



July 19, 2021

McClave Community,

Welcome back Cardinals! We are very excited to see you all in just a few weeks. Our staff has been hard at work over the summer months getting everything ready for the students and teachers to be back. Although the last year and a half of school has been challenging and different for most of us, our students, staff and families found a way to complete a remarkably successful school year. A particular shout out goes to Math performance. Students in grades K-6 averaged a gain of 140% for the 2020-21 school year on the NWEA Measures of Academic Progress Math assessment. For perspective, an average student in the USA gains 100% (or one grade level) each year. In addition, our students in grades 7-11 averaged a whopping 250% Math increase during this 2020-21 school year. McClave JH/HS students learned more Math in this one year than the average USA student learns in two years. This is a unique and outstanding achievement. It reflects the work our students have done to learn at the highest levels. It verifies and demonstrates the high expectations and diligent efforts of staff. The success of this past year is also a testament to the character of students, staff, and families of McClave in overcoming the unique and significant challenges of the past 17 months, living out Excellence, one of the McClave core values. We are looking forward to 2021-22 being the year we can get back to our more normal school routines and activities, while continuing to focus on academic gains and achievements.

As most of you know, we have some changes in our district beginning with administration. Mrs. Brianne Howe will take on the role of superintendent after sixteen years of teaching and acting as K-12 principal for the last two years. Mrs. Maggie Pacino will be the K-12 principal and brings 24 years of experience as an educator. We are both excited to help lead an amazing staff and school as we strive to achieve our four core values: Excellence, Honesty, Integrity, and Respect. We are constantly striving to increase communication with our staff, students, parents and community to keep everyone on the same page.

Additionally, we are welcoming several new staff members. Mrs. Jenny Kliesen joins us as a part time paraprofessional on the elementary side. Mrs. Bethany Shalberg is our new part time kindergarten teacher. She will share that role with Mrs. Almanza as Mrs. Leighty moves to third grade. We are also welcoming Mr. Luis Ortiz, Jr. who will take over our business program and help coach. Mrs. Emily Ortiz will be teaching our JH/HS science classes and Mrs. April Fogue has taken over our music program. We are excited about the wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm these new staff members bring to our school.

Here are a few important dates we would like to share with you for the start of the year:

Wednesday, August 4th - K-12 Registration Night 5-7 p.m. *See enclosed flyer

Wednesday, August 11th - K-12 First Day of School ** This is a FULL DAY

Monday, August 2nd - High School Football Practice Begins

Monday, August 9th - High School Volleyball and Softball Begins

We look forward to an amazing 2021-22 school year and can't wait to have everyone back in the building in August!

Brianne Howe
Superintendent

Maggie Pacino
Principal