



Dolores School District RE-4A

Scott Cooper, Ed.D.

Superintendent

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www.doloresschools.org

“We are connecting rigorous academic standards, meaningful assessments, engaging learning opportunities, excellent educators, for the success of our students.”

August 12th, 2016

Dear Students, Staff, and Parents,

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year! We have many wonderful new and returning staff members and students to embrace as we propel toward the first day of school (K-12), August 16th.

There are many celebrations to embrace this school year:

- We are expanding our 1-to-1-laptop program for all students in grades 3rd-12th to increase engagement and 21st Century relevance.
- We achieved a huge (\$420,000 over three years) grant to support literacy in the primary grades! Big THANKS to Sherri Maxwell, Alesa Reed and others who applied countless hours to achieve this grant! This grant provides our Elementary School with an extra Literacy Coach position and new literacy instructional materials (K-3rd).
- We are providing our students in the Secondary with a student-centered focus on individualize learning pathways to graduation, deeper learning model that values projects and collaboration, student voice and choice while they learn critical content, enhanced social emotional supports, and rigorous academics to prepare them for college and careers.
- We are continuing to provide a robust transition to kindergarten service thanks to our dedicated early childhood staff. Big Thanks! To Katrina Lindus, Transition Coordinator and the Buell Foundation for leading and supporting this work that was recently written about in EdWEEK:

http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/parentsandthepublic/2016/06/colo_districts_reach_out_to_parents_to_ease_transition_to_kindergarten.html?cmp=eml-enl-eu-news3&intc=es

Important dates:

- Back to School Night (grades K-12), Monday August 15th, 5:00-7:00pm
- First day of school for K-12 is Aug. 16th
- Open House & Orientation at Teddy Bear Preschool, Thursday August 18th, 5:30pm dinner, 6:00pm orientation
- Teddy Bear's first day of school is August 22nd

I want to thank our dedicated, volunteer school board members for their patience, understanding, and trust through the challenges of preparing for this school year. They are incredible, thoughtful, caring individuals who are a valuable component to the leadership of this district.

Big Thank You to our central office team and maintenance crew for all the extra effort applied to prepare for the start of this school year!

Hopes and dreams for our school district drive my work and I want to be able to add yours to the vision, so please do not hesitate to share them with me. I look forward to our future work together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Cooper". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Scott Cooper, Ed.D.
Dolores School District Superintendent