



## FROM THE NEW SUPERINTENDENT BY DR. GEORGE GRIFFITH

As the new school year is quickly growing near, I would like to introduce myself to you, especially to the students and let you know a little bit about me. I am George Griffith, Ph. D. and usually go by "Dr. G." I started as your new superintendent on July 1<sup>st</sup> and have been in education for 18 years. This is the start of my 10<sup>th</sup> year as a superintendent. My teaching background is in science with experience teaching 7-12 science in Kansas. I was the state science consultant in Kansas, and taught 8<sup>th</sup> grade science in Fort Worth, TX. I have not always been in education and have ten year's experience as a welder-fitter, four years as a medical technician, been a cook and maintenance man, and spent some time working on a dairy farm as a kid. My diverse background has helped be able to relate well to students, teachers and the community. I work to make everyone comfortable when visiting with me whenever they feel the need to.

My focus of leadership is a "student first," team approach and this team includes students, parents and community members of the district. Each of you plays a role in providing the best education for our children and I look forward to getting to know each of you. Please feel free to stop by and say hi or just give me a call. There are a lot of things going on this year, including the addition of new members to the educational team, including: Courtney Bahe, Ag/Ind Tech teacher and FFA advisor; Preston Blackmore, PE teacher

and coach; and Katrina "Katie" Helms, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and coach. In addition to the new staff, Julie Stagemeyer will move from 4<sup>th</sup> grade to kindergarten this year.

In addition to these changes, another issue for the coming school year is the vote on September 13<sup>th</sup> regarding the school bond. My job is to make sure you all have complete information in order for everyone to make an informed decision. To meet this goal, the district website, [arapahoewarriors.org](http://arapahoewarriors.org), has a link to bond related information. When you go to the website click on the "Board of Education" link and the menu will show a "School Bond Information" link you can go to for information. School board Agenda Materials will also be available in the "Board of Education" link on the district website and should be available the Friday prior to the regular board meetings.

The greatest excitement for me is the chance to meet the students in the district. Helping each child be the best they can be is why I became an educator. Enjoy the rest of your summer and stay Warrior Strong! Dr. G

COUNSELOR'S COMMENTS BY PAM BREINIG

Welcome back! I'm sure most students have reviewed their schedules by now or will soon do so. While most of you have the perfect schedule, schedule changes will continue to be processed through Thursday, August 18th. To make a change, students simply need to meet with me to discuss the request and whether it affects graduation requirements, complete a form and obtain the necessary signatures.

To the Class of 2016, be sure to provide your scholarship contacts the necessary information so that you can receive your scholarships. Check the scholarship contact list that was included in your graduation packet.

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Arapahoe Public Schools  
School District No. 18



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