

September 2016

Greetings Berney Families,

Welcome to the 2016-17 school year! I am honored and excited to be your new principal at Berney Elementary. This is where I went to elementary school and I am looking forward to being back in the halls! Berney has an exceptional commitment to student learning. The staff has been working to prepare for a year of learning with your children. You will see us using new strategies throughout the building as we support students to become college and career ready.

In my first year at Berney, I have three goals.

1. To get to know the staff, students and parents of Berney Elementary. While I know many of you, it is important that we begin to build trust, share goals and are given opportunities to meet both formally and informally. This will help to establish positive relationships.
2. To understand the school culture of Berney Elementary. I will look at the history of the school to better understand the way business has been done, who does what and how/why tasks get accomplished. This will help to promote effective strategies for continuous school improvement.
3. To begin establishing priorities based on staff input, academic/social data, parent and community feedback, and previous school improvement plans, in order to establish a clear and common vision. This will help to achieve academic, emotional and social goals for all students, staff and families.

We will continue to focus on the Berney Big Three as we build consistent expectations for students to help them make good decisions and support a high level of time directed toward learning. Our monthly Best Doggone Bulldog assemblies are one way we'll carry on the tradition of coming together to celebrate one another.

You will be hearing from Rachel McCauley, our 2016-17 PTA President soon. Please join PTA and volunteer at a level that best fits your schedule this year. We will always welcome your attendance at our monthly meetings. Your presence in classrooms and volunteering at school events are other ways to show your support.

I am looking forward to meeting you, working with you and your children and getting to know this wonderful school community.

Best wishes for the 2016-17 school year!

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