

Field Mighty Mice Miller Moments

March 29, 2018

Happy spring and happy spring break!

Safety:

Due to recent events we are re-evaluating many aspects of our building safety. As we find areas for improvement we are tweaking them.

In the fall, the District's Safety and Security office did an assessment of Field and gave us very valuable feedback for areas that we can do better. One feedback piece was how we monitor the main door. Here is the new procedure:

- We will begin to ask people, who need to be buzzed in, the reason for the visit before buzzing them in. You will hear a statement along the lines of, "How can I help you?" We ask that you state your name and the purpose for your visit.
- The next step is that everyone stops at the office and signs in. You will receive a visitor's badge in order to be in the building. Even if all of our staff know you, you will still be required to wear a visitor's badge.
- Make sure to return to the office, sign out and return the visitor's badge prior to leaving.

Another safety measure, one we have had in place, is that all students who either walk, ride their bicycle or get dropped off, must enter the building through door one or door six. Students are allowed in the Commons Area at 7:40 and into the building at 7:50am. Door 12 is only open when the buses arrive and an adult is present.

Budget:

With our 2018-2019 budget allocation we were able to maintain most of our programming.

- AVID will be taught next year by three teachers (Ms. Walker has been offered another position):
 - 6th grade: Ms. Wucherpennig
 - 7th grade: Ms. Odermatt
 - 8th Grade: Mr. Iverson
- The specialists allocations will remain the same with one exception:
 - Band/Orchestra - .8 FTE (Full-Time Employee) –(same allocation)
 - Vocal Music - .6 FTE (this is a reduction of .2)
 - Visual Art - .8 FTE (same allocation)
 - Physical Ed. - .8 FTE (same allocation)
 - Health/Physical Ed. .8 FTE (same allocation)
 - Spanish - .4 FTE (same allocation)
- There was a reduction of hours for our Associate Educators and Health Service Assistant:
 - Media, parent liaison, recess and testing support – 30 hours to 29 hours/week
 - Testing coordinator, recess, office coverage, transportation – 30 hours to 29 hours/week
 - Student behavior support – 35 hours to 32.5 hours/week
 - Health Serve Assistant – 32.5 hours to 31.5 hours/week
- All other positions will remain the same.
- Special Education services remain intact.

Retirements:

We have three long time staff members who are retiring at the end of this school year:

- Karen Ward – School Nurse
- Mary Hill – 5th Grade Science
- Kim Hotchkiss – Instrumental Music

Here is a note from Ms. Hotchkiss:

Dear Field families,

It is with mixed emotions that I write to let you know that I am retiring at the end of this year. The past 27 years working and learning with the Field community have been a blessing and an honor. When I went into teaching I never imagined working with such amazing students and families. Teaching music at Field has been the highlight of my career, and I am so grateful for sharing this time with you. While I am excited about what the future brings, I also know I will miss the special bond we have had creating music together.

Always keep music in your hearts and in your souls.

Kim Hotchkiss

A note from Ms. Hill:

Happy Spring to Field Families!

After 34 years of teaching (28 in Minneapolis Public schools, 17 at Field) I am retiring. Really, Yes, I am retiring at the end of the school year!

I loved being a middle grades teacher and have especially loved teaching science to your children and the many they I have had the privilege of knowing over the years. I will miss seeing kiddos every day, but I am looking forward to pursuing new and exciting experiences. You may see me at school from time to time!

Sincerely,

Mary Hill

A note from Ms. Ward:

Parents,

After 29 years in Minneapolis Public Schools, (about 25 of those at Field), I have decided to retire at the end of this school year. Field feels like home to me, so it is a bittersweet farewell. It has been a privilege to work with you and your students and I wish you all the best!

Karen Ward, RN

Enjoy your time with your students during spring break. Upon return we will review our behavior expectations, goals for 4th quarter to end on a great note for the school year 2017-2018.

VaNita Miller