



# Happy Camp Union Elementary School District

**Derek E. Cooper, Superintendent/Principal**

P.O. Box 467

Happy Camp, CA 96039

Phone: (530) 493-2267

[dcooper@happycamp.k12.ca.us](mailto:dcooper@happycamp.k12.ca.us)

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Hello Happy Camp Community,

I am very excited to be joining the Happy Camp family this school year. I am truly honored to be serving as your new Superintendent/Principal. I have been impressed by the tireless work of our teachers and staff, and by the dedication and pride of the Happy Camp community. I look forward to building on our tradition of collaboration and success. I am starting my 30th year in education and I am committed to serving and improving our school. My core values of authentic engagement, continuous improvement, equity and innovation continue to guide my work. I am excited to collaborate with our Board of Trustees, teachers, support staff, and parents to build upon best practices and ensure our students have opportunities to learn and grow. We know that it is critical for each of our children to have the necessary skills to be successful. As we look toward the new school year, I would be remiss if I did not say there are definitely challenges ahead. The COVID19 pandemic has created unprecedented situations for families, communities, and school districts across the nation. I am appreciative of parents and families who have shared with me their experiences and struggles during these uncertain times. Our district continues to receive guidance from the California Department of Public Health, and the Siskiyou County Office of Education. Our wonderful office staff has been working diligently during these summer months compiling the latest information and constructing reopening instructional models to share with our Board of Trustees. Our goal is to provide the best instruction possible while keeping students and staff safe. In the following weeks, I will be sharing more information with the community regarding the process for reopening Happy Camp Elementary. While there are difficult choices ahead, I know that together we will implement and monitor a plan that truly reflects what we collectively want our schools to be and how we need to educate all of our children.

I look forward to getting to know you in the months and years ahead.

Please stop by (when the school is ready to take visitors) or see me in town to say hello.

Yours in Education,

Superintendent/Principal  
Happy Camp Elementary

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