



Jose L. Carrion, Superintendent of Schools
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November 2018

Dear WCSD Community,

November is a very busy month for our schools. Our high schools hold their fall Fine and Performing Arts productions and many of our athletes continue to move forward with sectional and potential regional championship wins. In addition, our elementary schools hold their annual parent/teacher conferences. And lastly, on the homefront, the majority of our families will be gathering and giving thanks during the break of November 21-23, 2018.

During elementary parent/teacher conferences, our building-level administrators and teaching staff look forward to engaging parents/guardians in meaningful conversations about your child(ren). Please do not hesitate to ask any question regarding your child. There is no such thing as a bad question pertaining to the academic, social and emotional growth, and ultimately, the success of your child.

As the temperature continues to grow colder, please note that we will keep you informed about any two or three-hour school delays or school closings. Often, these decisions are not easy to make. Our administrative staff, along with transportation and facilities staff, work diligently throughout the night to assess the weather and the driving conditions on the roads. It is important to note that WCSD encompasses approximately a 126-square-mile radius. We consult and work with nine different municipalities from the Town of Poughkeepsie to the Putnam County Towns of Kent and Philipstown. Since we are so large, if one part of the District is experiencing inclement weather and other sections of the District are not, we are still obliged to close schools. We ask for your patience and understanding during our late fall and winter months.

At the last Board of Education meeting, we honored our Board of Education members in observance of School Board Recognition Week (October 22-26, 2018) and read the

Governor's Proclamation. This recognition is important because school board members are volunteers who give of their own time to serve our school district learning community. In WCSD, our school board members are actively engaged in all of our committees and provide hands-on support to the District's administration. Their efforts to create values and goals for our District, as well as their support of all of our educational and extra-curricular programs should be highly commended. We are thankful for our nine Board of Education members. If you have an opportunity to personally thank a Board member(s), please join us in doing so.

And while November is a very event-filled month for our students, staff, and families at school and at home, I ask that you find time to pause and join me to recognize how fortunate we are to have your children, the students of the Wappingers Central School District. Each and every day they bring wonder, curiosity, energy, and a desire to learn to our schools and the local community. Let us continue to foster and encourage that passion for the entire school year.

Please join us on November 5, 2018, at Wappingers Junior High School for the Superintendent's Forum on the 2019-2020 School Budget. The forum will begin at 5:30 PM in Room 105. We welcome all questions, input, recommendations, and comments. This is your community and your voice is very important to us.

Sincerely,
José L. Carrión
Superintendent of Schools