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August 25, 2016

Dear San Bruno Park School District Families,

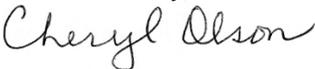
Thank you for entrusting your children to us. We had a wonderful start to the new school year, despite the challenge we have faced all summer to hire enough teachers to fill our classrooms. We know your children are precious and deserve the best teachers possible. I assure you that we were diligent throughout the summer recruiting and interviewing applicants. **Despite our efforts, we still need to hire one elementary teacher, two middle school teachers, and two special education teachers.** This monumental problem is not unique to the San Bruno Park School District. It is a state wide crisis. Neighboring peninsula districts are facing the same issue, and San Francisco, as of Wednesday, still had 117 UNFILLED teaching positions. We will persevere and ask for your support.

To obtain viable candidates for teaching positions, we have actively participated in university job fairs. We have worked closely with San Francisco State and Notre Dame de Namur Universities to secure recent graduates and interns. We have been relentless in advertising for teachers. We have reached out to other communities, as well as to agencies such as Teach Across America. We continue to do so.

Unfortunately, after years of teacher layoffs during the recession, fewer people are entering the profession; thus, the supply of new teachers is at twelve-year low. Districts are indeed competing for teachers, but there simply are not enough of them to fill the statewide need.

We commit to providing a top quality educational experience for your child this year. Our administrators, teachers, and staff are dedicated and excited about this year. With faculty support, we have implemented high level curriculum in English Language Arts, English Language Development, and in mathematics to give our students hands on learning opportunities. At Parkside Intermediate School, the WEB (*Where Everybody Belongs*) program is launched, with trained 8th grade students mentoring our new sixth grade students. Parkside also has a wonderful new team of administrators eager to work alongside parents and staff to meet students' needs. In the meantime, because we need 4 teachers at Parkside, we will use current district credentialed teaching staff to cover the classes. We will also communicate the new hires as they occur and offer an opportunity to meet with them as they come on board.

Thank you again for giving us the opportunity to partner with you in your child's education. We will have a GREAT 2016-2017 school year.

Most Sincerely,

Cheryl Olson