

August 7, 2010

Dear Ranger Families:

I hope that this letter finds all of you in good health and well rested for the start of a new and challenging school year. It has been a busy summer here at EHS as we have been preparing for a number of new changes that will be taking place in our building as we continue to strive to focus on student learning.

Staff assignment changes took place this past spring and summer partly due to funding issues and resignations. Mr. Gary Lewis will be moving back to the athletic director's office and taking over the duties of A.D., Community School, and our new truancy program. Replacing him as our new assistant principal will be Ms. Bonnie Erickson, a long-time Estacada teacher, coach, and administrator. In addition, to these changes our counseling department will look a lot different for this upcoming year. Mrs. Debbie Brochis will be returning to the high school as one of our counselors and Mr. Jim Carey will be returning to regular counseling duties since we lost our intervention counselor/dean of students to budget cuts. Please take time to welcome these folks to their new jobs and wish them a positive year.

Another big change for this upcoming year will be our new plan to assist ALL students in meeting standards in math and reading. Since demonstrating proficiency in some of these standards are a requirement for many of our students to earn a diploma in Oregon we have brought on two new courses designed to help students meet these requirements, and more importantly, to assist them in strengthening their skills in mathematics and reading. All freshman, sophomores, and a few juniors who have not met standards in these areas will be placed into a math and/or reading intervention lab where they will be provided targeted assistance in the areas they are in need of improvement. Once a student is able to show proficiency in these areas they will then be exited from this class and placed into an elective course at the end of a semester or year. These courses will be in addition to their regular math and English courses, thus doubling up our efforts in these critical areas.

The last major addition that I would like to introduce is our new Truancy Program designed to increase student attendance and provide assistance to students and families who are having difficulties in maintaining regular school attendance. In your back to school packet of materials you will find a complete description of this program. If you have any further questions about it after reading this information please contact Mr. Gary Lewis for assistance in this area.

Our key goals this year have not changed from last year as we further strive towards continuous improvement in these areas; 1) focus on student learning, 2) increase our communication with families, 3) treat EVERY student and adult with respect and dignity, and 4) prepare each and every student for THEIR future.

We are truly looking forward to a very rewarding and successful school year for your student. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions, thoughts, and suggestions for us. We value our families and their thoughts and hope to strengthen our relationship with all of you.

Enjoy the last few days of summer vacation and we will see your students in September.

Sincerely,

Scott Sullivan