



Dear Students and families,

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year at Scott M. Ellis Elementary School! We look forward to your return and all of the wonderful experiences that are ahead. On behalf of the faculty and staff, we extend a special greeting to students who are new to our school. We are happy to have you join our school family!

As a school, we continuously seek ways to make your child's school day the best it can be! The Building Level Team has already begun to use feedback and suggestions from faculty, staff, and parents in planning for the coming year. Our annual goals evolve each year, but our charge remains the same: to help children engage their curiosity and creativity, learn at the highest levels possible, respect themselves, and be the best people they can be! We look forward to partnering with families as we focus on these tasks.

Scott M. Ellis exists to serve hundreds of children each and every day. Two years ago our classrooms were outfitted with exciting technology to enhance learning. This summer, contractors focused on the care and improvement of our wonderful building, including:

- Improved walkways to the main entrance for students and parents
- Replaced window shades for all classrooms
- Removal of uneven concrete surfaces at the north playground doors
- Increased staff parking at the south lot (to create parent parking in the north parking lot)
- New classroom public address speakers
- Newly painted classrooms and stairways

We are thankful to all who have helped us to enhance our beautiful school building!

The Elementary Office will be open from 7:30 am until 3:00 pm on September 5th. However, in order to allow teachers time to complete preparations for students, our classrooms and hallways will be closed to visitors during that time.

The Kindergarten Hallway will be available to families for Kindergarten Open House on September 5th. Parents should park in the south parking lot and enter the building via the elevator lobby (this is the route students will follow when they walk to class from their school bus). The hallway will open at 3:00. (Kindergarten families will receive a second letter outlining information that is unique to Kindergarten students.)

Families of children in grades 1-5 are invited to our “Ellis Hallway Walk” from 3:00-5:00 on September 5th. Families who would like to walk around the building should park in the north parking lot and enter via the main entrance. Please remember that classroom/teacher visits will not be possible during this time. Teachers look forward to speaking with all families at our Open House events (see flier).

Our first day of school will be on Wednesday, September 6th for all students (grades K-12) and will follow regular school hours (7:55am - 2:25pm).

As many families are aware, Mrs. Dalton (intervention) and Mrs. Spring (art) retired in June. It is my pleasure to welcome Mrs. Caputi as our math intervention teacher and Mrs. Kelly as our new art teacher. Several faculty members have accepted new assignments within our school; information about all staffing assignments is available via the District website.

The Elementary website is an important source of information about school programs and procedures; the Family Handbook, September Newsletter, and Code of Conduct are posted for your review and convenience. Once school begins, the newsletter will be replaced by an electronic “Letter from the Principal,” which will be used to communicate about the exciting learning of our students, special activities, and upcoming school events (please sign up to receive this newsletter via enews). If you require a paper copy of the newsletter or ongoing letters, please contact the Elementary Office.

Enclosed with this welcome letter are a number of important materials. In order to best serve our families, we ask that you review these materials before school begins. The Student/Parent Contact Information form is an essential tool for our faculty and staff. Please review, sign, and return the Student/Parent Contact Information form to the Elementary Office as soon as possible. This safety information is updated annually to reflect the changing needs of our families.

We hope the remaining week of summer is full of laughter, great books, and fun! All of us at Scott M. Ellis are looking forward to the opening days of school and hope you are too. We invite all students (in grades K-12) to show their Spartan Spirit by wearing maroon and white on Friday, September 8th!

Thank you for your commitment to your child's education and your dedication to all that is accomplished at Scott M. Ellis Elementary School. Students and their families are our greatest resource!

Sincerely,

Peter Mahan  
Elementary Principal

Daniel Hash  
Building Principal/RTI Coordinator