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**HUNTER’S GREEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

April 30, 2021

Dear Parents,

It is with a heavy heart that I’m writing this letter. At the end of this school year, June 30, 2021, I will be retiring. As I embark upon my next journey, I have only thanks and gratitude to the students, parents, and faculty at Hunter’s Green Elementary for a wonderful seven years together. This school is exceptional in all areas, and I was so lucky to be a part of it.

I’d like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for being so supportive, encouraging, and helpful during my tenure at Hunter’s Green. This school has been my home, and the parents, students, and faculty, have been my family. Together, we have accomplished so much for our children, thanks to all of you.

As I reminisce over the seven years I have been a part of Hunter’s Green, there are so many memories. I remember the first week that I arrived, it was the annual Character Book parade. All the students and the entire staff dressed up like a book character and then paraded around the school to see the unique costumes. I dressed up as Peter Pan. Through the years, we were many different characters from books such as 101 Dalmatians, The Hungry Caterpillar, Toy Story, Alice in Wonderland, and Dr. Seuss.

Panther Jamz was simply one of the best events. This was a lip sync competition with the staff at Hunter’s Green. Some of the performances have included Tina Turner with Rollin’ on the River, Baby Shark, and my favorite KISS. Thanks to PTA for the face painting to make us look exactly like the KISS performers.

Another school-wide event was the Spring Showcase where we highlighted all of the special programs that we have here at HGE. From the specialty music ensembles, to our art show, to our STEAM clubs, and our grade level presentations, our school shined. At the end of each showcase, everyone attending participated in a sing a long or a dance. This was an event that brought everyone together. We always had the best time.

Over the years that I have been principal, the school and PTA have participated in many different fundraising events. From the Scholastic Book Fairs, Panther Prowl Walk-a-thons, Penny Wars, Read-a-thons, Galas, Fit Fests, Kids Rule the School, and Panther Jamz, together with PTA, we have raised over $200,000 in just the last few years. In raising all that money, students were rewarded with being able to slime, ice, and pie teachers and the administration. Some students won prizes, and others had the opportunity to eat lunch with me. One of the students’ favorite incentives was pajama day.

With the money that was raised, we were able to purchase 9 computer lab carts with 25 laptops per cart, installed artificial turf on the courtyard, funded an electronic marquee, beautified the campus with new picnic tables and trash cans, painted a mural for the media center and redecorated the teachers’ lounge and bathrooms. The school looks absolutely beautiful!

Even though I’m sad to be leaving a place that I love so much, I am looking forward to be able to attend to my father that has had some health issues, along with spending time with my eight grandchildren, my four children, and my husband. This is not a good bye. I want you to continue to keep in touch with me. I’d like you to send me pictures, videos, updates, and just your beautiful words. I will miss you terribly. This was the most wonderful place to end a 39 year career in education, filled with love and memories. Thanks so much for all you’ve done for me and Hunter’s Green Elementary. You will always have a special place in my heart.

Love,

Mrs. Holt