



Ridgefield Public Schools

...valuing each and every student

555 Chestnut Street, Ridgefield, NJ 07657
Phone: 201-945-7747 Fax: 201-945-7830

Mr. John J. Petrelli, Interim
Superintendent of Schools

Floro Villanueva, Jr.
Business Administrator

August 29, 2018

Dear Ridgefield Community,

As the opening of school for 2018-19 draws closer there are some items of importance I wish to share with you.

Congratulations to Mr. Timothy Yang as the Ridgefield Board of Education appointed him the Acting Principal at Slocum Skewes School for the 2018-2019 school year. His appointment is effective September 1, 2018.

At the July 19, 2018 Board of Education meeting the Board of Education approved an interlocal agreement with the Borough of Ridgefield to hire a Class III Special Police Officer to provide security for our schools. This officer will work with our school district Resource Officer and security personnel to secure our schools. Our plan to keep our students safe continues to evolve based on need and available resources. We continue to work collaboratively with the Ridgefield Police Department to ensure the safety of our students.

Even though the district lost \$135,000 in school aid due to declining enrollment for the 2018-2019 school year the district did not eliminate any teachers, staff or educational programs. We continue to make every effort to provide our students with the best possible educational experience we can based upon available resources. Our expectation is that 2018-2019 will be a very successful school year for all of our students.

Ridgefield Memorial High School will be implementing three exciting educational programs in the fall. First, our Business Education program will be expanding to include a Distributive Education Club of America program. The acronym for the club is DECA. The club gives students the opportunity to develop leadership and business skills, explore career paths such as but not limited to finance, marketing, hospitality, entrepreneurship, networking with business people, community service projects and competitions.

Second, the Business Education Department is partnering with the Fort Lee Regional Chamber of Commerce. This partnership will enable our Business Education students the opportunity to apply for internships with companies in the region during the 2018-2019 school year. These internships will give our students real life experiences in the world of business. We anticipate that many of our students will apply for the internship opportunities that will be made available in the region.

Third, Ridgefield Memorial High School has entered into a dual enrollment program with Bergen Community College. Our junior and senior students will be able to enroll in courses at Ridgefield Memorial High School that will enable them to earn credits towards their high school diploma and college credits that can be used towards a college degree.

The district continues our successful general education and special education programs at Bergen Boulevard School and Shaler Academy. At Slocum Skewes School our RTI program will be in place for those students needing assistance in their academic studies. Readers Writers Workshop will continue to be offered to our students as well as our Envision Math program.

Each year we work towards improving our district test scores and we have seen growth in all of the tested grade levels. Our teachers are focused in their efforts to instruct our students so that they perform well not only on the state assessments but in all subject areas. Overall and to their credit, all of our teachers take great pride in working with our students to foster the love of learning.

As the Interim Superintendent, I look forward to working with the Ridgefield Board of Education, Administrators, Teachers, staff and parents to provide the children enrolled in our schools a successful school year.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely yours,



Interim Superintendent of Schools