

Hello Everyone,

What a beautiful summer day. It's likely that school is not even remotely in your thoughts on such a sunny evening; but I do want to share some happenings, especially as one of them is time sensitive. We have been very busy these past three weeks. Nearly all of the 20+ new professional staff have been hired. Our principals and directors do an excellent job of identifying excellent candidates; so I am always very excited about meeting the new hires. About two-thirds of the vacancies this year were at the secondary level, most of those at the high school. The experience levels of the new teachers run the full spectrum and five or six of them have worked for us in a different capacity such as long term substitute or paraprofessional. The principals will be sharing details about the new staff in their buildings at the start of the year and we will publish a complete list with some brief bio inf as well. Of, course we are especially excited about our two new elementary adjustment counselors, as we have waited a long time to be able to restore that important role to a full time position in each building. We currently have vacancies for four custodians, another important role. So, if you know of any potential candidates, send them on down!

This afternoon I went to the middle school and saw the modular unit separated into the same pieces that had been delivered to us, not that many years ago. A huge crane lifted them from the piers on which they have been resting, ready for the original wheels to be attached so they can be moved off the site and transported to their new location. I was standing in the very place that I had stood on a midsummer morning those several years ago when a similar crane lifted them onto the piers that now sit empty. A bit later in the afternoon I watched the demolition of the gym. What an incredible sight, albeit a bit sad as I remember when it was erected in the early sixties.

But you all can see what I saw today for yourselves. You need only to come to the "treasures and memories" yard sale at HMS this Saturday from 9 am to 1 pm. Everything (old desks, tables, equipment, etc.) that hasn't already been moved to the new school or repurposed for use elsewhere in town is available at very reasonable prices. The memories of course are free, as is the opportunity to be part of the process of transitioning from old to new. Of course, as is with everything school-related, there are a few rules. Anything you take has to be removed from the site that very day and only cash or checks can be accepted. As well, the site is a construction area as you will see; so please use caution in driving and parking and pay special attention to supervision of children. Certainly, we all want for this to be an incident free event. Effective with the end of the day on Saturday, the MS site will be absolutely closed to the public for most of the rest of the summer. We ask that you honor signs and barriers for the safety of all.

I hope to see many of you on Saturday.

DG