

Welcome Back Article – August 15, 2012
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Huntington Beach Union High School District

I want to begin this “welcome back to a new year article” the same way we ended our last school year...by expressing my sincere thanks and appreciation for the generous community effort of support for our students, staff, and families. I recently heard someone asked the following short question in reflection and planning, “What was our best year?” After a thoughtful pause, he answered, “The year we are getting ready to start!” That pattern of thought and tone of optimism are essential for the success of our students and the health of our schools...that is who we are in Huntington Beach Union High School District!

As a district, our accomplishments have been many and are a great source of pride and motivation for our future. What constitutes that pride are both the small and large individual efforts that become a part of the daily fabric of our work--from the custodial staff who will make their way onto campus before the sun rises, to the dedicated teachers, coaches, and professional staff who are committed to providing an educational environment that creates opportunity and vision for the future of our students.

Reflecting on our own high school experiences, while we may not always remember a particular author, equation, or time we needed to beat, we surely recall the names and faces of those who built and guided our paths. Many people might forget who won the league title or got the answer correct on the final exam, but we will find a keen sense of memory for the counselor who helped us the day we needed it the most, or the teacher who was meeting us the morning before the test we needed to pass.

This month, as we get ready to begin what will be our “best year yet,” we acknowledge all of those individuals who sacrifice both big and small to help us provide the educational experiences our students will need for the world we expect them to lead. Good luck to the Edison Chargers, Fountain Valley Barons, Huntington Beach Oilers, Marina Vikings, Ocean View Seahawks, Valley Vista Eagles, Westminster Lions, Coast High School Dolphins, and Community Day School Hornets!