



Dear West Family,

Welcome back! I hope you all had some fun and time to relax over the summer break. As we begin the 2015-16 school year, we will continue to focus on developing your child's essential skills in preparing them for college and career readiness. Learning begins at birth and is a lifelong process. Your child's education will continue well after they leave this school.

The process will be challenging, engaging, and fun. Students will be challenged to solve problems and think in a variety of ways, as well as work in collaboration with their peers. In order to be successful, students are going to need to be able to perform and develop some very fundamental tasks, which will translate into their daily lives as successful adults. The first is to **follow directions**. Following directions is a fundamental way to maintain organization and order in our world. If directions are followed, conflicts and frustration are mitigated. The second is **clear and appropriate communication**. Many people struggle in relationships or interactions with others because their communication is inappropriate or unclear. Students need to clearly articulate what they need. If you don't know, ask someone. If you need something, be specific. The third is **effort**. If you don't do your best then you can't expect the best for yourself. The last are **attendance and participation**. You can't hit a home run if you don't bat. You get what you earn and you earn what you get. You have to be in school, in class and engaged if you are going to grow academically.

The West staff and I have high expectations for all of our students and parents at West Elementary and we hope you have the same high expectations of us. The best way to achieve success is together. If you need something for your child's success, please never hesitate to call the school. We will do our best to get you what you need. We look forward to a very successful 2015-16 school year.

Best Wishes,

Dr. Saenz and the West Elementary Staff