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Welcome Back To School!!

August, 2011

Greetings Silveira Families:

It is with great pleasure that I write to welcome you and your student(s) to the 2011-2012 school year at Mary Silveira Elementary. I trust that your summer has been filled with exciting activities with friends and family and enjoyed at a leisurely pace. But how quickly summer concludes and our thoughts turn to eagerly preparing for the commencement of another school year. This is always an exciting time for me personally as I am rewarded with smiling faces, eager minds, and a student energy that permeates the halls of Silveira! Our staff eagerly awaits welcoming our new families and students and catching up with great summer stories and memories with returning families and students.

This year we have a few staffing changes. I would like to officially welcome Nicole Camarda, Kindergarten room 11; Kristin Chapman; 1st grade room 13; and Samantha Palmer, 3rd grade room 24. Each teacher was carefully considered, interviewed and selected from an extensive pool of highly qualified candidates over the summer and while each has a distinctly different personality, they share critical characteristics that are very important to us. All are energetic, socially gifted, curriculum savvy, student advocates, and eager to begin working in their new classrooms. We are very excited to have them on board! We also hired a new K-2 music teacher. Please welcome the dynamic duo of our very own, Jill and Stephen Pierce! You may remember them best when they played their Life Skill songs at our assemblies.

In addition, we have made strategic changes regarding classroom teacher room assignments in order to provide each grade level more efficient planning and collaborative opportunities. As such, Sarah Hu has moved to 3rd grade room 17, Ali Campagna to 4th grade in room 3. Jennifer Beck and Julie Ryan will be team teaching 2nd grade in room 27 while Marianne Sakellar remains at 5th grade but moves to room 4. And lastly, we have Theresa Lum teaching kindergarten in room 9. Wow! I think that does it. We are all excited about how these changes will generate increased grade level team dialogue leading to support student academic performance and

Our first student day will be Monday, August 22nd, a minimum day beginning at 8:14 a.m. and ending at 1:25 p.m. Please note that Tuesday 23rd is also a minimum day.

We have two Back-To-School evening events:

- K-2: Wednesday, September 7th from 6:30-7:00 in the Multi Purpose room 7:00-8:00 in the classroom
- 3-5: Thursday, September 8th from 6:30-7:00 in the Multi Purpose room 7:00-8:00 in the classroom

There, you will have an opportunity to hear about some of our programs and begin forging that all-important relationship with the classroom teacher, as well as learn about the grade level curriculum, specialists, classroom technology, and other educational activities. Below, I have provided important dates to calendar.

As always, I deeply treasure the Home/School partnership and encourage each of you to take an active roll in the development of the Silveira programs. Working together, the doors and windows to your child's world will open before them. Our staff and administration eagerly welcome you to another spectacular school year and look forward to seeing all of you soon.

Sincerely,