



Dear HERD Family,

The staff and students at Buffalo Ridge Elementary spent the past month celebrating kindness and giving back to those who mean so much to us. Our virtual Kindness Assembly was nothing short of amazing, and the Valentine's Day parties were a blast. These events focused on the heart and reminding ourselves what matters the most; happiness.

This past month, Dr. Thelen and I sent out a survey inquiring where our community hoped to see improvements in the 2022-2023 school year. This survey revealed that parents want additional support for students performing below grade-level expectations, supporting the social and emotional needs of our student body, and adding additional support in the classroom. Many parents suggested altering the Gifted and Talented programming, adding STEM learning opportunities, and decreasing classroom sizes. Others suggested fewer worksheets, better professional development for teachers, and greater communication systems. Rob and I want you to know that we take these suggestions very seriously and we will work diligently to make these adjustments moving forward.

On April 2nd, DCSD will be hosting the Apple Award Ceremony to honor exceptional educators and staff who are inspiring a love of learning in students and are trailblazing extraordinary innovation in our schools. This school year, Chantel Albert, our phenomenal School Psychologist, and Karen Bunge, our spectacular Educational Assistant IV, were selected to represent Buffalo Ridge Elementary. Rob and I could not be more proud of these two individuals. Both Karen and Chantel constantly go above and beyond the scope and sequence of jobs, and they will always do so with a smile on their faces. These two educators are nothing short of amazing and are very deserving of this prestigious honor.



As a reminder, Parent-Teacher Conferences are right around the corner. Please keep an eye out for communication coming from your child's teacher. They will be sharing conference dates and your child's recent academic progress so parents can formulate questions or concerns before their

assigned conference date and time.

Finally, we would like to express our sincere gratitude for the sweet notes, goodies, flowers, and other expressions of love and appreciation that our BRE community has shown this month to our staff. It has filled our bucket! We hope we continue to fill yours!

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jen & Rob". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jen and Rob

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