



Joy in Learning® Since 1938

Manzano Day School

July 12, 2017

Dear Parents,

I write this Back to School letter having recently returned from two weeks in Hawaii, where Rhonda and I thoroughly enjoyed ourselves, and about to embark on a 10-day trip to Scotland to visit the home of golf. I will be back in the office on a regular basis starting Monday, July 24. Yes, it has been a great summer thus far!

This year's letter contains only a couple of "news" items. As everyone may remember, the professional staff for the upcoming school year was completely hired before we left for summer. Both our Summer Discovery and the Horizons programs have experienced tremendous success on campus this summer and will wrap up next week.

There will be some additional activity on campus in the coming weeks. A photovoltaic system will be installed on the roofs of the multi-purpose building and the gym. This will mark the completion of a plan that started a number of years ago. In addition, the synthetic turf on the meadow will be replaced before the start of school.

One of the ongoing topics of conversation among our faculty is what it means to parents when they send their children to Manzano Day School. We understand that you are entrusting us with what you value most, your children, and that is a responsibility we do not take lightly. THANK YOU for that trust. We will continue to strive to make each day meaningful for every child at Manzano Day School. Please know that we care deeply for our students and are dedicated to their education and general well-being. I am very committed to receiving feedback from you regarding your child's education and I promise to listen to the message while respecting the messenger! As I have said many times, I consider the educational experience at Manzano Day School a partnership between family and school. The entire professional staff is looking forward to working with you this year to ensure that every student has the opportunity for success. In addition, I would like this to be the friendliest school possible. Civility and courtesy towards each other help to create a campus environment of which we can all be proud.

The accompanying packet contains a great deal of important material. The information provided and requested is crucial to maintain a smooth transition into the 2017-2018 school year. Please refer to the ***Packet Guidelines*** for instructions on completing forms by **Friday, August 4**. More information can be found on our website at www.manzanodayschool.org/back-to-school.

Often parents are anxious to know who will be their child's teacher. A "Welcome to My Classroom" letter will be mailed to your child on Monday, July 31. Please do not call the school asking for class placements or for the class list. Thank you for your cooperation with this request.

Communication is important to everyone in a school community. As I mentioned above, we recognize the importance of the family—school partnership. Be assured that whether it is a scheduled appointment or an informal conversation on campus, I want to hear what is on your mind and to help with issues or concerns you may have. Please let me know how I or anyone else at Manzano Day School may be of assistance.

The office will be open every weekday throughout the rest of the summer. I look forward to seeing everyone in the near future. If your path does not bring you on campus before Wednesday, August 16, I will see you at the Ringing of the Bell from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m., when Manzano Day School completes its 8th decade of providing *Joy in Learning®*. Enjoy the rest of your summer.

Warmly,

Neal Piltch
Head of School

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