

February 1, 2011

Dear Parents and Community Members,

Over the past several months, I have been focusing the monthly superintendent newsletter on the different components of the Strategic Plan. This month, my newsletter focus will be personnel. At Germantown Elementary School we strive to employ faculty, staff, and administration that are highly qualified, involved, and motivated. I possess confidence in saying that the Germantown faculty and staff meet these parameters.

As outlined in the No Child Left behind Act, all certified teachers and paraprofessionals must be designated as highly qualified in their area of work. They must possess the appropriate certificate for their job assignment. For example, junior high teachers of the core academic subjects of science, music, reading or language arts, English, history, geography, and mathematics must be certified in their area of teaching. Teacher assistants, otherwise known as paraprofessionals, must have 30 semester hours of college credit or have completed a paraprofessional training program. Along with that, paraprofessionals must pass the Parapro Assessment or the WorkKeys assessment. By meeting the requirements of highly qualified status, our faculty and staff have the training needed to be successful in their area of work.

Where faculty and staff involvement is concerned, I am proud of the fact that our team is very dedicated to “being there” for the students and families of Germantown Elementary School. Not only are they dedicated to helping all students experience success during the course of the school day, but they also show their dedication to the students and the school outside the regular school day. During the most recent post-season run made by the State Champion Lady Bulldog Basketball Team, members of the faculty and staff came out in full force to support the team on their journey. The faculty and staff also contributed greatly to the success of the PTA Trivia Night/Silent Auction by organizing baskets and attending the event. Regardless of the event, the faculty and staff are proud supporters of all activities and functions that benefit the students.

The Germantown faculty and staff have also proven to be very motivated. They are always looking for ways to grow professionally as teachers. This summer, the teachers will be attending professional development training sessions on the newly adopted Common Core Standards. In teams, they will be working together to align our curriculum with the new standards. We will also be working to redesign our Response to Intervention program so that we are better served to more effectively utilize our time and resources to meet the needs of all our students.

At Germantown Elementary, we are lucky to have a faculty and staff that is truly committed to doing what is best for kids. We are always looking for ways to improve the programs we have in place and the strategies we use with our students. I am proud to be part of the Bulldog Team.

Sincerely,

Robin Becker, Superintendent
Germantown Elementary School