

Dear Cougar Parents,

I want to take this opportunity to welcome all returning Cougar families and extend a special welcome to those of you new to Cy- Creek. I hope you and your families had an enjoyable summer. As mentioned in the spring before we left for vacation, we anticipated that our facility would be well under construction by the time our students returned in late August. Because of the need to finalize blueprints and work out the phasing of the project (our Houston monsoon rains didn't help either), the decision was made to delay the start of our extensive renovation until later this fall. This was most likely a blessing in disguise as we were able to experience a smooth school opening without the challenges of a new construction project. However, the start up is inevitable, and this project will require us to be flexible and creative for the next couple of years. As an example, we will be temporarily losing approximately 200 student parking spaces this year. This is unfortunate and will obviously eliminate the opportunity for many of our juniors to have parking privileges (all seniors are guaranteed a parking sticker) at least for this year. During the course of the project, we will be working hard to minimize the impact of construction on our campus, and as a staff, we are committed to maintaining quality instruction for our student body. We are anticipating the much needed improvements for Cypress Creek High School and are anxious to share the new plans and subsequent programming with our Cy-Creek community. We will be doing so at a future meeting during the first semester, date and time to be determined. SHW Architects will also be present at that time to present the new design.

As always, one of our goals this year is to stay connected to our parents and the Cy-Creek community. Consequently, we would like to invite you to visit our school website where you can obtain a variety of information and news about Cy Creek. You may link to it through the district site www.cfid.net. We are proud of our reputation for excellence and encourage you to view the sampling of last year's student and staff achievements posted on the site. As we begin our 31st year, we look forward to another outstanding year and the graduation of our 29th senior class.

I would also encourage you to stay in touch by registering with our VIPS (Volunteers in Public Schools) program at www.cfid.net, click "Department", click "Partners in Education, click VIPS, then select "Volunteer Participation Form." You may also have your name placed on the e-mail distribution list by contacting Lisa Mayer at mmayer5@comcast.net. Our VIPS e-mail newsletter, *The Cy Creek Cougar Link*, is sent out weekly and is an excellent way to stay apprised of upcoming school activities and events as well as opportunities to serve as a volunteer at Cy-Creek if you can find the time to do so this year.

You may also want to be a part of our KEY COMMUNICATOR group at Cy-Creek. Our key communicators receive e-mail notices from time to time from the Cy-Creek administration, Superintendent of Schools, or other sources in CFISD that keep them connected to relevant issues. You can be added to our key communicator list by contacting Mary Ann Guidry at her email mary.guidry@cfisd.net.

This year, we are again encouraging each parent to make sure they are registered for the Parent Internet Viewer (PIV). Last year's login and passwords are still in effect if you are already registered. If you have lost this information, you may go to our website to request a replacement or come by the front desk in person to fill out a request form. More information on how to obtain the PIV can be found on page 5 of this newsletter. The PIV is an excellent way to keep up with your student's assignments, grades, and attendance for each class.

As a last item, I would also invite you to attend any or all of our Parent Coffees held in our school library at 7:00 p.m. on the following dates: September 20, November 6, January 15, and April 1st. Our parent coffees provide another avenue for parents to hear about relevant topics and to participate in an open forum with the Cy-Creek administration to discuss concerns and give feedback. As always, we value the partnership of our parent community and want to work closely with you to help make your student's year at Cypress Creek High School a success.

Respectfully,
Jim Wells
Principal