

September 2016

Dear Parent of Guardian,

It is with great pride and excitement that I write this newsletter to you as the new Principal at Hawthorne Elementary and welcome you to the 2016-2017 school year. I spent last year as the Assistant Principal and focused on getting to know the Keokuk community. There were a lot of positives last year and I am excited to ride that positive momentum and guide our students, staff, and families toward success. I am excited to bring my skills as an educational leader to your child's school and work with you as a partner in education to ensure your child's success.

Along with staff, I am dedicated to making Hawthorne a safe, welcoming learning environment where students can grow academically and socially. We will work hard to continue to build strong relationships with students, staff, parents, and community members. We will focus on further developing PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports), quality instruction and teaching strategies, the school-wide adoption of our new math and reading curriculums, creating and facilitating engaging activities for students in every stage of learning, and providing opportunities that will broaden and deepen students' understanding of the world around them. It is our hope that with these efforts we will be preparing our Hawthorne students with the skills and knowledge necessary to be productive members of modern society.

As Principal, my door is always open. I am open to feedback and appreciate any input. I encourage parents to stop in or call to make an appointment to discuss any concerns, suggestions, or ideas that can help make this year the best possible for our students!

I look forward to working with you and your child.

Sincerely,

Michael Marsden

Principal, Hawthorne Elementary School

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