

## A Note from the Principal

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year! As the start of school approaches, I wanted to take the opportunity to introduce myself as new Principal of New Boston High School. It is an honor to be working in a community that strives for excellence in education and has commitment to the children. I am truly excited by the opportunity to join the staff here at NBHS, and believe it is important that we get to know each other as quickly as possible. As you may or may not know, my career includes experiences as an Army officer, English, government, and history teacher, assistant principal at both a middle school and high school, high school principal, and superintendent of schools.

My desire to work in a community that cares about children, coupled with the stated mission, philosophy, and programs of the New Boston Independent School district, made the offer to become Principal of New Boston High School a very special honor. You have my pledge to work passionately and tirelessly on behalf of the students, families and staff of NBHS.

Professionally, I am dedicated to helping inspire all students to achieve personal excellence, pursue world-class standards, and to be responsible, lifelong learners. I will personally ensure that everyone at NBHS recognizes the urgent need to focus students on the requirements for fulfillment, success, and happiness in our 21st century “Flat World.” This means finding ways to balance academic achievement, technology and communication skills, athletic endeavors, other extra-curricular activities, and service experiences with the social and personal demands of being a high school student in 2016. This is what the world expects of our kids 24/7/365. It’s a lot to expect, but “the higher the expectation, the higher the achievement.”

It is also critically important to “have fun.” We want students to be here and to enjoy all aspects of school, and we will provide challenging, dynamic, and “fun” programs to create positive balance for our students.

We need every student to participate actively in all of the academic and extra-curricular programs we offer to make New Boston High School the best it can be. Colleges and post-secondary career choices will depend heavily on each student’s participation record. I will work hard to know every student, and challenge each of our students to build a solid record of academic success and participation. Our kids can do it – but they can’t do it alone. Working together – students, families, teachers, and community – we will succeed. No excuses accepted, and failure is not an option!

Life, and high school, is about choices. There are times when students will make poor choices – that’s what kids do! As adults, we need to recognize this, and work together and with students to help them to become the kind of critical thinkers, problem

solvers, and decision-makers that will lead them to take our place as successful and happy adults.

To develop the best possible relationships, MUTUAL RESPECT and PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY are required. It's my mantra, my core value, my bedrock expectation. Disrespect is unacceptable. Student/teacher; parent/teacher; student/student and student/adult interactions must be mutually respectful to be productive. We will intentionally "engineer" and support a safe and positive school climate. Welcoming physical and emotional classroom environments enhance teaching and learning. Self-discipline and honest effort, with accountability, will be consistently supported.

Communication is also critically important to a successful high school experience. Teachers, students and families regularly and respectfully communicating about all facets of high school life will help everyone. I encourage everyone to initiate, maintain, and respond to communication about students and school. If you do not receive the kind of communication you expect, please contact me.

I look forward to meeting you and learning about you in the very near future. Classes begin August 22nd. Visit our web site regularly throughout the year and please call the school with any concerns you might have (903) 628-6551. I look forward to seeing you at the many activities that are scheduled throughout the year, and thank you, again, for your support of New Boston High School.