

August 15, 2022

Dear Freshwater Families,

I hope that you have all been enjoying a fun-filled summer and are getting ready to shift gears as we begin another school year at Freshwater when **school resumes on Wednesday, August 24th @ 8:30 a.m.** This year we will be returning to our traditional red carpet welcome for our students. It is always an exciting day to see all of the smiling faces of our new and returning Freshwater Dolphins eager to find their friends, teachers, and new classrooms. Freshwater School is such a special place to work, learn, and grow, and it is truly an honor to be a part of the amazing staff and community here. The teachers have been working hard preparing their classrooms and lessons for your children, and John Andrae and Jack Surmani have been working tirelessly beautifying our school grounds this summer. We are all excited to welcome our students back next Wednesday; it's going to be a super year!

We have made some staffing changes this summer that we would like you to be aware of. Our 7th/8th Grade Teacher, Jennifer Jones, retired after 30 years of teaching, Andrew Pierce accepted a new position he was seeking at Arcata High School, and Tina Peretz moved out of the area. These teachers will all be missed, but we are excited to introduce three experienced teachers that will be joining the Freshwater Family:

Anna Keller, 3rd Grade Teacher

Amanda Kunze, 5th/6th Grade Teacher

Beverley Steichen, 7th/8th Grade Teacher

***NOTE: Class Lists will be posted on Friday, August 19th in the gym parking lot.**

In addition, we are thrilled to welcome our new Food Services Director, Amanda Jeffares, who will be reopening our cafeteria this year and providing free breakfast and lunch to all students. Please introduce yourself and extend a warm Freshwater welcome when you meet our new staff members.

I would like to extend a big THANK YOU to the Freshwater Community Club for its continued support of Freshwater School. This year they generously donated \$35,000 to support our special programs that were threatened by mid-year budget cuts last year. Thanks to their generous donation, our students will continue to benefit from having two fully intact music programs; both vocal and dance for grades TK-6 and Instrumental Music for grades 5-8. Thank you Community Club for continuing to enhance our classrooms, programs, and campus at Freshwater School!

There will be many opportunities for parents to get involved at Freshwater this year. In addition to volunteering in the classrooms, our families are invited to attend School Site Council, Board Meetings, Community Club, and Freshwater Educational Foundation meetings. Please check the Monday Bulletin and our website at www.freshwatersd.org each week for notices about these opportunities. Thank you for all that you do to make Freshwater the incredible school that it is!

More information will be shared with you via mail this week, and please don't hesitate to reach out to the front office if you have any questions. I look forward to seeing everyone on the red carpet **Wednesday, August 24th!**

Sincerely,

Si Talty, Superintendent/Principal

