

August 2nd, 2018

Dear Students, Parents, and Patrons of Brighton High,

As we look forward to the start of the 2018-19 school year, I am excited for all of the things that lie ahead. First, I get to serve my second year as principal of Brighton High. As I reflect on my first year serving as your principal, I have thoroughly enjoyed reacquainting myself with this wonderful community and all of the things that come together to make Brighton such a great school. Looking forward, I am excited to continue building relationships and partnerships in this community which will help ensure that Brighton High continues to be one of the best high schools in the state of Utah. Second, I want all of you to know of the great love and concern that I have for the students at Brighton High. Student safety and emotional well-being are a top priority for me, my administration, and the entire Brighton High Faculty. Based on survey data, this is an area in which we need to improve. This school year, we will do a better job of communicating to our students, as well as the community, all of the resources available to students as well as the things we are doing as a school to help address this priority. Finally, as a result of the Canyons School District Bond passing, we will be getting a new, state of the art high school. While this will be a great asset to this wonderful community, it will not be without some challenges. I would like to address some of those challenges in this letter.

Most of you have probably noticed that construction has started at Brighton High. As a result of this construction, we have lost most of our on-campus parking. We will be transitioning from around 120 faculty spaces to 50, as well as transitioning from around 600 available student parking spaces on-campus to around 250. We have a few strategies in place to address this challenge. Through negotiations with the LDS Church, Butler Middle School, Cottonwood Heights City and Cottonwood Heights Recreation, we have acquired other parking options in close proximity to Brighton High. In addition to the off-campus parking options, we are going to encourage students and families to carpool to school and we will be introducing some strategies to help with this effort. More details will be forthcoming very soon regarding parking, but know that it has been a priority for our administration this summer.

Also, we would like you to be assured that during the construction process Brighton High and the Canyons School District will work with MHTN Architects and Hogan Construction to keep student safety a priority. This year there will not be any demolition of existing structures, but pathways necessary to navigate campus will be impacted. Safe passage to all necessary buildings will be provided and students will know where those safe passages are.

Please know that students and parents may contact me at any time. I do my best to reply to emails and voicemails within 48 hours. As we go through this rebuild and this school year, we will do our best as a school and school administration to communicate effectively and resolve concerns quickly.

Sincerely,

Tom Sherwood
Principal – Brighton High