

Sept 10, 2021

Dear Chimacum Families,

Thank you all for a terrific first week of school! It was wonderful to see students on our campuses having fun engaging in deep learning with teachers and staff. Having been in a large district with few in-person opportunities for students last year, I feel a personal sense of delight at seeing students again. And High School sports with spectators are back. Go Rivals!

I am proud and honored to work with staff, across our system, who are so deeply committed to the well-being of our students. *We did in-person learning last year and that has created more possibilities for our students this year!*

While we don't yet have a full picture of what our students have learned and know as we enter this school year, our insight is developing, and our staff is working intentionally to know each of our kids well. This is a deeper understanding of each student that we always strive for. We also want to know what our students learned outside that school didn't teach them- who they are outside of the classroom. Knowing the whole student will support them moving forward through uncertainty and challenge.

A lot has happened in our world since September 11, 2001 and our country has changed in many ways. I am mindful of this somber marking of the 20th year, and the meaning I continue to make from September 11, personally. I remember the morning I learned of the attack on the World Trade Center in real time on the radio as I drove to work. We hooked the rabbit ears up to a television and tuned into the live scenes from my classroom. All day people from our community came over to sit together with my students and watched the horrible scenes unfold throughout the day. It was one of the most difficult days of my life as a teacher and as a father/husband/son/human. I know many experienced far more difficulty, trauma, and grief, and I am reflective about their sadness and the sacrifices others have made since.

We have done and can do hard things. As the Covid situation in Jefferson County becomes more difficult and uncertain, Our Chimacum Schools will continue to be the heart center of our community for the stability and well-being of our families.

I wish you a restful weekend of peace and reflection.

Warmly,

Scott