



WAPPINGERS

Central School District



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JOSÉ CARRIÓN, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

June 2016

Dear WCSD Community,

It was just nine months ago when you received the first Superintendent's Message for the 2015-2016 school year. Where has the time gone? Our school year is quickly coming to an end. This is one of the busiest times of the school year for District staff, teachers and support staff, as well as for families who are celebrating various milestones in the lives of their children.

We have already begun a series of celebratory events and ceremonies. We continue to honor our scholars, athletes and all-around good citizens in our schools. At our elementary schools, many of our students are gearing up for field day. In our junior high schools, we celebrate all of our students, especially our eighth graders who eagerly await their start of high school in September. Finally, our high school students are extremely excited for graduation, catching up on some last minute school work or projects, and more importantly, preparing for Regents and final examinations. Special congratulations to our students who achieved academic success and earned recognition as Valedictorian and Salutatorian for their respective schools. For the 2015-2016 school year please join us as we commend Ashna Gupta (JJHS Valedictorian), Isabel Wu (JJHS Salutatorian), Abigail Swartvagher (OVAHS Valedictorian), Stephanie Shum (RCK Valedictorian), Emma Sampugnaro (RCK Salutatorian), Kiara Truscott (RCK BOCES CTI Salutatorian) for their hard work and dedication. During this time of the year, with numerous school and personal celebrations taking place, everyday learning continues to be our first and foremost our students.

We could not be more pleased that our propositions all passed on the May 17, 2016, ballot. As a result, our community will continue to flourish by ensuring that we continue to enhance many of our present programs, as well as to continue to build and create academic and extracurricular activities and programs for our students. So many great things occurred for our students during the 2015-2016 school year. Just take a look through our website (WCSD Highlights) and the evidence and fruits of the WCSD staff and parents regarding their commitment to our students are apparent in all areas. In addition to our website, we also have

our social media sites and our Friday publication of *WCSD Rewind* highlighting the great accomplishments our students are experiencing in our schools.

As we close out the school year and begin preparing for September 2016, please be sure to encourage your child to continue reading during the summer. Reading nurtures a child's passion for reading, is fun and supports personal growth. Enjoy your children and know that our dynamic educational staff will be reflecting, working and collaborating throughout the summer to ensure that they are energized and prepared to share their thinking and plans to continue to enhance the lives of our WCSD students.

Please note that very soon, you will receive a survey asking a series of questions that will help the administrative team to prepare for our future, as well as to help us reflect and assess this present school year. We highly encourage you to fill out the parent survey. This opportunity for open communication allows parent voices to be heard, allowing the District to work towards a better tomorrow for all WCSD students.

Before the end of the school year, we would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents formally for their never-ending engagement and involvement in our District. To our teachers and support staff, we cannot be more grateful for the knowledge and commitment each brings to our schools every day for great things to happen for our students. As for our principals and assistant principals, their commitment, hands-on support, and loyalty on a daily basis are indisputable and so greatly appreciated. Finally, for all of our District level administrators and office staff members, the work they do in front and behind the scenes allows for all of our schools to flourish socially and academically. We are also grateful to our Board of Education who give of themselves voluntarily and have worked to meet the needs of our community for the success of all students.

We celebrate all of our students and especially our seniors who are moving on to the next chapter of their lives. It is extremely important to note that whether or not your child received formal awards and/or recognition throughout their years in schools, all of our seniors are special and are celebrated for their uniqueness and amazing qualities. Our goal and aspiration are to live by our WCSD mission and core values.

Have a wonderful summer WCSD Community and we look forward to opening our doors to you again in September 2016.

Sincerely,
José Carrión