



## STERLING MIDDLE SCHOOL

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July 15, 2019

Dear Parents and Students,

It is amazing how fast the summer goes! The staff and I are extremely excited to open this school year and welcome back our students in a month. In addition to spending precious time with their families during the summer, our staff members have continued to rise to meet the needs of our students by attending classes and professional development.

Sterling Middle School staff, in collaboration with parents, families, and the community will develop decent human beings through improved teaching and learning while promoting personal and academic growth.

This year, I am happy to announce that Mrs. Marcy Steele, Assistant Principal, and I will continue to be the administrative team leading the Sterling Jaguars during the 2019-2020 school year. Our Jaguar staff members are excited to meet your students' needs. Together we will bring a wide range of experience and expertise to the school. Both of us will also be available via email. We will respond to calls and emails within 48 hours.

In preparation for this upcoming school year, please save the date for Saturday, July 27, 2019 for Backpack Peoria. The event will run from 9:00-12:00pm at the Peoria Dream Center downtown. Mrs. Steele and I will be there, along with other Sterling staff members. We would all love to meet and see our returning parents and students.

Beginning Monday, August 5, 2019, students who have not had a change of address and are returning to Sterling may log in to Skyward Family Access to complete the enrollment procedures for the new school year. The online registration window will close at 11:59 pm Monday, August 13, 2019. At your convenience during our scheduled two-week window, we are pleased to be able to allow you to complete the student enrollment form and emergency contacts, photo release, school network agreement, free/reduced lunch or textbook application and more. To begin the online enrollment process 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.

Only incoming 5<sup>th</sup> grade and "new" Sterling students will complete registration information this year. During student registration, students will also have the opportunity to tour the building to ensure they are ready to start the year and alleviate some stress of attending school in a new and unfamiliar building. Over the summer, our building has had quite a bit of construction to make improvements. Please excuse any mess that still may be present as we begin our school year.

Administrators and staff have been attending professional development this summer to provide Sterling students a top-notch education. We will continue training throughout the year to ensure we meet the needs of all our students. When our students are promoted to high school, they will be prepared for success at the high school level and be decent human beings. We are committed to making Sterling a school of excellence.

We are working hard to ensure our school is climbing to the top academically, athletically and culturally. To assure that our students receive a top-notch education, we need all stakeholders to become involved in our Sterling community, including our parents, families and our students. Our students need to be in attendance, on time and ready to learn each day. Our students need to commit themselves to following our 3 Sterling goals: being a decent human being, focusing on personal betterment, and striving for academic growth. If our students buy-in to our expectations, they will not only have the foundation to be successful leaders at the high school level, but they will also learn, practice, and begin to master the skills necessary to be successful at the collegiate level and in the workforce.

We greatly appreciate parental 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 curriculum nights. These events will all be posted on calendars and on our website throughout the year. We would love to continue to grow our PTO. It takes a village to raise a child, and I encourage and welcome all families of Sterling students to become part of the Sterling family.

This year, we will be changing our drop off and pick up pattern. All parents that will be bringing their students will turn onto Westminister and park in the back-parking lot and follow the traffic pattern to drop off their students. All buses will pick up and drop off bus riders in the front of the building. We will send out more information as we get closer to the start of school.

Remember school will begin on Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup>. We will start on a Back to School Schedule from August 14<sup>th</sup> - August 30, 2019 from 7:30 am - 1:30 pm each day. If your child is a bus rider, please visit the district website to ensure your student will know the pick-up location and time for their bus route.

We look forward to seeing everyone in August and look forward to a wonderful year!

Lynn Lane, Principal