

## Greetings,

Things are off to a fantastic start here at Fleming. We are very pleased to return with another great year of improvement under our belts, and look forward to continuing the trend. As you probably already know, Fleming has once again been rated "Outstanding" on the 2010-2011 Oregon School Report Card. This is unprecedented in Southern Oregon and a rarity for any middle school / secondary school in the state. In fact according to my own research, Fleming is the only middle school in the entire state to have received either an exceptional or outstanding rating for 5 years in a row. It is my sincere belief that the continued success that we have seen here at FMS is because of an exceptional group of staff, students and community members that come together to make Fleming special. The most important piece of our success during this time has been the commitment our entire staff has made toward achieving and exceeding our school-wide improvement goals. I am truly thankful for their professionalism and dedication. Through a continued reevaluation of instructional practices, curricular alignment, and disciplinary best practices, this team has established a very positive focus for the education of our children and is committed to continuing our upward climb.

A few other items you may find of interest:

- Our start up to the school year was fantastic! When I first became the Principal of Fleming in 2003-2004 we had a student population of 525 attending. The teaching staff numbered 26. This year we will have approximately 410 students with 12 teachers. Big changes and big challenges. Even with the changes and challenges all staff members have risen to the task of providing the best possible educational experience for our students.
- We just finished our winter athletic season and our future Knights represented us with competitiveness, pride, and outstanding character. I would like to thank our volunteer coaches for taking their time away from their personal lives to aid in the growth of our students. Thank you to the following:
  - Volleyball Kathy Mathews and Maria Caruncho (both FMS employees)
  - o Football Curtis Kissel, Mike Brosio, Brian Taylor, Gary Padgett
  - Cross Country Andrew Powell, Steven Stuckey
- Our staff has been working diligently to communicate and collaborate with other district staff members by curricular areas to further the district goal of implementing "proficiency based learning" into our instructional best practices.
- Finally, I would like to thank our PTO and the Young Marines for an outstanding "Red Ribbon Spirit Week" where our students pledged to be drug free and show their Fleming pride.

This is truly an exciting time to be a Fleming Rogue. Please come by and visit whenever you have the opportunity.

John George Principal Fleming Middle School Director of Alternative Education and Athletics