

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Valhalla Elementary and the start of a very exciting school year in our ***BRAND NEW, BEAUTIFUL SCHOOL!*** We watched it being built on our playground for a year and now we finally are able to call it home! Education is a partnership that includes you, your children, and our staff. As our partners, we know you understand the importance of instilling the value of education in your children. Some of the best ways to do this are making sure your child arrives each day on time and ready to learn, helping them with homework, and talking with them about ideas and topics that they're studying in school. I also strongly encourage you to read to and with your children, regardless of their age, as this is one of the best ways to foster their love of reading while building their skills. Twenty minutes of reading to and with your child each day equals one hundred and twenty two hours of reading skills practice in one year!

Valhalla is your school. I want you to feel that you are a welcome and integral part of this community. Everyone including: teachers, parents, secretaries, administrators, instructional assistants, the custodian, cafeteria assistant, district support staff, and of course the students, is continually learning, growing, and working together to enrich the learning environment. We know that learning together and from one another is one of the most powerful ways to learn, and it also builds relationships and community.

Get involved! Time invested with your child(ren) at home and at school pays off in huge dividends. The more you participate, the more you and your child will benefit from school. I strongly encourage you to join the Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and to volunteer in your child's classroom. Please contact your classroom teacher or call the school for more information on ways that you can get involved

Thank you for sharing your wonderful children with us!

Fondly,

Marie Verhaar