

Suffield High School
August, 2012
From the Principal...



Dear Parents, Students and Friends:

Greetings! The Suffield High School faculty and administration hope that you are enjoying your summer and that the season is proving to be restful and restorative for you and your family. As it always does, summer is sliding by at record speed – and the beginning of another school year is fast approaching!

The administrative team at SHS has been very busy this summer hiring new staff and planning program improvements. Specifically, we will welcome new teachers in the P.E./Health, Special Education, World Language, Science, Social Studies, and English departments including a new Reading teacher which represents a program improvement at the high school. We are working to incorporate our new Student Success Plan into our Advisory program; you will have received specific information about the SSP under separate cover from Superintendent Baldwin. As a reminder, one of the first advisory meetings of the year includes a “book chat” about the students’ summer reading selections, so we hope that everyone is enjoying at least one great read over vacation! Students are reminded to return to school prepared for those conversations.

Once again, we are pleased to report that we have received our CAPT scores – which are up in all categories for the second year in a row! As you know, we have worked very hard in recent years to align the learning expectations of our courses with the state and national standards, and to create assessments which align with those standards and better inform students and faculty as to individual progress in mastering key concepts. Individual score reports will be sent to sophomores and their parents once they are received by the school, later in the summer.

As is tradition, our *Suffield Wildcat Advisory Group*, a team of carefully selected upperclassmen, will help transition the freshmen into our school family at our freshman orientation. This year, the program is scheduled for August 15th from 8:30am to noon; more information will be sent under separate cover to freshmen and their parents. I would like to take this first opportunity to ask parents to encourage their freshmen to check out the Clubs and Activities Guide which will be available at orientation. Our school boasts a multitude of co-curricular clubs and activities as well as a full athletic program to round out the overall experience of our students. Academics are a top priority, but the overall development and wellness of each individual is our *highest* priority. I cannot emphasize enough how important it is for students to find connections to their school beyond the classroom. Joining a club or activity helps students gain a sense of belonging, invest in their education more fully, and better manage their time.

If we may be of assistance to you throughout the summer months, please feel free to call us. In the meantime, enjoy these weeks of fun in the sun and we’ll see you back here on the first day of school, August 28th.

Respectfully,

Donna L. Hayward