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## ***Bethel Public Schools***

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May 12, 2015

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for another successful year at Bethel Middle School. Your support and involvement in your child's education is greatly appreciated! We were faced with multiple challenges this year. I have never seen so many surgeries, stitches, casts, and crutches in one school year! Our 8th graders were especially challenged with situations beyond the control of any of us. I know it was very frustrating at times, but I'm grateful for their flexibility and perseverance.

We will be having our end of the year awards assembly in the new gym on **Monday, May 18, at 1:00pm**. Please join us if possible to celebrate the many accomplishments of our students.

Information is also being given to students today concerning semester tests and exemptions. You should find that paper attached to this letter with more information and the testing schedule. Students who think they may be exempt are being given a form today to take around to teachers to ensure they have met those requirements. This is done on a class-by-class basis, so students may be exempt for certain tests, but not others. This is a first for the middle school, so please be patient while we work out any possible kinks. We have fashioned our policy to match the high school's policy.

As some of you have already heard, we will not be continuing the Knight Vision program next year. This was NOT a decision that was taken lightly or made solely by me. It was a very difficult and emotional decision to make. I consulted with many others, and it was actually Sir Barry who approached me with it. This is a FANTASTIC program, but we feel that after 11 years, we just need to step back and take a break from it for now. This does not mean that it is gone for good. Sir Barry stated that he had never continued with one school for this long, and he too, felt that we might need a break. The program is still very motivating for our younger students, but we have not seen as much of a benefit for our older students. Our involvement with Knight Vision has had a positive impact on literally thousands of students and adults. We are very proud of all that this program has helped us to accomplish, and the bonds we have formed with Sir Barry and many members of the Shawnee Rotary Club. We will always be grateful for their involvement and financial support. It has always been an honor to be associated with such upstanding individuals. We will be searching during the summer for other things for the upcoming year to implement that will meet the needs of more of our students. I also encourage our outstanding students to continue to volunteer and make a difference in our community and beyond. We have AMAZING kids doing EXTRAORDINARY things! Our new ventures don't change that.

Sincerely,

Tina Moon



**“Achieving Excellence in a School of Excellence”**