



WALTER M. CALINGER, Ph.D., Superintendent

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

2430 Greensburg Pike, Pittsburgh, PA 15221 • 412-731-1300 • 412-731-2974

Dear Members and Supporters of the Woodland Hills School District:

"Come home...to Woodland Hills."

In the weeks and months ahead, you're going to hear that message. A lot.

Soon, we will launch our registration program for the next school year. We're asking parents to sign up their children a little earlier than usual because we expect enrollment to increase for 2010-2011. We need extra time to plan for that.

(If you're interested in our highly popular Woodland Hills Academy, I have more on that later.) Also, look at the box below to see the on-site registration dates at our elementary schools.

We're setting up Open Houses and other events that will show off the tremendous, unique assets of a Woodland Hills education.

I say "tremendous" and "unique" without reservation. If a student lives in the District and attends another school, he or she does so for reasons other than the outstanding academic, cultural, athletic and social benefits that come with a Woodland Hills education.

Two groups of parents and children will receive special invitations to "Come home...to Woodland Hills."

If you're the parent of an incoming kindergartner, you will receive a personal invitation to meet your child's elementary school principal. You'll also have a chance to meet this year's kindergarten teachers.

We want you to ask every question you can think of about the beginning of your child's formal education. What's the school day like? How qualified are your teachers? What kind of technology do you have?

If you're the parent of an eighth grader, you will also receive a personal invitation to meet with Dan Stephens, our high school principal, and some of our teachers.

Ask them the good, hard questions about the benefits of a Woodland Hills education. Is the campus safe? What is the Gifted Program? What is the Outdoor Leadership Program? How many AP courses do you offer? How many sports are there? Is it true my child can get a college degree at the same time he/she gets his/her diploma? Can you help us with college and financial aid applications?

Recently, Judge Marjorie Rendell visited our high school and met with three groups of students. Judge Rendell, as many of you know, is the wife of our Governor. She is also a federal appeals court judge (one level below the U.S. Supreme Court).

When she asked the Outdoor Leadership students what benefits they got from the program, they said 'getting to know and trust people outside my group.'

When students from our Gifted Program asked her about social networking sites and First Amendment rights, they discussed the rights and responsibilities of free speech on and off campus.

When she met students from Woodland Hills Academy, they showed how their I-touches, Wiis and Kindles were helping them learn more and faster.

While it was very special to have Judge Rendell with us, as your superintendent it was even more special to watch our students in action. They spoke volumes about how tremendous and unique a Woodland Hills education is, from kindergarten through graduation.

So, come to our Open Houses.

Meet one-on-one with our principals and teachers.

At the end, I think you'll have more than enough reasons for you and your child to

"Come home...to Woodland Hills."

And if you don't, I invite you to come see me personally. I will answer any and all questions you have about the quality of a Woodland Hills education.

Sincerely,



Walter M. Calinger, Ph. D.
Superintendent

P.S. There will be a special Open House for those interested in the Woodland Hills Academy. The lottery for incoming kindergarteners and to fill vacancies in Grades 1-7 will be held after the first of the year. Please watch for future announcements on dates and times.