

Kieleidoscope

June 4, 2015

This past Sunday we said good-bye to our seniors. We congratulated them and celebrated their accomplishments. Graduation marks the end of the PK-12 school year for our seniors. June 4th, the last day of school for the rest of the students also marks the start of summer vacation!

The educational system we live in is unique in many ways. Nine months of hard work, fast pace, rigor, professional development, state assessments, co-curriculars, parent/teacher conferences, professional learning communities, Educator Effectiveness, field trips, Parent Teacher Organization meetings, fundraisers, homework, study, study, study. Then summer time comes.

With summer comes vacations and sleeping in on hot summer days. It is true that the constant pace of activity during the school year changes in the summer. Many of our students see summer time as an opportunity for new learning by enrolling in our summer school program. We offer enrichment activities and academic courses that keep our students sharp in problem-solving and provide opportunities that are interesting to the students. There are others who want a break. They may have a job, or travel, or help out at home. Whatever the choice, life lessons are being learned. June and July provide wonderful opportunities to keep skills sharp and develop new relationships. It also is an opportunity to prepare for life in the next grade.

We say good-bye to our seniors but before we know it we will be saying hello to our students who are enrolled for the 2015/16 school year. We will have a new class of seniors who will move into the leadership roles in the high school. We will welcome new four year old kindergarten students. The physical growth and changes that take place over the summer become visible as we welcome all of our students into the next grade level. New families will join us and some will leave us. It is all part of the process within an educational system. I can think of no other system like it. We say good-bye, we reshuffle the interior, and then we say hello again.

We may see in our lifetime a paradigm shift toward year around school. But for now, we welcome the summer break and wish all of our students a safe, relaxing summer with many enjoyable learning experiences. Thank you parents and guardians for trusting us with your most beloved gift, your children!