

## **Welcome to Rock Falls Elementary School District #13.**

*"Educating Our Future"*

District 13's success is directly connected to a dedicated and talented staff, active and strong parental involvement, and a supportive and generous community. As an award-winning school district with a long tradition of excellence in education, District 13 values a system of continuous improvement that permeates every aspect of its work in order to become a center of educational excellence. We are committed to providing a challenging curriculum, skilled instruction, and a learning environment that responds to individual student academic needs. Our work is guided by research and the belief that every student is capable of attaining high levels of educational achievement in preparation for meeting the rigorous demands of the twenty-first century.

We believe in the unlimited potential of our students by respecting and developing their unique learning styles and interests. We set challenging and demanding expectations for performance and support all students to achieve high standards. We foster a culture of civility where students and adults are treated with fairness, respected for their contributions, and celebrated for their successes. We believe in using data to guide decisions and to improve student learning, differentiate instruction, and promote social, emotional and physical growth.

Our work together requires teamwork, collaboration and dedication. We believe in the value of collaboration and communication. We believe that commitment to and implementation of continuous learning lead to improved student performance. We believe in the power of personal connections and relations between staff, students, parents and the community.

I am fortunate to be part of a professional community that approaches its work with optimism and a tremendous sense of possibility. We are bound only by the limits of our talent and our creativity. I lead a team of dedicated administrators, talented teachers and committed support staff, involved families and supportive community members, working in partnership to strengthen educational excellence.

As we look to the future, we need to set clearly defined goals and measure how well we are meeting these goals. Great organizations have clarity of purpose, common goals, shared commitment, and are results-oriented. I look forward to working with each of you to provide the best educational experiences for our youth.

Respectfully,

Dan Arickx, Superintendent of Schools