



Happy New Year, HERD Family,

For the 2021-2022 school year, one of our primary goals at Buffalo Ridge Elementary is to implement an accelerated math program for those students who are performing well above grade-level standards. This goal has taken an incredible amount of purposeful preparation and planning before being implemented with fidelity. This school year, as many of you already know, BRE adopted a new math program, EnVision, presenting a natural learning curve. In addition, by accelerating a child's math trajectory and omitting an entire grade level of math, a student can miss essential mathematical concepts and processes that can create gaps and frustrations in future learning. Therefore, the staff at Buffalo Ridge has compiled a body of evidence for students performing above the 90th percentile in math to determine if a child is adequately prepared to move up a grade level. If your child has met the criteria for accelerated learning in math, they will begin receiving math instruction in the grade level above starting this semester.

In the past two weeks, classroom teachers contacted parents directly to discuss academic steps for those students that either wholly or partially met the accelerated criteria. If your child did not meet the criteria, or if your child's teacher did not contact you, please do not feel

discouraged. At Buffalo Ridge Elementary, we believe in supporting the whole child. We go to great lengths to ensure every student receives an education tailored to their academic, social, and emotional needs. ALL students will receive differentiated instruction in math, regardless of their ability level.

Much like any new systematic implantation, accelerated learning will come with its bumps in the road. It will take time to map out the essential content in the upcoming grade level while



simultaneously supporting each student fill the gaps in their current grade level. Please know the staff at BRE will approach each of these hiccups collaboratively and will communicate with parents throughout the process.

Thank you for supporting us as we implement this systemic adjustment. Dr. Thelen and I greatly appreciate your patience and understanding. This second semester will be a blast, and we cannot wait to walk along this new path with you.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jen & Rob". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jen and Rob

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