

BRADLEY BEACH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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August 22, 2016

Parents/Guardians:

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back all members of the Bradley Beach Elementary School community for the beginning of the 2016 – 2017 school year. It is my hope the members of the Bradley Beach family had an opportunity to relax and make wonderful memories with their own families over this past summer.

The beginning of the school year is a new and exciting time for students and staff alike. Throughout the summer, the staff has been hard at work making changes which will impact the learning environment for our children in a multitude of positive ways. One important change will be the increased use of technology in our school. To support this goal, I am proud to say that the district will provide a Chromebook to every student in grades 5 through 8 to utilize each and every school day. This increased access to technology will help support other important changes, such as: the development of Google Classrooms to increase our ability to connect and communicate with one another, the ability to provide research and non-fiction material, and document progress through web based assessments. Through the use of Chromebooks on a daily basis, we are providing our students a very important link into 21st Century learning. This link to technology will be further supported by the addition of Computer Science for grades K through 4 and Computer Programming for grades 5 through 8 into the schedule. We will also increase the use of Social Media as a form of communication and to support this we have developed a new and improved website, as well as developing a phone application to help with ease of communication. Our staff will also look for additional ways to communicate with families through the use of Google Classroom and Twitter.

Another improvement, which will impact all of our students is the development of the new classroom schedule. The new schedule will double the amount of time spent on Language Arts from 60 to 120 minutes and increase learning time on Mathematics from 60 to 90 minutes. This increase in time will also be supported by the creation of new units of study written in the Readers/Writers Workshop Method of instruction. This change in philosophy will increase the amount of time students read and write during the school day while promoting individual conferences for students to develop an environment of personalized learning.

I would like to publicly thank the custodial staff, teaching staff, and main office staff for all of their hard work over the summer to prepare the school for a successful and productive opening day. Good Luck to all in the new school year and I look forward to meeting with parents on Back to School Night, September 14th, at 6:30 PM.

Sincerely,

Dr. Stephen Wisniewski
Superintendent/Principal