



Rupert A. Nock Middle School

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Elizabeth Collins Raucci, Principal • Lisa Furlong, Assistant Principal

NEWBURYPORT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

November 16, 2015

Dear Parents,

After 34 years of teaching at the Nock, Karen Davis, our 7 Crimson ELA teacher, will begin her retirement on Friday, December 11. The seeds of Karen's influence in Newburyport will continue to grow for many years to come. Karen is, and has always been, a dedicated professional who brings passion, laughter, and energy into the classroom every day. Every time I visited Karen's classroom, I was always impressed with the welcoming, comfortable learning climate she created for her students. I would regularly witness students working hard, taking risks, and still finding time to laugh. Karen's laughter would fill the halls, and that sound will not soon be forgotten. I want to publicly thank Karen for the many gifts she brought to this school for the past 34 years. Please join me in wishing her well as she begins the next adventurous chapter of her life.

The most important aspect of my job is making sure that great teachers are hired to be with your children each and every day. I am very pleased to inform you that Mike Pirollo, former eighth grade ELA teacher at the Nock from 2007-2013, will return to fill the 7 Crimson ELA position. With twelve years of teaching experience behind him, Mike is passionate about literacy and prides himself on helping students find their voice as excellent writers. He already has many established relationships here in Newburyport, and I am pleased to welcome him back into our community.

A thoughtful transition is always important to the continued success of students. Mike and Karen will begin this process together in the next weeks. Mike will join Karen in her classroom throughout the week of December 7 so he and the students can get to know one another. Mike is very familiar with the seventh grade curriculum and will be in the building as much as possible in these remaining weeks to assure a smooth, seamless progression for everyone involved.

I invite you all to meet Mike at a parent coffee on Wednesday, December 2 from 7:30-8:30 in the Nock-Molin Library. This location will be fitting, as Mike was the designer of our newly renovated space! I look forward to seeing you all there.

Sincerely,

Beth