

Dear Jefferson families,

## **WELCOME**

It is my sincere hope that you are enjoying the summer in our beautiful community of Holland. As September approaches, your friends at Jefferson School are busy preparing for another outstanding school year. Everyone shares in the excitement that comes with new opportunities for learning and growth.

## **I'M EAGER TO SEE YOU AGAIN — AND MEET OUR NEW FAMILIES, TOO!**

The hallways are shined up. The furniture is cleaned and the classrooms are beginning to fill with books and materials. I can't wait for the final touches, when the smiling faces of our students fill the corridors of our great school. I extend a special welcome to families that are new to Jefferson School. A new school year brings with it new excitement in new classroom settings for everyone. It won't take long to feel like a member of the family here.

The majority of staff are returning to Jefferson, some in new roles. Mrs. Stacey Dozeman will now be teaching kindergarten. Mrs. Heidi Chamness is full time in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Mrs. Karen Borgman joins us in PE, Mrs. Jean Poppen in elementary vocal music and Mrs. Karen Stam in middle school writing. A special welcome to Ms. Cassie DeKleine, new to special education and new to the Holland Public Schools. We are excited to have our family back together again and we welcome our new staff members.

## **OPEN HOUSE (Sept. 1) and FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL (Sept. 7)**

Our Back-to-School Open House is Wednesday, September 1<sup>st</sup> from 5:00-7:00 PM. Classes begin on Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. Our building will open at 7:30 AM, allowing time before school for those students who eat breakfast here. Please do not drop students off before 7:30 AM. We do not have supervision in or outside the building before 7:30 AM. Classes begin at 7:55 a.m. for 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> grade students and 8:12 a.m. for Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade students. Classes end at 2:59 PM.

## **STUDENT ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL GUIDELINES**

Jefferson School has the good fortune of ample parking and a lengthy area for drop off and pick-up of students extending from the entire length of the front of the building through the parking lot. We request that kindergarten parents walk your new student to his/her classroom. Remember, our school day ends at 2:59 p.m. for all students. Kindergarten students will exit the building with teachers at the west exit of the building in front of Van Raalte Avenue. Kindergarten parents can park in this area and meet their students as they dismiss. The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students dismiss onto the Jefferson playground. Parents of older siblings can meet students there as they exit. The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders exit through the front doors. Middle School students exit through the east exit toward the front of the school. Students riding the bus gather in the cafeteria after school and are escorted to the bus in the bus loop. (No parking is ever allowed in the bus loop.)

## **STAR CARPOOL CREED**

As you bring your kids to and from school this fall, it's important to remember the STAR Carpool Creed:

S - Student Safety First

T- Traffic Pattern Respect

A - Awareness Prevents Accidents

R - Restraints Saves Lives

Follow the STAR Carpool Creed and together we'll have safe kids at our school.

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHEDULES AND ELEMENTARY (K-5) CLASS LISTS**

6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> grade students will have the opportunity to pick up their class schedules on Wednesday, August 25 and Thursday, August 26 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Elementary class lists will be posted on Friday, August 27, at 4:00 PM. Class lists will be posted on the front doors of the building.

## **SCHOOL PICTURES**

School pictures will be on Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. Please watch for more information to be sent home regarding picture orders.

## **COMMUNICATION IS KEY!**

Effective communication supports and provides students with the best possible support to be successful. If there is ever a question or concern please do not hesitate to contact us. We are happy to hear from you! Again, thanks for giving us the privilege to share this exciting new school year. Jefferson K-7 is a great place to learn, grow and to contribute to our great community.

**Sincerely,**

**Mr. Muniz, Principal**

**[rmuniz@hollandpublicschools.org](mailto:rmuniz@hollandpublicschools.org)**