

Somehow, we find ourselves right in the middle of the summer! Tremendous things have been happening at Davis throughout July, yet I look forward to another month of planning and preparation as we get ready to receive our students in four short weeks.

Mr. Vincent Caporaso, one of our many dynamic teacher-leaders, supervised a talented core of Davis staff this month that successfully completed a four week summer enrichment program for select students in need of additional literacy instruction. Our custodial staff has made quick work up and down the hallways and, by the end of this week, all teachers will be able to move back into their classrooms and begin their preparations for another opening September day! Many district personnel have partnered with us over the month to complete numerous repairs and improvements both inside and outside of the school building. And, incredibly, our tireless PTA leadership is close to finalizing plans to launch the construction of a brand-new playground this fall. Thank you to all our families that so generously funded and supported this project last spring!

Davis families will receive a mailing during the **third week of August (19-23)** with information regarding students' **class placements** for the coming school year. Within the mailing, I will include a letter detailing a number of procedural changes that we are planning for the year. We have restructured arrival and dismissal routines, bus procedures, lunch and recess times, and more. For security reasons, I have added many staff to supervisory roles each morning; Davis personnel will fan out around the school to receive and monitor children from 8:00 a.m. until the beginning of each school day.

Last, we begin this year with a commitment to nurturing our students' intellectual and emotional development. In order to further support a positive, caring culture within our school, our *theme* for this school year will be: EACH KINDNESS. All classes will begin the year reading a beautiful picture book with the same title, written by Jacqueline Woodson.

Finally, I wish to express my gratitude to all the professional, creative, and experienced Davis teachers who have generously made time in their summer lives to meet with me--so frequently!--to plan and prepare for yet another promising September.

Gratefully,

Michael Galland