



Tahoe Elementary School

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Dear Tahoe Stars,

As we approach the beginning of yet another amazing school year at Tahoe Elementary, I wanted to take a moment to welcome you all back, introduce myself, and speak briefly about my educational beliefs.

My name is Aprille Shafto and as your newly appointed principal, I am thrilled to become a part of Tahoe's school family. I am eager to start the new school year and begin working towards continuing the vision and mission this school community has developed. In addition, I look forward to supporting Tahoe's dedicated staff and school partners in their commitment to creating a warm and inclusive school environment dedicated to helping children reach personal and academic excellence.

Although it doesn't seem that long ago, I began my career in education 16 years ago. I started teaching in the state of Washington for the Federal Way School District after earning both my BA and teaching credential right here in Sacramento. After 3 years in Washington teaching various grade levels, my family and I relocated back to California where I found a home teaching for Sacramento City Unified School District. I landed at Ethel Phillips Elementary where I have worked for the last 13 years. During my time at Ethel Phillips I held many leadership positions including, head teacher, grade level leader, segment leader, mentor teacher, and balanced literacy lab classroom. I also worked hard to cultivate community partnerships by co-writing and participating in the Homevisit grant and developing a PC Pal mentorship program through Intel. Finally, I strove to refine and hone my own professional skills by earning a Masters of Education and my Administrative credential.

As I have grown as an educator, so too has my belief that all students can achieve academic and personal success. As teachers, I believe it is our job to support student success by creating strong collaborative teams, furthering our knowledge and implementation of best teaching practices, and investing ourselves in building relationships. As parents I believe it is our job to help encourage our children's success by partnering with schools and being committed to active involvement, supporting learning opportunities in the home, and communicating with teachers and staff. As community members I believe it is our job to create a sense of togetherness by working for common goals and looking for opportunities to expand the growth of Tahoe Elementary. Finally, as your principal, I believe it is my job to always do what is best for students and to support teachers, families, and our school community as we move forward towards excellence for all Tahoe students.

Throughout my journey here at SCUSD I have been a personal witness to the greatness of this school. I have sat among Tahoe teachers at district trainings and seen their passion and effort to learn about and provide cutting edge practices to support the whole student. I have witnessed the strength and cohesiveness of this school community and seen how the power of your voices made this gem of a school what it is today. I am proud and honored to become a "Tahoe Star" and look forward to joining my voice with yours. I am excited to continue to learn more about all of you and look forward to sharing in the love of children and education this school so clearly possesses.

Regards,
Aprille Shafto