Welcome to the 2013-2014 school year! As I greet students each morning, I am reminded how fortunate I am to serve our learning community. Mountain Meadow Elementary continues to make ensuring the learning for all students our top priority every day. Our staff members are skilled, caring, and knowledgeable professionals who work in collaborative teams to analyze student work and plan activities to improve the learning of all our students.

Collective Commitments:
At Mountain Meadow, we strive each day to build hope and ensure learning for each child. It is our mission to ensure high levels of learning for each child preparing them for future success. This is not just a dream—we are working hard to make our mission a reality. To this end, our staff has made five collective commitments (things that we will do to accomplish our mission) to each other, our students, and our community. Commitment 1: We will respectfully collaborate around revising and informing our instruction based on learning data and standards. Commitment 2: We will proactively and intentionally work with all learners and provide extra time and support. Commitment 3: We will make learning targets clear to help each learner achieve standard and reach the target. Commitment 4: We will model lifelong learning and the commitment to quality work with continual growth. Commitment 5: We will actively involve parents and community in the learning process. The staff created a mural on the ceiling of the kindergarten pod that is a visual representation of the commitments. I encourage you to view the mural on your next visit. I also encourage you to give us feedback on how we are meeting the commitments.

The Timber Wolf Way:
Our staff makes a concerted effort to bolster the positive culture of our school each day. Part of this work is setting high standards for behavior and academics and providing each student the support she needs to meet the standard. The Timber Wolf Way, our building-wide expectation for behavior, set the expectations in class, in the hall, in the lunchroom, and everywhere else in our school are the same: be safe, be respectful, and be responsible. Our Paw Prints and Honoring Kids awards are oriented around the Timber Wolf Way to recognize and promote the behavior we expect. Last spring, a group from the University of Washington–Tacoma reviewed our efforts to implement Positive Behavior Instruction and Support (PBIS) and we became the first school to achieve 100% on the school-wide evaluation.

From the Principal

We are located on a seven-acre site on Mundy Loss Rd. E., approximately one mile south of Highway 410. The building was completed for the 1994-95 school year. The 42,000 square-foot building is of single-story, wood-frame construction. The school comprises 20 classrooms plus common rooms, library, PE/multipurpose room, one portable, a kitchen and administrative facilities. There is an open play area, as well as a 3,000 square-foot covered outdoor play area. School bus loading and unloading is separate from personal vehicle traffic.

As part of the 2000 bond projects, Mountain Meadow was fortunate to have 120 additional parking spaces added to the site. The parking lot can be accessed from 120th Street. Playground/field improvements have also been made as part of the 2000 bond.

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District & Mountain Meadow Elementary Mission Statement
Ensure high levels of learning for all students preparing them for successes beyond high school

White River School District No. 416

Board of Directors
Denise Vogel
Tawny Sanabria
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Volunteers in Our Schools
In today’s schools, there are simply far more jobs and responsibilities than there are people to do them. By helping with special events and routine tasks, volunteers allow teachers and staff to focus additional time helping students learn and grow. The school can accomplish more, and offer children and families more services, with your help.

Volunteering in a school is an exciting experience and a privilege for both the school and volunteer. Our schools have volunteer registration forms which each volunteer must fill out in advance of volunteering. Every volunteer must pass a Washington State Patrol Criminal Background Check. Every volunteer is issued a district name tag, so that students and staff will recognize you.

Thank you for volunteering in our schools!

From the Principal (continued)

In an effort to further ingrain the Timber Wolf Way and celebrate our community, in September we created the Timber Wolf Way mural. Each class learned about a characteristic, for example perseverance, that supports the Timber Wolf Way and then created a visual representation of that characteristic on a ceiling tile. The mural installation is in the hall between outside our music room.

Measurements of Student Progress: Last spring, third, fourth and fifth grade students in Washington State participated in the Measurements of Student Progress (MSP). Third grade students took part in the Reading and Mathematics portions of the MSP. In fourth grade, students participated in the Reading, Mathematics, and Writing MSP assessments. Fifth grade students took part in the Reading, Mathematics, and Science portions of the MSP. Although no single assessment, such as the MSP, gives a complete picture of how our school or your child in particular is progressing as a learner, the assessment is an indicator of your student’s strengths and areas for growth. Classroom performance and assessments also play a significant important role in evaluating your child’s progress.

Our MSP results show some of the highest proficiency rates Mountain Meadow has ever achieved. As a school, Mountain Meadow performed well above the state and district average in every assessment, showing marked improvement from last year in some key areas. Third grade readers had the highest proficiency rate ever for reading with 86.1% meeting proficiency—61% performed at a level four, the highest level. Fourth grade posted the highest proficiency rate in math in 10 years with 89.3% of students meeting standard, an 18.2% improvement year-over-year, and a 14.6% improvement for the cohort—that is 12 kids met standard in fourth that had not met standard in third. In writing, we had the third highest proficiency rate ever and highest in seven years with 86% of students meeting standard. In fifth grade, we had the second highest proficiency rate ever and highest in seven years with 92.5% in reading, a 15.4% improvement for the cohort—13 kids met standard in fifth that had not met standard in fifth. Our fifth graders also posted our highest ever math proficiency rate with 80% meeting standard, a 15% year-over-year increase. More important than the numbers are our students’ stories of growth and hope. This positive trend is a result of the purposeful work of our staff, the consistent support from our parents, and the tremendous effort put forth by our students.

Mountain Meadow’s teachers work collaboratively in grade level teams to ensure we meet all students’ learning needs. Our work to ensure learning chapter by chapter, unit by unit, skill by skill, and most importantly, kid by kid, is at times daunting. Getting great results takes teamwork and grit. To that end, all teacher teams are revising their goal-oriented unit plans in reading, math, and writing. The plans directly align with our to our learning improvement plan and will explicitly pace instruction while frequently monitoring student progress. Teams are also analyzing pre and formative assessment results to shape timely interventions and extensions within each unit. We are confident that this intentional learning by the adults will lead to better student learning.

Along with our staff, the Mountain Meadow parent community is an integral part of ensuring success in our classrooms. Whether you are here to read a story, listen to a child read, assist with a project, to actively support the PTA and Watch DOGS, or chaperone a field trip, it makes a big difference for the children and the teacher. We also encourage you to join your child for lunch or spend time on the playground. Your contributions on behalf of our Mountain Meadow students are essential. It is our hope that each of you will make time to be a part of your child’s classroom.

Adam Uhler
Principal