



JOY HOFMEISTER

STATE SUPERINTENDENT *of* PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT *of* EDUCATION

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Welcome New Teacher,

You have chosen to embark on a journey few people will ever experience. Better yet, you are leading others on a journey they will never forget.

As a teacher, you have the opportunity to explore and an invitation to inspire. You might choose to take your students to the moon, a rain forest, or ancient China. Some of you may delve into the minds of Pythagoras, Mozart, Shakespeare, or Dr. Seuss. It, and so much more, is possible; learning is dreaming during the day. Without you as coach, the act of recall will never transform into invention.

Some of your teaching days will not be glamorous. You will stumble over the complexities of individuality, when your students' independent thinking conflicts with your expectations. This climate is the greatest learning process of all: recognizing the true needs of your students and personalizing their education so that they may enjoy unique opportunities to excel. Because all teachers are life-long learners, you, too, will expand your horizons while they are expanding theirs.

Without great teachers, there is no promise for the future. Your service and compassion fuel the hopes of our state. Thank you for shaping the lives of our families and our communities. Through your leadership, you have chosen to lay the foundation that will make a difference for generations.

All the best for a fantastic school year!

Sincerely,

Joy Hofmeister
State Superintendent of Public Instruction