



Davis Joint Unified School District

Davis School for Independent Study
Kim Wallace, Principal

August 14, 2009

Dear DSIS Families:

Welcome back to the 2009-2010 school year! I hope you all had a relaxing summer. I wanted to let you know of some changes that have taken place since last spring regarding staffing and scheduling at DSIS.

Many of you know that our math instructor, **Brad Ballinger**, accepted a math professor position at Humboldt State University. Though we are sorry to lose him, we are excited for his career move. We are also sorry to say goodbye to our biology teacher, **Kathy Gill**, who will be working full-time at Willett Elementary as a science prep teacher. Due to low enrollment, we will not be offering Spanish in 2009-10, so **Krista Halderman-Bermudez** will not be returning to DSIS this fall. Finally, our school psychologist, **Jennifer Galas**, had a baby girl this summer and will be reducing her contract to work at just one site this coming year. We wish the best to everyone who has moved on to their new positions.

Even though loss can be unsettling for both staff and students, we are happy to announce some new people joining our staff this year. We will be interviewing biology teachers next week and hope to have a candidate ready to start at the beginning of the school year. Our school psychologist, **Danielle Perry**, is new to DJUSD and we look forward to meeting her soon. As an interim placement for the 2009-10 school year, King High School principal and math teacher, **Dave Egolf** will be teaching our geometry and algebra 2 courses.

As some of you are aware, last year I was on a 75% contract, with 50% of my time as principal at DSIS and 25% running the expulsion process. This year, I am happy to announce that I've been named co-principal at King High School with Dave Egolf, which brings me up to a 100% contract.

This year, I will be spending some of my time at King learning their program and transitioning fully into the principalship after Dave retires next spring. As of the 2010-11 school year, I will be splitting my time 50/50 between DSIS and King. Please be assured that I will be supporting both schools to the best of my ability and am just down the street when anyone needs me.

As a final piece of news, I have just begun a three-year doctorate in education program at UC Davis and plan to focus on alternative education for my dissertation. So get ready for me to be seeking your ideas and input to guide my work. In exchange, I promise I won't make anybody call me Dr.

I know this is a lot of information to digest, please feel free to come by if you need any clarifications. Here's to a fabulous year!

Kim Wallace
Principal
Davis School for Independent Study/King High School