

Hammonton Public Schools

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ROBIN CHIECO
Superintendent of Schools

Tammy Leonard
Assistant Superintendent

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Dear Students, Parents, and Staff,

On behalf of the Hammonton Board of Education and myself, I want to welcome everyone to the 2017-2018 school year. Our year will start a little sooner this year than in the past with all staff reporting on August 30th and the first day for students being September 5th. Although the first day of school is a time of new beginnings for everyone, it is especially true in my case as the new Superintendent of Hammonton Public Schools.

For those of you that do not know me, I would like to introduce myself. Although I am new to the position of superintendent, I am not new to the Hammonton School District. I began my career in Hammonton as a high school science teacher in September of 1988. During my time as a teacher, I taught multiple science classes and experienced many changes as we have grown over the years. I moved from our high school on Liberty Street to our new facility on Old Forks Road. In addition, I was teaching during the time when we welcomed our first Waterford students. Although it was a time of change for our small community, it was the beginning of an exciting era for our district. I am extremely grateful that I was a member of the faculty and able to teach so many of our students over the years. In addition to my role as a teacher, I was also the Math and Science Supervisor for 6 years and Assistant Superintendent for 4 years. Each of these roles has given me the unique opportunity to learn about Hammonton and to take an active role in developing and supporting our various programs.

Our staff has been extremely busy over the summer to prepare our buildings and programs for the upcoming school year. In our middle school, student bathrooms and the cafeteria have been remodeled and upgraded to better serve our children. Additional offerings of upper level courses have been added at the high school to better prepare our students for the challenges they will face post-graduation. In addition, curricular revisions have been completed at all levels to meet the continuing challenges of our ever-changing world. Furthermore, our PARCC scores are demonstrating growth and our Advanced Placement students continue to out-perform their state and global peers. Although we do teach our children the testing platforms for these standardized tests, we do not “teach to the test.” As I have stressed to the staff on numerous

occasions, good teaching strategies and techniques will always triumph over any testing challenge. We will continue to research best practices and capitalize on our own experts to provide the best education for our students.

I am extremely excited about accepting the challenges of the role of superintendent of such an exceptional district. I have been blessed to have been given the opportunity to work in a district that has supported me for almost 30 years as I have moved through various positions and cannot imagine assuming this role in any other place. I am so fortunate to have a community that supports education, as well as a dedicated and hard-working staff. The sense of pride that we all have allows us to overcome any obstacle and thrive. I am truly honored and humbled to have been given this tremendous opportunity and look forward to leading and supporting our district as we move into a new era.

Sincerely,

Robin Chieco

Superintendent of School