July 19, 2021

Dear Eagle Community,

It is amazing how fast the summer goes! The staff and I are extremely excited to open this school year and welcome back our Eagles. Please know that certain aspects of the 2021-2022 school year may still be subject to change due to the effects of COVID-19. Rest assured, if any changes happen, we will keep you updated with phone calls and posts on our school website, Facebook page, and Twitter page.

ON a MISSION
This year, I am excited to announce that I return to Mark Bills after eight years in other district positions, to lead our One in a Mark Billion staff during the 2021-2022 school year. The Eagle staff and I plan to bring a culture of energy, fun, and high expectations. Our motto for the 2021-2022 school year is #SOARtogether. This motto is for our entire Eagle family: students, staff, families, and the community.

Each day our Eagles will engage in an academic setting geared towards our mission:

As Eagles, we **SOAR TOGETHER** with **STEADFAST SUPPORT** for all members of our Eagle community. We live with **OPTIMISM** and find the good. We accept **OWNERSHIP** for our work and our actions, and we make **AMENDS** when needed. We strive for personal and academic **ACHIEVEMENT** or growth. And we forge meaningful, collaborative **RELATIONSHIPS** with everyone in our Eagle community and beyond. We **SOAR HIGHER** by lifting others.

Please note our deliberate acronym of S.O.A.R. Each letter stands for key characteristics (italicized above) and skills we will try to develop and strengthen within our Eagles. Every day, while our Eagles are engaging with grade level content we will reflect upon these concepts and practice these life skills. Our business is educating your Eagle, but our goal is loving them and growing them as good, kind, resilient human beings. This is our pledge to you.

REGISTRATION
Families that have a student who has not had a change of address may log into Skyward Family Access to complete the enrollment procedures for the new school year. To begin the online enrollment, each family will log into Family Access and click on the “**Online Enrollment Verification**” link located on the main screen. This link will be available on each student’s screen within the family. If you have any questions please contact our secretary, Kathy Shorty at 693-4437 any time after August 1st.

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT
We greatly appreciate guardian involvement. The number one indicator in the success of a student is the level of parent/guardian involvement in the education of a child. Please get involved in any way that you can. Attend extra-curricular events, participate in our back-to-school events, and attend our special events planned throughout the school year. These events will all be posted on our website, Facebook page, and Twitter page throughout the year. We would love to grow our PTC. It takes a village to raise a child, and I encourage and welcome all families of Mark Bills students to become part of our Eagle family. PTC meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the school library.
ATTENDANCE
It is important that students have regular attendance at school. If your child is sick and must be absent from school, please call the school office by 7:45 A.M. If you do not call, you will receive a recorded phone message informing you that your child is absent and will be marked as unexcused. If your child has an appointment or you have not called, please send a note when your child returns to school. We appreciate your support in helping us keep our records accurate.

UNIFORMS
Students are expected to follow the Mark Bills dress code policy. We appreciate your support by purchasing clothes that meet the guidelines listed below.

- **Shirts**–White, navy blue, light blue or black. Shirts must have a collar and be a solid color with no logo, lettering, writing, designs, or embellishments (such as beading or embroidery). Sleeveless shirts and tank tops are not allowed. Spirit wear is sold during the year and may be worn any day of the week. Solid sweatshirts in black, blue or gray without a hood are allowed.
- **Slacks/Shorts/Skirts**– Navy blue, black, or khaki with no embellishment or designs. Pants and shorts must be plain dress pants or shorts. If pants have belt loops, a belt must be worn. Every effort should be made to purchase pants in the correct size to avoid pants that sag or are revealing. **Please note – denim pants of any color, stretch pants, sweatpants, and nylon warm-up pants are not acceptable.**
- **Shoes**–Students may wear dress shoes without heels or tennis shoes. Flip flops, high heels, or shoes where the backs/toes are open are not accepted for safety reasons. Tennis shoes are encouraged.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- **Wednesday, July 28th** - One Day Registration HUB at Peoria High School from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. for any families wanting to change their address or update other information.
- **Monday, August 2nd** - School secretaries return to schools
- **Tuesday, August 17th** - Back to School Night from 5:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Meet your *Eagle Family* and drop your materials off in the classroom/locker.
- **Wednesday, August 18th** - First day of school for our Mark Bills Eagles, 7:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday, August 17 at 5:30 pm for Back-to-School night. Please feel free to call or email with any questions or concerns, 693-4437 or markbills@psd150.org  Thank you for sharing your child with us at Mark Bills. It's time to #SOARtogether and #LiftEachOther.

Marcy Burdette Steele
Principal
#SOARtogether