

Becoming Principal of Taylor: Continuing to build excellence



Harold Pellegreen, Principal
Taylor Elementary School
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It is never easy to follow a school leader who has been the leader of a school for many years, was beloved by all and who led the school through a period of great success. As I begin at Taylor, I understand the challenges in becoming the new leader of the school.

As I join the Taylor community, I want to respect and celebrate the school's past accomplishments, and maintain the accepted norms and traditions while we begin to explore new ideas to help our school to continue to achieve. This balance is where my plan begins. I want to work with the school community to ensure that Taylor continues to grow and excel academically while embracing the many traditions that stakeholders value and students enjoy.

As Taylor's new principal, I will study and learn the history of Taylor. I want to take the time to get to know Taylor "on paper" and "in person." During the time prior to the start of school, I worked to discover as much Taylor history as possible through data research, school archives, discussions with staff, and talks with parents. This discovery time allowed me to start to form relationships with teachers, staff, families and the whole Taylor community. As students arrived, I observed teachers and students in action, and strived to be visible throughout the school day so teachers and students knew that they had access to me and to see first-hand our classroom instruction and practices.

As I work with you in my inaugural year as leader at Taylor Elementary School, I will be focusing on four goals:

- To maintain the high standard of excellence at Taylor;
- To foster growth of the STEM initiative;
- To build strong relationships with stakeholder groups; and
- To assess the strengths of existing practices and identify areas of potential growth.

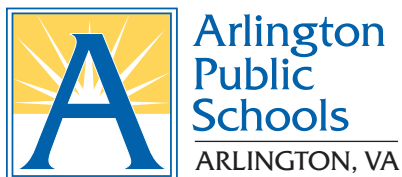
To fulfil these goals, I will be spending the essential time needed to listen and watch as the school year progresses, and I plan to take advantage of the many school events that support our students.

I am excited for the opportunity to become a member of the Taylor community and I look forward to working together as a team to help continue Taylor's tradition of excellence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Harold Pellegreen'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Harold Pellegreen
Principal, Taylor Elementary School



Planned Objectives

Stakeholders	Objectives	Essential Questions
Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognize and continue traditions that cultivate student learning and success. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the current traditions at Taylor and can they be improved to support student success? What are the student needs and are they currently being met?
Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish and foster collaborative relationships with staff. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How well does the staff communicate across grade levels? What are the current needs for professional development? How can I support staff in the STEM initiative?
Families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand current parent involvement and build relationships that foster the culture of school success. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What forms of communication have been successful in the past? How does the PTA support academic success? What has been the past involvement of the School Instructional Plan?
Community Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain and strengthen community partnerships that are symbiotic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What business partners are currently involved with the school? How do partners support student success or school improvements?
Central Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop strong relationships with the central office team to support Taylor stakeholders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How do the directors and supervisors currently support teachers and students? What instructional initiatives are currently in place?

Engagement Activities

Stakeholders	Initial Activities (Summer/Sept.)	Long Term Activities (October-ongoing)
Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in the Taylor summer open library • Create activities within the school calendar that foster school-wide spirit • Visit each classroom for introductions • Participate in classroom activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with SCA regularly to hear student wants/needs • Continuously participate in classroom activities
Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide open office times for staff to stop by and visit • Meet with Leadership team to establish expectations • Establish school needs with staff prior to start of school • Disaggregate data to determine goals for school plan • Meet regularly with Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observe Teachers and evaluate instructional practices and provide feedback • Participate in PLC meetings to strengthen processes and instructional practices • Share all meeting minutes with all staff • Hold quarterly data meetings to determine instructional and student needs • Establish a school calendar of meetings
Families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with the PTA leadership and organize for the upcoming year • Hold meet and greets • Explore communication needs from School and PTA • Be seen by and available to parents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a calendar of events • Plan and hold “Principal Chats” before each PTA meeting • Keep an open door policy • Establish a school and PTA Twitter accounts • Be outside before and after school throughout the school year
Community Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review current community partners and explore increased involvement • Send introduction to partners • Meet with any partner, group or association 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue partnership with Church of the Covenant for Emergency Shelter • Seek opportunities for increased partnerships
Central Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet Central Office staff • Meet with Directors of instruction, Reading, Math, Special Education, ESOL/HILT, and Gifted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain effective communication and collaboration with central office staff • Collaborate with staff for instructional needs, professional development needs and ways to support student success



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