



Pine Lane Elementary
6485 E Ponderosa Dr
Parker CO 80138
Principal: Chris Stairs
Assistant Principal: Candice Laviaguerre

June 6, 2018

Dear Pine Lane Community,

I hope you all are having a wonderful break! Before we get too far into the summer, I wanted to reach out and express how thrilled I am to be here at Pine Lane Elementary. This community is very dear to my heart as I have lived in Parker for the last 13 years and for the past 6 years have served as assistant principal at Sierra Middle School just across the street.

Throughout my career as an elementary teacher and middle school administrator, as well as being a father of six, it has been highlighted again and again how critical these elementary years are for our children. As a community, we are forming the foundation for the rest of their lives. This foundation must include strong character, passion for learning, solid academic skills, and the ability to think well. The laying of this foundation begins the day each child is born and our Pine Lane Crew is excited to support this development as your child moves through the elementary years.

Pine Lane is in year 2 of implementing [Expeditionary Learning](#) (EL). Essentially, EL is all about getting students to do their best work. This work focuses on three aspects: **character, mastery of knowledge and skills, and high-quality student work**. Last year, Pine Lane students and teachers began their journey by focusing their attention first on building excellent character through the use of "Crew." This emphasizes that each member of our community is crew and no one is just a passenger; each person's contribution is needed for us to achieve our goals. This next year, we will focus on student engaged assessment and goal setting. The purpose of this work is to motivate students to take ownership of their learning.

In order to stay up to date on the happenings at Pine Lane please pay close attention to our [website](#), our [mobile app](#), [Twitter account](#), and [Facebook account](#). I will also be sending an additional letter at the end of July outlining our plans for the beginning of the year. Please be aware of a district change, the first day of school, August, 9th, will be a full day for our students. Kindergarten, however, will look slightly different.

Thank you for your warm welcome! The staff and community of Pine Lane have been incredible. I am very honored to serve Pine Lane in this capacity. Enjoy the summer!

Sincerely,

Chris Stairs
Principal
Pine Lane Elementary



