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October 2016

Dear WCSD Community,

On October 5, 2016, I will be hosting a Superintendent's Forum where members of the community are welcome to participate in a *Question and Answer* session regarding WCSD student arrival and dismissal times, as well as converting our transportation from a three-tier system to a two-tier system. This forum will be the first of other Superintendent's Forums that will be held during the 2016–2017 school year. Last school year, the former Board of Education passed a resolution to continue exploring a two-tier bus schedule and a modification of the arrival and dismissal times for all students of the WCSD. Information related to this topic is available on our website as well as a collection of questions asked by the WCSD community with answers provided by the administration. Our next Superintendent's Forum will focus on a conversation of the present standards and the work that is being done to revise them. We look forward to your participation at the forums.

We are hosting our third Parent & Community Workshop. I cannot stress enough the importance, relevance, and significance of these parent/community workshops. These are designed to provide everyone with insightful information related to topics and issues that have been suggested by parents. This is an opportunity for district-wide parent involvement and engagement that extends beyond the structure of our local school buildings. Creating opportunities for parents to interact, discuss and learn about relevant academic, social and emotional learning, as well as educational issues that are extremely important and impact our schools is key to ensuring the success for all of our students. Therefore, we look forward to seeing you at our next parent/community workshop scheduled for Saturday, October 15, 2016.

October also marks Breast Cancer Awareness month. It is with great pride and humility that I share the Wappingers Central School District Board of Education approved a resolution, along with other school districts in our region, acknowledging Miles of Hope Day on October 14, 2016. You can find more information regarding Miles of Hope on their <u>website</u>. This is an example of how our Core Values show through the work and compassion that our students continue to display by participating in Miles of Hope Day, wearing the color pink, fundraising, and other events dedicated to Breast Cancer Awareness.

I want to express great gratitude to all of our staff, with a special thank you to our nurses and secondary building administrators for their due diligence to ensure that our students in grades 7 and 12 are in compliance with their Menactra vaccination. More importantly, I want to thank all of the parents who made the concerted effort to ensure that their children were in compliance thus allowing them to remain in school with their peers, teachers, and support staff as they learn and engage in extra-curricular activities throughout this school year.

As we continue into the month of October, if you have any questions, concerns and/or celebrations you would like to share, never hesitate to do so with your child's teacher. This type of communication helps to build relationships and bridge the gap between home and school for the benefit of our students. WCSD continues to have many exciting initiatives, opportunities, programs, and courses for our students provided by the best teachers and support staff from our District. As the year progresses, we will continue to reflect on our Mission and Core Values as we validate, respect and honor each and every one of our WCSD students.

Happy fall!

Sincerely, José Carrión