



José Carrión • Superintendent of Schools
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December 2017

Dear Wappingers CSD:

We are just thirty days away from welcoming in the New Year! Our students have already entered the second quarter of the school year. Parent-teacher conferences were held for our elementary school students. Our entire staff participated in a series of important and relevant professional development workshops during Superintendent's Conference Day. Now, December marks the month for many winter holiday concerts, events, and productions. More importantly, as we continue to fill our school calendars with all of the wonderful events that will take place, our teachers continue to provide our students with their best teaching tools and strategies to nurture student-centered classrooms.

At the last Board of Education meeting, a presentation was given on our district and schools' academic performance. We shared information about the achievements in our elementary, middle, and high schools. To view the presentation on student assessment results for grades K-8 and the elementary instructional programming, please click [here](#). Our presentation on the 2016-2017 WCSD high school Regents, advanced placement and graduation outcomes is available by clicking [here](#).

The first Superintendent's Forum of the school year was held on November 13, 2017. The forum was videotaped for you to view on our YouTube link by clicking [here](#). In addition to the forums, the Superintendent Talks with designated students from our three high schools will continue. This is one of the meaningful moments of this work since they can provide some of the best guidance, authentic recommendations, and improvements as well as share valid concerns and challenges that many encounter. Providing students with a voice and having them share what their peers are thinking with the District and what they would like to see happen, validates our commitment to our Strategic Plan and continues to place students first.

Each year, I do remind our high school parents that some of their children will be taking certain Regents exams and midterms in January. Although we get a "break" at the end of the month, we strongly encourage that your children continue to prepare for any retakes or newly taken exams during this time. Also, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher and inquire how you can be of support as they prepare for an exam.

We continue our work to prepare for the proposed 2018-2019 school year budget. Information on the proposed budget is available on our website at [WCSD Budget Information](#). Our WCSD email is now open to accept your comments, questions and/or recommendations on the proposed budget for the 2018-2019 school year: budget@wcsdny.org. We will also be holding our next Superintendent Forum: A Budget Conversation on Monday, February 5, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. at Roy C. Ketcham High School Cafeteria. Each month you will be provided information about the budget and the work we are doing. These opportunities provide feedback in a variety of ways whether in person or through our budget page. Your input is always welcome.

The next Superintendent's Newsletter will arrive with the new year in 2018. With that said, we wish all of WCSD a healthy and happy winter break, holiday, and a prosperous and healthy New Year. In closing, we will leave you with a WCSD Core Value that best fits this time of the year, "We Believe that active and continuous learning is essential for individuals and communities to flourish." May you continue to flourish in 2018!

Sincerely,

José Carrión
Superintendent of Schools



The mission of the Wappingers Central School District is to empower all of our students with the competencies and confidence to challenge themselves, to pursue their passions and to realize their potential while growing as responsible members of their community.