BUFFALO RIDGE E L E M E N T A R Y



First and foremost, Rob and I would like to thank the BRE community for their unbelievable generosity during the holiday season. From the cookie exchange, to the "Red Envelope" gift, to the treats that were shared throughout the week, you spoiled us and we are so blown away and appreciative. THANK YOU!

The beginning of the year always brings a new sense of purpose, the comfort of closure, and a hope for change. People view this time as an opportunity to rewrite their personal narrative. Whether it is picking up a healthy habit, pursuing a personal goal, or letting go of the past, it is comforting to know there is always a better "us" right around the corner.

As an adolescent, I embraced the concept of New Year's Resolutions. Knowing my flaws could be erased with the single tick of clock filled me with a sense of nostalgia. In many ways it was an excuse to be rambunctious and irresponsible. I could make bad decisions throughout the course of the year, as long as I promised to "fix" these poor choices at year's end.

Throughout the years, I began to realize the concept of New Year's Resolutions is completely backwards. While January does provide a fresh year's slate, people don't need a single date in time to make better choices. In fact, the concept of changing our entire being in one moment is both unrealistic and unsustainable. Instead, I came to the understanding that personal change is an everyday commitment. Being the best version of ourselves is a constant struggle. It's not easy to avoid many of life's pleasures, but the metacognitive awareness of making such difficult decisions is the driving force behind our personal narratives.

At Buffalo Ridge Elementary, we believe the social and emotional growth of our students is just as important as their academic success. We want our students to know that they control their own fates, and with the right tools, anything is possible.

While it took me the better part of my life to recognize my own potential, I do not wish the same fate on my students. Therefore, I want to make the following promises to you.

I promise to know each of our students as individuals. To learn their passions, fears, and dreams.

I promise to build relationships with my stakeholders. I realize it takes a village to raise a child, and I cannot do this job without your help.

I promise to view each day as a new adventure. Life is full of ups and downs, and the students at Buffalo Ridge deserve a principal that is optimistic and committed.

I promise to self-reflect daily so I can continuously improve my craft. I may not be perfect, but I will be better with each passing day.

Being the principal of an elementary school is anything but easy. It's not a full-time job, it's an all-the-time job, but I wouldn't change my current situation for anything in the world. Buffalo Ridge is my home, and I promise to give you everything I have for as long as you will keep me.

Thank you for all of your support, and happy new year.

Warmly,

Jen & Kel

P.S. The holidays got us like...







Lambeau Field or BUST. Go Seahawks!

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