



8/13/18

Hi SPCS Parents,

Welcome to the new school year! We are excited to start the school year and see all of your children once again. Our school district continues to move forward in many different areas and below is a summary. We hope you find the improvements lead to a better learning environment and continued success for the kids in our school system.

### **PLATTEVIEW CENTRAL JH/ HIGH SCHOOL LOCKER ROOM RENOVATIONS**

The locker rooms located at the south end of the high school are slightly behind schedule to start the school year. Here are the new dates for completion:

Junior high locker rooms- finished on August 24th  
Boys HS locker room- finished on September 1st  
Girls HS locker room- finished September 8th

Mr. Johnson, Mr. Alexander, and your child's PE teachers will have more specific information on how the students will dress out for PE and sports in the short term. The interim inconveniences will be worth the finished product, which will be a much more suitable space for our kids and will include private shower areas as well. We can't wait for you to see them when they are finished. We will have an open house for the locker rooms during Parent- Teacher conferences in October.

The junior high renovation is about two and a half weeks behind schedule for completion. Our architectural group- DLR, Board of Education, and administration are working with Hausmann Construction to tighten this schedule up and get this done closer to the scheduled completion date of Oct. 15. Despite rumors around the community, we do not foresee this project going past October 31. As soon as we get closer to October, we will send out an update on the remaining timeline and completion date. As with the Westmont Elementary project a few years ago, this will basically be a brand new school on the inside and will be a great improvement for student engagement and learning.

### **OTHER FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS AND PUBLIC USE OF TRACK**

Our custodial and grounds crews have been busy this summer getting the buildings ready for the start of school. They have done an excellent job and the facilities look great. The major projects that have been completed for the start of the school year include: **Springfield Elementary**- Asbestos removal, carpet throughout, new surveillance camera system, ADA accessible front and back doors, new fiber and phone system, and new windows. An additional ADA compatible playground will be installed in late September. **Westmont Elementary**: new surveillance system; **PHS**: gym floors refinished, new outside paint on front gym and north side of HS, new surveillance system, new carpet in choir/ band rooms and adjacent hallways, and new fiber and phone system. **District**: new storage building next to district offices.

We are working with our current phone company to have our phones at our JH/HS campus ready for the start of the school year at the phone numbers you are used to calling. Backup phone numbers are on our district and school websites in case they are not working. Our new phone system will be up and running

by the end of August. The new system will be run on fiber through Cox Communications. This should take care of the previous issues we have had with our phones.

Our Board of Education and staff believe our facilities should be able to be used by the parents and patrons of the community when possible. The district has installed a walk-in gate for our parents and patrons of the community to use the track at PHS. The track will be open for you to use from 6:30 to 9:00 PM most weeknights. The only time it will be unavailable for use is if there is a game scheduled for the evening. You can check the availability for use of the track on the HS website at [phs.springfieldplatteview.org](http://phs.springfieldplatteview.org), under EVENTS, then click calendar. The walk-in gate is located on the north side of the HS building by the activity entrance closest to the building. It's a great, soft surface to run on, so if you're looking for a closer place to run- check it out!

### **NEW ADMINISTRATORS FOR 2018-19**

Heidi Zierott is our new Director of Learning in 2018-19. Mrs. Zierott has served as a counselor and Director of Curriculum and Special Services while at Elmwood-Murdoch Public Schools. She is replacing Holli Kirwan who has moved back to her home area in north central Nebraska.

Jacci Lucas is our new Director of Special Services in 2018-19. Mrs. Luccas has had valuable administrative experience in Papillion La Vista Community Schools and Bellevue Public Schools as an elementary principal and as a Special Education/ Early Childhood administrator. She is replacing Anita Belsky who retired this summer.

Mike McLaughlin will replace Steve Joekel, who also retired at the end of last school year, as Assistant Principal at Platteview High School in 2018-19. Mr. McLaughlin has previous experience as an Assistant Principal at Abraham Lincoln High School and Principal at Kaneshville Alternative School in the Council Bluffs Public Schools.

Please welcome the new members of our administrative team as you visit our campuses.

### **DISTRICT'S VISION, STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE, AND GROWTH STUDY**

You can find the district's specific vision for our schools (Standards For Success), growth study, and our strategic plan on our website at [www.springfieldplatteview.org](http://www.springfieldplatteview.org), under the link ABOUT US, then click the link "Superintendent/Strategic Plan" to review the documents and plans. We will continually update the plans and initiatives as we move forward.

### **KIDS CARE – STILL TIME TO REGISTER FOR FALL BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM**

The district's Educational foundation is happy to continue to offer a before and after school KidsCare program this school year. This program provides learning, play, and supervision opportunities for grades K-6 students before and after the school day. KidsCare is only offered to students from Springfield and Westmont Elementary and is held at Springfield Elementary School.

Please don't wait to sign up. You can find all the details and registration forms on the district web site – [www.springfieldplatteview.org](http://www.springfieldplatteview.org) - or you can email the KidsCare office at [vkilgore@springfieldplatteview.org](mailto:vkilgore@springfieldplatteview.org) with questions.

Thanks for your continued support and participation in our schools and enjoy the upcoming school year!

Sincerely,

Brett Richards  
Superintendent