



# John Adams Middle School

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**Joan Valentine, Principal**

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

I hope you are enjoying the last days of summer! August is a busy month as we all prepare for the start to the 2019-2020 school year while still enjoying time with our friends and family. It's always exciting to start a new school year whether as a means to reconnect with old friends or create new opportunities with limitless potential to thrive. Enthusiasm for learning is optimal with the start of each new school year!

The 2019-2020 schoolwide goal for staff is to **incorporate inquiry-based/PBL learning activities into classroom instruction with a focus on creating common, standards-based assessments that are rigorous, include higher-order questioning, and meet the individual needs of students.** Throughout this process, JAMS students will be empowered to take charge of their learning; they will be empowered as critical thinkers, problem-solvers, and leaders within our school community. This school year will be challenging but fun! At times, it may also be messy and frustrating which is why I encourage all Knights to work together as a team, supporting one another each step of the journey.

The JAMS Positive Behavioral Supports In Schools (PBSIS) Committee is excited to continue our shared vision where Knights demonstrate **Respect, Responsibility and Excellence** all day, every day. The committee listened to feedback from staff and students and in turn, made revisions to the PBSIS process accordingly. I think everyone will find this year's initiative filled with promise, productivity and of course, positivity! The PBSIS Committee looks forward to introducing a new PARENT component this year!

I am excited to meet all of our new 6th grade Knights at Open House on August 27th from 9-10:30 and look forward to catching up with all students on Wednesday, September 4, 2019 - the first day of school. This is going to be a JAMazing school year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Valentine