



GLENCOE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Central School

620 Greenwood Avenue

Glencoe, Illinois 60022

(847) 835-7600

August 16, 2010

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is our pleasure to welcome you back to another exciting school year, and I hope your summer vacation was restful and rewarding. With the start of every school year, there is a great deal of anticipation, excitement, and change. This year is no exception, and we ask that you join us in welcoming the following new staff members:

New Hire

Jon Valentino

Dana Biesterfeld

Stephanie Bultinck

Maggie Boyer

Andrea Koehler

Michele Byrne

Position

8th Grade Literature/Social Studies

Spanish

Speech/Language

District Occupational Therapy

8th Grade Special Education

Literacy Specialist

As identified above, Mrs. Michele Byrne is joining our Central School staff as our literacy specialist after serving the South School community for eight years. In her new role, Mrs. Byrne will work with both students and teachers in the area of reading fluency and comprehension. She will work with teachers on effective instructional practices, as well as individual students who may need additional reading support.

In addition to faculty changes, Central School will continue a focus on our school improvement goals. These goals include the refinement of our student problem solving process, a comprehensive study of best practice instruction in math and reading, and an increased dedication to social and emotional learning. This increase includes the implementation of the formal "Second Step" curriculum at fifth and sixth grade, as well as three pilot advisors at both seventh and eighth grade. Our school is excited about this newly adopted curriculum, as it will ensure that all fifth and sixth grade students receive explicit instruction in the following five competencies: Self-Awareness, Social Awareness, Self-Management, Relationship Skills, and Responsible Decision Making.

Technology continues to be a strength for all three District 35 schools, and Central would like to offer a sincere thank you to the Glencoe Education Foundation for their recent purchase of 29 SmartBoards. Over this past summer, 18 of these boards were installed in classrooms throughout our school. This leaves just a handful of rooms yet to be outfitted. The addition of this technology enhances the learning process, increases student engagement, and offers the opportunity for creative lesson planning. Once again, we say thank you GEF.

To that end, I anticipate an outstanding school year and look forward to working with you to maintain Central School's academic excellence and dedication to the individual child. If I can ever be of assistance, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Ryan Mollet