewater and Ms. Mary Rietmann from Corvallis are joining the team. These five educators have 40+ years of combined teaching experience. I am excited for the skill and expertise they will bring to our school.

I would love to see all of you at Rocky's Open House which is scheduled for Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-6:30 pm. This is an opportunity for you and your child to meet teachers and staff. I speak for the whole staff when I say we look forward to seeing you there.

The office is open Monday-Friday from 7:30am-4:00pm. Feel free to stop in should you have any questions or simply want to chat. If you are new to Rocky Heights, please stop in the office to register your child.

As always, from the first day of school (8/28) to the last (6/7), our staff will commit every effort to preparing your child for his or her next learning experience. GO RACCOONS!!!

Sincerely,

Jerad Farley

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Counselor  
Lead Secretary

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