

Fuller G/T Magnet Elementary School
Principal's Page
January 7, 2008



Dear Parents:

Happy 2008! I hope that you had a peaceful and joyous break with the kids. The month of December was so busy, with elective presentations, alternative enrichment activities in the classes, and evening performances, it seemed to fly by.

Even though we're not officially at the halfway point, the start of a new calendar year is a great time to evaluate where we are and where we would like to go. On the morning announcements, I reminded the students of the importance of setting goals for character and learning. On the day I made that announcement, a student shared with me, "Mr. Scott, I'm doing a good job, so I don't have to set any goals." My response to him is something that I have to remind our staff and myself from time to time. We set goals because we have to always strive for improvement. The student needed to understand that goal setting is not for those of us who make bad grades or who get sent to the principal's office. Setting goals is not about wiping away the past, but rather it's about building upon it. I think that's something that we all have to keep in mind. Our students are collectively doing a great job, and their school success is a product of the values you instill at home and your commitment to send them to us each day, ready to learn. Their success also rests on the shoulders of our teachers and their collaborative focus on building relationships with students so that they trust our guidance and leadership.

I hope that my imperfect young man, who does a great job everyday, got the message and set a goal for himself after our talk. And I hope that in our quest for continuous improvement in our work with students, we never excuse ourselves from the need to set attainable goals. Thanks for all that you do to support our efforts.

Elective Registration

Registering each student for electives is a very demanding process. It starts with planning a balanced course offering for each elective block, making sure that we cover our bases with classes that enrich, extend, reinforce, and remediate the standard course of study. It is equally important that we maximize the opportunity to expose students to the visual and performing arts, the keystone of our magnet program.

When students return their elective registration forms, we look to make sure that their selections reflect their needs and interests, which are sometimes at conflict with each other. For most students, we do a good job honoring their requests. It's helpful when you have planned an elective schedule with your child. If your child is registered for an elective that you don't feel would benefit his/her needs or interests, please let us know this week by writing a note to your child's teacher. If you let us know this week, it's not a huge issue to resolve. Waiting until electives have started creates an administrative burden that is time consuming and frustrating for our elective team.

Thank You

The luncheon that you served on December 14th was great. The food was delicious, and the class coverage you provided gave the staff the opportunity to take a break and sit together for food and fellowship. On most days, teachers rush through a 15-minute lunch before resuming their work with students. On their behalf, I offer a sincere thank you.

Magnet Recruitment and Planning

In the weeks ahead, I will be showcasing Fuller to a host of families who are considering Fuller as an option for the 2008-2009 school year. I enjoy recruitment because it gives me the opportunity to talk about our program and what makes us different from traditional schools. Your marketing for our school carries significant weight for our school. Even though we don't have too many vacancies for next year, we want parents to understand what our school is about and what makes us great. That message comes from you. Thank you for selling our school and our program.

Dates to Remember

January 11 th	Elective Change Day
January 18 th	Teacher Workday—No School
January 21 st	MLK Holiday—No School
January 22 nd	3 rd Quarter Electives Begin
January 25 th	Fuller Family Night
January 28 th	Report Cards
February 8 th	Early Release