



Indian River High School

Crossover to Excellence...
One Brave at a Time

August 10, 2016

Dear Staff:

Hopefully this letter finds you enjoying the last few weeks of summer. It is my pleasure to extend a warm and heartfelt welcome back as we begin the 2016-2017 school year. To those new faculty and staff members, we extend a warm Braves' welcome and best wishes for a fantastic and productive year. As you join our Braves' family, we hope you find some time to rest and enjoy several Kodak moments as well as pursue personal and professional projects and interests. Personally, I am thankful for the quality time I spent vacationing this summer with my family in Philadelphia and Williamsburg. I hope you feel refreshed and restored as we prepare for the new school year.

As I begin my third year as principal of Indian River High School, I realize how blessed I am to serve in this position. I am committed to collaborative leadership and continued implementation of a shared vision while fostering a positive school climate and culture. I challenge all faculty and staff to make a deep and genuine effort in building stronger relationships with our students, which research has proven raises achievement.

I would also like to welcome our new assistant principal, Brenna Anderson. She is a graduate of Slippery Rock University where she received her B.S. in Elementary Education. At Old Dominion University, she completed her Masters of Science in Secondary Education and then received her C.A.G.S. Certification from Cambridge College. Brenna comes to Indian River from Grassfield High School. She currently resides in Chesapeake.

Also, please welcome our new staff members to the Braves' family. They are:

Donald Welty	Business	Lynn Holmbeck	ROTC
Richard Presas	Earth Science	James Patrie	ROTC
Bethany Heath	FACS	Kelsey Rutledge	Math
Heather Dawson	FACS	Lee Ann Kemp	FACS
Melissa Politan	History	Paige Snell	German
Latasha Brown	Special Education	Hamica Alvarez	FACS
Melissa Van Ness	Special Education	Dayra Marshall-Brown	Teacher Assistant
Michael Banks	Special Education	Nathan Cornell	Personal Assistant
Joan Wright	Technology – Long term sub.		

I look forward to seeing you on Monday, August 29. Also, please consider supporting our Varsity Football Team by attending their first game of the season on Friday, August 27, at 7:00 p.m. at home.

Our theme for this school year is "Crossover to Excellence ... One Brave at a Time." This theme is based on the book *The Crossover* by Kwame Alexander, who will speak to our students on January 27th. If you haven't already read it, I encourage you to pick up a copy. It is a quick, engaging read with a powerful message.

Also new this year is our Twitter account. Please feel free to follow us @IRHBraves for the latest events, activities, and celebrations of our faculty, staff, and students.

Please enjoy the remainder of the summer...take time to pause, reflect, rekindle, renew, create memories, and celebrate life. Remember to GO FOR THE GOLD!!! (More to come on opening day!)

Sincerely,

Naomi R. Dunbar
Principal