



## JOY HOFMEISTER

STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION  
OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

August 2015

Welcome,

You have chosen to embark on a journey that 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 could choose to take your students to the moon, a rain forest, or ancient China. Some of you will delve into the minds of Pythagoras, Mozart, Shakespeare, or Dr. Seuss. 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 customizing their experiences to clear the path for them to excel. You too will expand your horizons as all teachers are true life-long learners.

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joy Hofmeister".

Joy Hofmeister  
State Superintendent of Public Instruction