BOYD BEACON
Omaha Public Schools

Elaine Adams, Principal
Scott Hilger, Asst. Principal
www.ops.org/elementary/boyd

May 22, 2015

UPCOMING EVENTS:

May 22—6th Gr. Recognition 1:30
May 22—3rd Gr. Field trip 10:00-2:00
May 22—LAST STUDENT DAY

SUMMER SCHOOL
June 1—June 26, 2015
8:45 a.m.—3:05 p.m.
Breakfast 8:15-8:45 a.m.

FOOD COURT

Aug. 10—Safe Walk to School Night 6:00-7:00 p.m.
Aug. 12—1st day of school for the 2015-16 school year.

Farewell from the Big Tooth….

In this, my final Beacon newsletter, article, I wish to express my gratitude to all the Boyd students, parents and staff for making my 10 years here a rewarding and memorable experience in so many ways. As instructional leader at Boyd, I have proudly watched over the teaching and academic skill mastery of students from ages three to twelve in Head Start and Pre-kindergarten through sixth grade in both general education classes, English as a second language classes and Alternative Curriculum. I can say with conviction, it has been the highlight of my career as a professional educator.

Academically, our students have made growth every year on district and state required assessments. Last year Boyd earned the Omaha Public Schools Silver Award for notable Achievement on our state tests. From a character standpoint, we celebrate our students’ positive choices that are made every day. From a 21st century perspective, we have seen our staff become proficient at TAI (technology assisted instruction) as well as our students’ adaptation to TAL (technology assisted learning) with the inclusion of smartboards, an updated computer lab and several mobile computer labs. We can all be proud of the professional development of our staff as we continuously learn and keep up with state of the art enhancements to provide quality instruction to our students.

A more efficient parking area has been added to handle parent pick up and drop off along with nine large buses and up to four small buses. Seven portable classrooms have been added to the two that were here in 2005 to service our instructional space needs. All these to address increased enrollment which grew from 414 during the 2005/06 to 550 in 2011/12 to this year’s 526. Safety measures have been put into place including outdoor cameras and speaker systems as well as security personnel to allow staff and students to focus on teaching and learning.

In addition to my departure, there will be several other warm and smiling faces that will be moving on to other opportunities and new phases in life. Congratulations to Mrs. Deb Jaeke, Boyd first grade teacher, who has accepted the position of school counselor at Western Hills Elementary. Mr. Andre Waller, Boyd fifth grade teacher will be taking a fifth grade position at Druid Hill Elementary. Mrs. Terri Phillips, third grade teacher will also retire after twenty years with Omaha Public Schools and five years at Boyd. Mrs. Cari Jo Nelson, health para, will be leaving Boyd to take care of her new grandson. Mrs. Danielle Bemis, kindergarten teacher will be leaving to stay at home with her children following a move to Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Mrs. Melissa Kettelson, Head Start teacher and Boyd parent/PTA, will be moving with her family to Albion, Ne. Mrs. Annie Christian, long time Boyd paraprofessional, will be leaving to spend more time with her volunteer efforts. Mrs. Meghan Fisher, who will be staying home to take care of her young son.
Thank you. This school community is an incredible place, and I personally am humbled to have had the opportunity to serve you since August 2005. I will embrace opportunities for our paths to cross again. Continue to push your children to set high personal goals, to be a person of great character, and to put forth their personal best every day. Our children will do great things in life.

With sincerity and great fondness,

Mrs. Elaine Adams, Principal 2005-2015