

DES News Brief

SEPTEMBER 2017



- * August 30, First full day of kindergarten.
- * September 4, Labor Day, no school.
- * September 5, Back to School.
- * September 6, First day of PreK.
- * September 12, Whipple's Studio, **K-6 only** student photographs, 8:30-2:30, (PreK photos will be on October 17 as well as picture re-take).
- * September 27, Tiger Paw Pride Assembly, 1:10 p.m.
- * September 28, Open House & Book Fair, 6:00-7:15 p.m.

Welcome to the 2017-2018 School Year!

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Happy New Year! It is with great pleasure that I welcome you as part of our school community. I have been working all summer with staff and the Derby School Board to get ready for what promises to be a great year for your children at Derby Elementary School.

DES has been a busy place this summer! Some of our classrooms have been renovated, our flag pole replaced, and wireless clocks installed.

As you may know, we have some staff changes: Teachers Debra Joslin, Robyn McCarthy, and Richard Hill retired at the end of the year. Kindergarten teacher Miranda Tremblay has moved on to teach in Jericho. Todd Cubit is now working at the NCCC.

We have hired Desirae Breault as a 2nd grade teacher, Emily Stearns as a PreK teacher, and Rebecca Fielder for band and chorus. Also joining us is Janel Griffin, our new kindergarten teacher and an additional physical education teacher Peter AuClair. Mr. Joslin will be teaching half time. All children will have PE twice per week!

Betsy Willard has moved from 1st grade to 3rd grade. Jeanne Beaudry will be teaching 5th grade this year.

We also have some NCSU staff new to our school in the Special Education Department: Special Education teachers Courtney Papallo and Molly Kelly.

We welcome our new Foreman of Maintenance Craig Hansen, who will be working alongside Craig Ellam until his retirement in October. We also welcome bus monitors Amanda Provencher and Terry Lumbra as well as para educators Jennifer Theroux, Onalee Hopkins, and Andrea Chaloux.

We hired LNA Darlene Haugwitz to assist Nurse Lisa Austin in our Health Office.

At Derby, we are lucky to have a wonderful and skilled staff, providing excellent care for your children. Our discussions and planning around instruction are grounded in best practice. One learning goal of our staff is to be more responsive to learner differences and ensure optimal progress of all children.

You can stay updated on what is happening at Derby Elementary by reading my weekly emails and visiting our dynamic website at <http://des.ncsuvt.org> and Facebook page. If you are not receiving my emails and wish to, please contact Marguerite Cross at marguerite.cross@ncsuvt.org or call 873-3162 extension 101.

Please contact me at any time if I can be of help to your family!

Sincerely,

Stacey Urbin
Principal