

August 22, 2014

Dear Community,

We are very excited that on Thursday, September 4, 2014, all of our students will be returning back to school. Each year we anxiously await the return of over 11,000 students from Kindergarten to grade 12. The beginning of the school year represents new learning and social experiences, as well as continued growth in all areas. We are also very pleased to welcome all of our teachers and support staff on Tuesday, September 2, 2014. The Wappingers staff will participate in a two-day Superintendent's Conference, outlining our goals and purpose for the new school year.

As you can see in our District and school websites, our mission statement and core values define our purpose for learning in our community. Our strategic planning has continued to make strides in its second year of implementation. We have Board members, administrators, teachers, support staff, parents, students and our community as a whole to acknowledge for their dedication and commitment to ensure that we walk the talk articulated in our mission and core values.

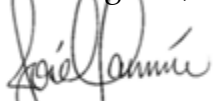
Although we experienced a lot of rain this summer, all of the work scheduled for this summer on the Capital Improvement Project, phase 1, will be completed on time. You will notice many changes and upgrades in our schools.

Our administrators participated in a three-day in-district retreat where we were all engaged in developing and articulating goals that support a high quality education for all students aligned to the mission of our District. Throughout the summer, our teachers participated in curriculum mapping at all grade levels and content areas. Our goal is to continue to increase our graduation rate as we have this previous school year, as well as continued gains in our grades 3 –8 New York State Assessments.

We can accomplish this and more with the support of our Board of Education, the Wappingers CSD staff and our entire community. We are committed to ensuring the best learning environment for our students by engaging them in meaningful, enriching and fun learning experiences.

Once again, welcome back. We look forward to working with you throughout this coming school year. Let's continue to strive for excellence together as we begin a new school year.

Best regards,



Jose L. Carrion

Interim Superintendent of Schools