



FOOTHILL ELEMENTARY

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March 13, 2013

Dear Foothill Patrons:

It is with mixed emotions that I write this letter to each and every one of you today. I have been asked by the Board of Education to take on a new assignment as Principal of Saratoga Shores Elementary School in Saratoga Springs starting in the fall. As change is always inevitable, I had hoped that this day would never come and I would spend the rest of my career as principal here. Now that day has come and my feelings are very close to the surface.

You need to know how much I love Foothill. From the smallest Kindergarten student to our many parent volunteers, this school community is amazing! In my five years here we have “Explored the Possibilities” of building a stronger school community through combined efforts of our students, teachers, and parents. We have moved Foothill in a positive direction through those efforts; and our students are continuing to learn at high levels. I consider myself fortunate to have been lucky enough to be a part of the fabric that makes up this wonderful school. My life will forever be changed from my association with each of you, our teachers, and your incredible students.

These incredible students will continue to move forward with their new principal, Joe Backman. Many of you may remember Mr. Backman when he served as our Assistant Principal a couple of years ago. He is a great leader, who is student-centered and who knows our Foothill community and staff well. He brings a wealth of elementary experience and I have every confidence in him to carry the school forward.

Again, I wish to express my gratitude to each of you for your support over my tenure as principal. Foothill will always be in my blood. Here’s to the future and more opportunities to “Explore the Possibilities of Building a Community of Learners” together.

Sincerely –

Dr. Vallen Thomas - Dr. T
Principal