



Rockingham County Schools
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Dr. Rodney Shotwell
Superintendent
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Dear RCS Parent/Guardian:

It is with great pleasure and pride that I welcome you to the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year in Rockingham County. Already, we are starting to see signs that school is about to begin with the arrival of school supplies, new textbooks, classroom equipment, computers, fresh paint, clean carpets, and shiny floors.

On August 25, students will be greeted by an enthusiastic staff that includes teachers who have taken additional staff development over the summer months, coaches ready for fall season and administrators eager to greet you.

This school year we will remain focused on our goals of student achievement and closing the achievement gap. The district is researching and implementing sound practices that will improve teaching and learning. It will take the hard work and dedication of all our teachers and staff members to make this a reality. We have made great strides and are proud of these accomplishments, but there is still much to do.

We know that to be successful, it takes a partnership with parents and increased parent involvement. Now more than ever, we need to focus on ways parents can be involved with their children both inside and outside the classroom. There are many things parents can do at home to help their children be successful, such as: read with your children, make sure there is a quiet, well-lit area to complete homework and return necessary paperwork to the teacher or school. Research shows that the more involved parents are in their child's education, the more successful the child will be.

Each new school year brings excitement and a renewal of our commitment to the teaching and learning for all children. Please continue to partner with us as we work together toward a safe and rewarding education for the students of Rockingham County Schools.

Respectfully,

Rodney Shotwell, Ed. D.
Superintendent