

Hello Bay District Schools families!

What an incredible start we've had to this school year! Over these first few days, I've had the privilege of visiting many of our schools, and everywhere I went I saw the same thing — smiling students ready to learn, teachers diving right into engaging lessons, and staff working hard to make sure every child feels welcome, safe, and supported.

Our buses are arriving on time, our cafeterias are bustling with energy, and our classrooms are full of students focused on learning and growing. That doesn't happen by accident — it's the result of an amazing team effort between our staff, our students, and our families. I want to thank you for making sure your children are prepared, on time, and ready to start each day strong. That partnership is the foundation for all the success we're going to have this year.

Now that we've started strong in the classroom, it's time to look ahead to another area that brings our community together — athletics. One of the "A's" in our mission to Put the 'A' Back in Bay is Athletics, and this week is a great reminder of why they matter so much. Sports teach teamwork, discipline, and perseverance — skills our students carry far beyond the field or the court.

Tonight, our middle school football teams will take the field for their jamborees — one at Gavlak Stadium and one at Tommy Oliver Stadium, both starting at 4 p.m. These games are a perfect chance to come out, enjoy a great afternoon of football, and support the hard work our young athletes have been putting in during the summer.

Then, on Friday night, while many of our high school football teams will be traveling, we've got one big home game — Arnold High School's Kickoff Classic at Gavlak Stadium, starting at 7 p.m. Whether you're a proud Marlin parent or just a fan of high school football, I hope you'll join us under the lights to cheer on our students — and of course, to enjoy the energy of our cheerleaders and marching band.

Also later this month, our middle and high school volleyball teams will begin their seasons, giving us even more opportunities to fill the stands and show our support.

Athletics are about more than just the scoreboard. They're about pride, school spirit, and coming together as one Bay District Schools family. So let's get out there, cheer on our athletes, and celebrate all the ways our students shine.

Together, we are Putting the A Back in BAY.