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# BERTHA-HEWITT ISD 786

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Eric Koep, Superintendent | Karla Weishalla, Principal | Dave Mills, Dean of Students / Activities Director | Lynn Lindquist, Business Manager

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Greetings to our Bertha-Hewitt School Families – I have truly enjoyed leading this fantastic district for the past 10 years and I am extremely excited about what the 2024-2025 school year has in store for everyone!

Mr. Jared Alexander and his custodial crew have done an outstanding job all summer getting campus clean and ready to go – thank you for all your hard work during the hot summer days. A few of the bigger projects: the classrooms on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floor were all repainted, we added some new artwork in the cafeteria, and we added new siding to the three-stall garage behind the school. We are fortunate that each of our custodians brings a variety of talents to our team that has helped us complete more projects ourselves which saves the district money.

Our leadership team consisting of three administrators and seven teachers/support staff, spent three days at a retreat in June putting together plans that will help our staff and students have the best year yet! We have updated a few policies to ensure we have a safe working and learning environment while keeping the kids engaged in learning as much as possible. The major changes deal with less technology (chromebook, cell phone, etc...) usage by students and staff; we realize this is going to be a challenging transition, but our leadership team and school board fully support these changes – we hope all of you support the changes as well.

Several new faces have joined our school family and are eager to meet your kiddos along with the rest of our staff. For the 2024 - 2025 school year nearly 90 staff members are ready to provide the best educational opportunities for our youth. This includes our dedicated teachers, paraprofessionals, food service, custodians, secretaries, and administration – our communities are so fortunate to have this dynamic team working on behalf of the 520 students in Preschool – 12<sup>th</sup> grade that will be on campus soon.

As always, we are having a HUGE Open House event and everyone in the community is invited to celebrate the beginning of another school year. We usually book some entertainment and this year we are excited to have Racheal (Ianiro) Kalberer back to play some tunes for us. Check out the flier included in this packet for more information regarding open house – you won't want to miss it!

Communication is always a major priority of mine so be sure you follow Bertha-Hewitt on the variety of platforms on which we communicate all the great things our staff and students are doing. Enjoy the last few weeks of summer, I am excited to see everyone's smiling face soon!

Mr. Koep