

District Newsletter- September 2017

Dear Wittenberg-Birnamwood District Residents,

Welcome back to the 2017-18 school year! Summer has flown by and the halls and classrooms are filled with the excitement and energy a new year always seems to bring. I want to begin by commending the staff on all of their work this summer in preparation for the 1st day, from the custodial and maintenance staff in their cleaning and grounds work, to the district and building office staff in all that goes into getting ready for 1200 students walking through our doors, to transportation and organizing the logistics of new students and routes, and the admin, teachers and paraprofessionals for their continued work in lesson preparation, advancing their own learning and numerous collaborative meetings in ensuring we are ready for all that is involved in a child's school experience. Let me not forget the work our technology staff has done in getting everything ready for effective use of our electronic resources and finally our kitchen team most recently for their preparation in the food service department. People often ask what goes on during the summer months in our schools. One only has to be present for a portion of a day to realize that the buildings never sleep. There is constant traffic and excitement that fills our halls year round. I'm not sure all other schools can say as much, but I can tell you that this is how we prefer it to be. We want our schools to be a community hub and one where our families and students feel welcome and productive.

Speaking of being responsive to our families, I'd like to provide one final reminder that all of our resident mailboxes will receive a survey the district would like for you to fill out. This survey reflects much of our district planning committee and community listening session conversations over the last two years. We need to hear your voice and the more that respond, the more accurate and reliable the survey will be. We will be mailing just under 3200 surveys out. According to School Perceptions, a return rate of 18% is considered statistically confident, in this case 576. I am hoping to far exceed this number. The more input we receive from you, the better informed we will be in making recommendations for the next best step for our students and the future of Wittenberg-Birnamwood Schools. Please take the time to fill out your survey, either electronically or paper version with the self-addressed stamped envelope.

We look forward to a great 2017-18 school year and supporting your children in their school journey!

Sincerely,

Garrett Rogowski
District Administrator