

June 6, 2024

Blog – Summer

Today marks the end of the 2023-2024 school year and students and staff will now start their summer activities. Summer brings back memories for all of us. As a young boy, summer meant not only being out of school, but also planting crops for our cattle, putting and weeding a big garden and baling hay. Since my family owned a farm, as well as my uncle and grandparents; I would spend many a day baling hay and putting it up in the hay mow. If you have never put up hay, it is the ultimate weight reducer – temperatures always seem well over 100 degrees above zero and you are constantly doing cardio and weight lifting. I have never been in such good shape as after a summer of baling.

As a teacher, I spent my summers either going back to school to finish my administrative degrees or working as a tour guide. I worked as a broom maker at Stonefield State Park in Cassville and as a tour guide for Little Norway, near Mount Horeb. However, as an administrator I spend my summers getting ready for the new school year. I cannot say the pace slows down in the summer, but my wardrobe changes and I stop wearing a tie and switch to short sleeve polo shirts. The summer hours are spent ordering and sorting through school supplies, making sure the handbooks are on the website and printed versions are available, updating the budget, designing inservice programs and making sure that everything is set for another school year. I will also be spending time working with the Board and staff to create goals for the 2024-2025 school year. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year with the Parkview School District and am excited about the upcoming school year.

One of my major goals this summer is to be able to sit down with people and determine what went well this past year and what items we need to concentrate on to make the upcoming school year the best it can be from their perspective. As I have mentioned in previous blogs, if you would like the opportunity to come in and chat with me over the summer about any thoughts, concerns or ideas please do so. In my free time when I am not in school, I will be working on my hobby farm. I bought a small hobby farm about ten (10) years ago and on this farm I have three baby doll lambs that Mr. Sattler will help me find a new home for in the fall and a small flock of chickens. I also planted a vineyard and have several flower gardens to help occupy any free time.

At the end of June and the beginning of July, I will be taking my two grandsons on a road trip to Alabama. My oldest grandson Sam (15) is going to Space Camp in Huntsville and my youngest grandson Gordie (14) will be keeping us company as we go to Sand Castle University on the gulf coast.

Summer is a time of relaxation and planning. I hope that each of you will be able to take some time to recharge and get ready for an exciting new school year.