**August 14, 2015**

**Welcome back! While I had an awesome summer, it is always nice to get back into the swing of things. As an educator, I always appreciated Todd Whitaker’s quote, “Those who can, teach; those who can’t, go into some much less significant line of work.” We are all blessed to be in education as it is the best, most important and most meaningful job in the world. We have a lot of good things to look forward to this year and I am happy to welcome these educators to the Parkview:**

**Teka O’Neil: Teka is the new 6th grade math teacher and 7th & 8th grade Encore math. She lives near Canton and spent the last 4 years teaching high school at Manual Academy.**

**Danielle Battles: Danielle lives in East Peoria and takes over as the new 6th, 7th and 8th grade ELA teacher. Last year she taught junior high and high school ELA in Cairo, Illinois.**

**Lynn Nena: Teaches 5th grade and lives in Washington. Lynn worked in business before realizing it was her dream to be a teacher. Lynn student taught 3rd grade in the Chicago Public Schools.**

**Linsey Hutson: Lives in East Peoria and comes to us from Tremont where she worked with K-2 students. This year she serves as the 5th and 6th cross categorical ELA and will co-teach.**

**Steve Hayes: Steve just retired as the band instructor at Roanoke-Benson High School. Steve has been friends with Ted Wanack for many years so Ted was happy to help him with the transition.**

**David Roehrig: After being retired for the past 3 years, I am happy to welcome David back to Parkview as Special Education Coordinator. He previously held this position for five years.**

**Kudos & FYI**

**Thank you to our summer cleaning crew for their meticulous work. They had to endure heat and also extreme humidity. Thanks to Terry Weaver, Jason Thompson, Lydia Thousand, and Kathy Whittles who spent the summer cleaning Parkview and to Pam Bohm for painting.**

**I am happy to welcome Crystal Durand to Parkview as we are borrowing her from LaSalle. She will serve as the Reading Interventionist when Emily Turner goes on maternity leave.**

**The Blue Star Circus Summer Camp was a big success and each day we averaged 30+ students. Thanks to Emily Turner, Paul Nettles, Jeff Kluesner, Courtney Thatcher, Kathy Harvey and Megan Rose for all their work with the program. Also, to Holly Callahan who produced a video. On Wednesday, camp participants will perform for all students. I am also happy to announce that we received a $25,000 grant from the United Way that will allow the program to continue.**

**One of the biggest things to get excited about is the purchase of 150 new Chrome Books. While technology will never replace great teaching, it certainly gives us the ability to enhance instruction.**

**Finally, I am happy to welcome back Don Bockler to Parkview as interim principal. Don has been a positive influence on me as he originally hired me to Parkview 20 years ago and served as my principal mentor. I am excited for the upcoming year as I transition to my new role as Curriculum Director/Grant Writer. While the most important role of the building principal is to act as the instructional leader, the daily responsibilities of the position leave very limited time for it. This is a great opportunity for me to be able focus on the instructional process. My office is in the Special Services Room until the newly remodeled district office opens. While I have a different role, I continue to look forward to working with a terrific group of educators. Happy school year! –Brad**

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**Saturday, August 15: Baseball home vs. Monroe @ 10:00**

**Monday, August 17: Teacher’s Institute Day –breakfast in the Parkview cafeteria starts at 7:45**

**Tuesday, August 18: Teacher’s Institute Day**

**Tuesday, August 18th: Baseball home vs. Limestone Walters @ 4:15**

**Wednesday, August 19: Awesome-ness begins! Heat schedule 1:35 dismissal through August 28th**

**Friday, August 21: Bus evacuation drill @ 9:00**

**Saturday, August 22: Baseball home vs. Robein @ 10:00**

**Monday, August 24:  Baseball home vs. Washington Middle @4:15**

**Tuesday, August 25: Baseball home vs. Peoria Quest @ 4:15**

**Thursday, August 27: Meet your teacher night from 6:00 to 7:00**

**Monday, September 7: No School! Labor Day weekend**

**Thursday, September 10:  Baseball home vs. Rankin @ 4:15**

**Saturday, September 12: Baseball home vs. Morton Union @ 10:00**

**Tuesday, September 15: Picture day**

**Wednesday, September 16: Mid-terms end**

**Wednesday, September 23: Mid-terms go home**

**Tuesday, September 29: Beginning band meeting from 3:00 to 5:00**

**Friday, October 2: School Improvement Day—11:00 dismissal**

**Monday, October 12: No school! Columbus Day**

**Friday, October 16: End of the first 9 weeks grading period—1:35 dismissal**

**Thursday, October 22: Parent teacher conferences from 2:00-8:00**

**Friday, October 23: Parent teacher conferences from 8:00 to 1:00**