

May 2019

Update May 2019

Dear Prince Families:

While the hurried pace of year end award ceremonies, concerts, plays, athletic competitions and graduation has now ended, our campus remains active with students attending summer camps, driver's education classes, etcetera, while the facilities team begins its well-planned annual maintenance of our buildings and grounds. Here are a few changes you can expect to see in the coming weeks:

Removal of Lil Wolves Cottages

In January, a decision was made to remove the aging fourteen networked trailers that comprise our two modular buildings, and after months of planning that project is underway. Through the gener-



ous support of Prince Avenue Baptist Church (PABC), our Pre-K, Kindergarten, and First Grade classes are being relocated to the student ministry spaces within the church. We began outfitting those rooms with Smartboards, projectors, intercoms, school bells, etcetera, in February, and the new classrooms will be a vast improvement in quality and security for our students. My sincere thanks to our Board Chair, Brian Elrod, and the PABC staff, Senior Pastor Josh Smith in particular, for their enthusiastic support and cooperation with this initiative. Sharing spaces between the school and church is nothing new; currently, the school hosts PABC's Korean, Awana, and college ministries, and the school has hosted PABC's Hispanic Ministry in the past. Our forthcoming capital campaign contains the permanent solution to our need for more instructional space, and you will hear more on that in the months to come.

The space created by the vacating modular buildings will be grated, irrigated, sodded, and an attractive six-foot metal fence will be installed along the property's perimeter; this will provide much needed playground space for our elementary students. Our current plan is to have all this work completed prior to the students return on August 9th.

Faculty and Staff

With a 95% teacher retention rate, the few new faces we do have are being profiled each week at the end of your *Wolver-ine Weekly*. Student retention this year was equally strong at over 94%. Retention levels such as these are a reflection of a healthy, thriving school community; we are blessed beyond measure with a fine school comprised of like-minded believers intent on preparing their children for college and the Kingdom. When one pauses to examine the siege of progressive issues plaguing students in public schools today, I remain thankful for our school.

Following conversations with both High School Principal Jesse Owens and Middle School Principal Daniel which began in February, it became apparent that a rotation of assignments was in the best interests of our students. With Mr. Owens' familiarity with middle school operations as the former middle school principal, and Mr. Head's familiarity with the high

school population after four years as the middle school principal, all parties agreed this change would best support the academic goals within our strategic plan, <u>PACS 2023</u>. Having previously served as Prince's high school principal, I am keenly aware of the demands required of these two positions and confident this change will better serve our students and their families. This change will take effect next week.

Although school is out, you will find a great deal of useful information in the *Wolverine Weekly* including camp dates, summer reading lists, used uniform sale dates and school store hours to name a few. Relish these opening days of summer and the joy of spending more time with your student during the all too brief and magical window of youth.

Warm regards and in His service,

Seth Hathaway, Ed.S.

Head of School

Other articles by the Head of School:

Sett A. Handinessey

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And the Survey Says?

Families: Better Connected but More Alone