

Another school year is quickly coming to an end. For those of you with Kindergarten students, I'm sure you're amazed at how your child has blossomed as the year has passed. For the parents of our graduating seniors, you are probably filled with mixed emotions of joy and bittersweet nostalgia as your child prepares to enter college, military or the work force. When I talk to parents, I often hear them lament how quickly time "flies" and how it seems like yesterday their children began their educational journey.

This time of year is certainly a joyous, exciting time as the weather becomes more pleasant and families are able to enjoy some time relaxing without being tied to a strict schedule of school, sports, dance, music classes, scouts, etc.. I, too, enjoy this time of year as we celebrate the many accomplishments of our amazing students at events at each of our schools. The biggest events of the year are our high school graduations. Graduation is the culmination of many years of hard work for students (and their parents!) and teachers; and the celebration is well-earned. Our students and staff members have proven time and again how talented, creative, motivated and dedicated they are to their schools. They work very hard to make this district one of the very best in Rhode Island; I am so proud of them!

Many parents have devoted countless hours to help make this year a success. Through working on PTO's, volunteering in classrooms, participating in district committees, being on interview panels, etc. parents have made a substantial, positive impact on this district. Thank you to all parent volunteers who have helped!

As my first year as superintendent concludes, I would like to thank *all of you* for your support, feedback and encouragement throughout this year. I look forward to next year and all of the promise and excitement a new school year holds. I am grateful for your dedication to our schools and our students.

I wish all of our staff, students and their families a safe and happy summer.

Here is some information for you as this year ends....

- Please encourage your children/students to read over the summer. The precious time of summer vacation allows us to relax, but is also a critical time to ensure students keep learning! Utilize the Cranston Public libraries for book lists, beach reading and other fun programs.
- School supply lists will be available to parents earlier than in previous years. Supply lists will be communicated to families in a variety of ways for example, your school's list serves, the schools/district website, etc.
- Teacher assignments for students will be mailed in mid-August to all families.

- Many of our buildings will be undergoing construction or building improvements during the summer. They will not be accessible to families or staff during the summer. If you need to contact a principal during the year, the best way to reach them is via email.
- To account for 6th graders moving to middle school and all new Kindergartners going to school in the morning, we are redoing bus routes again this summer. We will be posting new routes for all schools in August on our website and in *The Cranston Herald*.
- We encourage our students and their families to take advantage of programs provided by our local organizations such as the Cranston YMCA, Cranston Parks and Recreation (including day camp and Budlong pool), and Cranston Public Libraries, to name a few.
- Also available is Camp XL. This is a 6-week Summer Learning Center that caters to Kindergarten to 8th Graders. The camp's main focus is science, technology, engineering, art, and math plus computing (STEAM+C). It runs June 27th to August 5th at Hugh B. Bain Middle School, Monday through Friday from 8am - 3pm. Students enjoy working on community projects, taking field trips, and developing lasting friendships. Sign up at www.cranstonafterschool.com by June 17th, 2016.
- During the summer many of our staff members participate in professional development activities and opportunities in our district. Staff members-please refer to the PACE website for any and all information related to summer/school year PD events.