



Dear Parents,

Welcome to another school year! While we all hate to see Summer go, it also is an exciting time for our students to return to the classroom. Taft has a long tradition of academic excellence and a nurturing environment for all students. Our teachers and staff go “above and beyond” to meet the needs of our young people and create an inclusive learning environment for all. Our theme this year is “**Game On!**” which will encourage our students to “level up” in all areas. We hope to use our theme to motivate our learners to achieve great things in the coming year! A few other important things to keep in mind:

- We welcome several new teachers to Taft: Rachel Kral and Jennifer Pence in 4th grade. Rebecca Cehulik-Music, Abigail Olewiler-Art
- Open House will be on Aug. 21 for 4th grade and Aug. 22 for 5th. Both are 5:30-6:30.
- Rosters will post at 3pm on Aug. 18 on the front doors at Taft.
- Our school day will still be 8:35-3:25. One change is **students will not enter the building until 8:30 a.m.** Please plan accordingly. This also applies to walkers who cannot be supervised until that time.
- IF you are planning to use bus transportation, please remember to register on our website:  
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc6aLPTqI9QPUnGpLzKFblaLt0NYbUomVSGNTJyILyfOB7P8g/viewform>

Please call if you have any questions or concerns in regards to any of these issues.

I end on a personal note: I will be continuing treatment for cancer throughout the Fall. This is an on-going issue that I have to deal with through chemotherapy. My message to students will be upbeat and positive as my prognosis remains good. But, since I will be forced to miss some days occasionally, I feel I must address the issue. Please feel free to share positive thoughts and reassurances with your child that Mr. McD is going to be just fine. I would not contemplate otherwise.

God Bless and may we all have an AMAZING year! Game On!

Steve McDonnell

