

Miller Place Union Free School District

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August 15, 2019

Dear Faculty and Staff,

Welcome back (almost) to the beginning of the 2019-20 school year. I hope you are finding time to spend with your family, friends, and the people who are important to you in your life. For those of you who have been working all summer to prepare for the return of faculty, staff, and students - thank you for your hard work. Your efforts are greatly appreciated by our school community.

While our end-of-year award ceremonies, high school graduation, and year end activities provided us with opportunities to celebrate our students, it is difficult to fully quantify the impact the entire student body, and staff had on our school community. Our students were academically, athletically, and artistically successful as they were National Merit scholars, AP Scholars with Distinction, FBLA competition finalists, engineering and STEM students who studied at prestigious universities, received recognition as outstanding students in the New York State Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (NYS AHPERD), as well as competing locally and nationally at many other competitions. In addition Miller Place High School was named by NYSPHSAA as a "School of Excellence" and the District was named by NAMM, for the 4th year in a row, as one of the "Best Communities for Music Education".

With a deep sense of community, and in fostering an environment of kindness and inclusiveness in the District, together we raised funds for cancer awareness and research, ALS and other diseases - which included partnering in Down Syndrome Awareness Day, Dig Pink, Ride for Life, Kicks for Cancer, among others.

In September, when our current student body returns we will also be welcoming the incoming kindergarteners as the Class of 2032 – hard to believe. As we look forward to the 2019-20 school year, we expect to continue to incorporate best instructional practices in our classrooms, and labs, to continue to expand students' minds through the arts, and exhibit the best in sportsmanship and Panther Pride on our courts and fields.

Our instructional goals will continue to provide our students opportunities for learning, in a safe educational setting. We will continue to address their social and emotional needs, in part, through our developed Character Education Programs, emphasizing acceptance, diversity and Panther Pride. At the same time, we will remain focused on providing our staff with a safe and supportive work environment.

I look forward to seeing you on Superintendent's Conference Day on Thursday, August 29th beginning at Miller Place High School with coffee in the cafeteria at 8:00 a.m. We will then move to the auditorium for the general assembly meeting at 8:30 a.m. The following is the tentative agenda for the day:

- 8:00-8:30 Coffee MPHS Cafeteria
- 8:30-9:30 Welcome Back, Dr. Marianne F. Cartisano, Superintendent
Board of Education President Message BOE President, Mrs. Johanna Testa
Introduction of New Staff, Mr. Seth A. Lipshie, Deputy Superintendent
- 9:30-10:00 Union Meetings
- 10:15 *Instructional Staff* - Building Faculty Meeting All Staff
All Other Full-time Staff – report to your respective building or department.
- 12:00-1:00 Lunch on own
- 1:00-3:00 *Instructional Staff*
Department Meetings
Grade Level Meetings
Room Prep

Enjoy the remaining days of summer, and we look forward to seeing you on August 29th.

Kind regards,

Dr. Marianne F. Cartisano
Superintendent of Schools