Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year at Bellevue Schools! We are very excited as we head into a new school year in the Middle/High School. We will continue to build on our efforts to provide an engaging, relevant, and world class education for all of our students! As stated in our mission statement “We believe real-world learning opportunities build passionate and engaging experiences for student success in life!”

As we head into the new school year, our teachers will continue to implement many of the innovations we have been working on and explore new ideas as well. Problem based learning, real life educational opportunities, and implementing literacy into every class, every day, will be some of the focus areas. In summation, it is our goal to make sure our students are learning all of the content and skills they need, in a hands on, engaging, explorative, problem solving, relevant and caring setting. We will continue to build on the momentum from our Value Up program this spring and our focus will be that “Every Comet Counts.” We are all important and have value and its imperative that we treat each other well!

We will continue to work to expand unique learning opportunities for our students in many different ways: Bellevue BIG, work experiences, CTE classes, concurrent enrollment classes taught by our teachers through EICC, online college classes through EICC and many other individualized opportunities. This year we will have some students taking advanced welding classes though a program at the Maquoketa High School. We want our students to have choices in what they learn and by doing that, we hope to prepare them to have choices when they graduate. Whatever their goals are beyond high school, we want to give them as many opportunities as possible!

We have four new staff members this year. Ms. Natalie Vernon will be teaching MS/HS English. She comes to us from UNI and will also be the assistant speech coach! Ms. Rebecca Lahey will be teaching MS/HS English. She comes to us from Luther College. Mr. Jacob Huntley will be our new chorus teacher and he recently graduated from Wartburg College. He will also be directing the fall musical! Our Spanish classes will be taught by Ms. Laura Garrudo, she will be moving here from Seville, Spain! She will be working through a program with Iowa Department of Education. We are very excited about these new staff members and can’t wait to work with them!

The buildings and grounds are undergoing a thorough summer cleaning. The middle school hallway got new lights and ceiling tiles. Thanks to Brett Ernst and his crew for all of their hard work this summer. Things will be in top notch shape for students’ arrival in August.

We will have two orientation presentations on August 22nd. At 6:00pm, we will have all incoming 9th graders and their parents, as well as all new High School students and their parents, meet in the main gym. At 7:00pm, we will have all incoming 6th graders and their parents and any new Middle School students and their parents meet in the main gym. At these meetings, we will cover some general information for new students, as well as give a tour of the building, and allow an opportunity for questions to be answered. Students will be allowed to put things in their lockers and see their classrooms.

We look forward to working with you and your students again this year. Please contact the office if you have any questions in regards to the new school year! Phone or email both work!

Sincerely,

Jeff Recker – MS/HS Principal
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