



Dear Students and Parents,

With a new school year quickly approaching us, we would like to let you know how excited we are to have you as a key member of Orion Junior High School. This promises to be another great school year. Our study body officers have come up with the theme for this year..."Shooting for the Stars". This is an excellent theme. It embodies what we are trying to do at Orion. We set high standards and expectations and we strive to reach those goals.

We would like to give a warm welcome to three new teachers this year. Brock Mitchell joins the Math department where he will teach Intermediate Algebra, Elementary Algebra A, and Pre-Algebra. Shannon Sowby is taking over our Choir program. Finally, Hannah Veldstra is our new special education teacher, working with the Independent Living students. All three teachers are highly qualified and we are excited to have them join our already great faculty.

Students, we would like you to set high goals for your academic achievement this year. We all benefit from students who know why they are here and what they want to accomplish. We also encourage you to get involved in extra-curricular areas. We offer something for everyone. Besides the various sports teams, we have an amazing STAR Club for those interested in having fun with science after school. We have NAL for those who want to compete against other schools, demonstrating academic knowledge in a wide range of subject areas. Science Fair and Science Olympiad have been areas where Orion students have shined against the best science programs in the state. You will have the opportunity to try out for and perform in the school play. Students with a love of both science and math will want to get involved with MESA. The National Honor Society does amazing service projects in the area. There is also a club for each of our foreign languages you can join. As you can see, we want you involved, proudly representing Orion Junior High School.

Back-to-School Night will be held Thursday, August 20. We will begin at 5 p.m. with an orientation for all 7th grade students as well as 8th and 9th grade students new to Orion this year. The orientation will be in the cafeteria and will then break out with our cheerleaders and student officers guiding you through the school. At 6:30 p.m., we welcome all Orion students to meet their teachers. The teachers will meet students and parents in their classrooms. We will assist parents in the writing lab, giving instructions on using the WSD 's portal to help you track your child's academic progress each day.

Parents, we want to invite you to become an insider at the school, assisting in policy making and school improvement decisions. Join us on the Community Council and/or on the PTSA. You can sign up during Back-to-School Night.

We look forward to a great year Titans!

Art Hansen
Principal
Orion Junior High School