



# WAPPINGERS

Central School District



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JOSÉ CARRIÓN, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

September 2016

Dear WCSD Family,

On Tuesday, September 6, 2016, the students of WCSD will be walking into one of our fifteen schools. We are excited and eager to extend them all a very warm welcome. First, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the class of 2017, as they will be embarking on their last year of public school. For the class of 2029, our new Kindergarten students, we want to extend a very warm welcome to you and your family. We are also very excited to have all students from the classes of 2017 to 2029 return to WCSD.

Throughout the entire summer, WCSD staff has been working diligently preparing for this new year. Just this week, our teachers, teaching assistants, nurses and support staff officially began the school year. We had two meaningful Superintendent's Conference Days that offered enriching professional development. It was great to see all of our WCSD colleagues in their buildings working together. Our Principals, Assistant Principals, and others District level administrators prepared workshops to ensure that all staff is prepared for the start of the school year. As Superintendent, I am so grateful and feel fortunate and energized to be working with such a highly qualified level of individuals.

As the school year commences, the traditional signing of forms, completing applications, and reviewing information sent home will need your attention. In addition to those very important school matters, I would like to share District-wide matters that are also important for you to know.

**Board of Education Goals:** The Board of Education has officially approved their goals. This can be located on our website ([click here to review.](#)) The Board goals can be located at:

**District Wide Committees:** Please note that there are many committees that have been created, as well as long-standing committees that you are invited to join. Review each committee's charter. If you would like to be considered for a

committee, submit a letter of interest. For more information on the committee openings click [here](#).

**Decreased Testing:** For our students in grades K-8 we will be using i-Ready as a diagnostic tool. We will be able to monitor our student's' progress, decrease the number of tests students take and, detach testing from a Principal's or Teachers evaluation score. Please read more information regarding i-Ready by clicking [here](#).

**District-wide Parent Workshops:** Last year we began providing parents and communities members with the opportunity to learn more about our education programs, opportunities available to our students, State assessments, preparing for the college journey, amongst many other workshops that parents and community members found to be valuable. We have scheduled our next Parent and Community Workshop series for Saturday, October 15. Detailed information will be posted on our website in the coming weeks, with the opportunity for parents and community members to pre-register for the workshops.

**Five Propositions Passed:** We are in the process of moving our vision into a reality for our Athletic Fields. Fine and Performing Arts Program and other improvements at our school campuses. More importantly, our District will be in compliance with the American Disabilities Act (ADA) by making all of our school accessible to all of our students and their families.

To keep everyone informed, I will continue to communicate with everyone throughout the school year and share important information as well as all of the amazing things that take place District-wide.

All of our administrators, teachers, and staff are extremely committed to the WCSD Mission and Core Values. Our goal is to ensure the safety of all children as well as to provide them with opportunities to be academically and socially/emotionally successful. Let us continue our work together to allow us to provide our students enriching and valuable experiences at WCSD. We value you and your children!

Once again, welcome back to the start of the 2016-2017 school year. Happy New Year!

Sincerely,  
José Carrión  
Superintendent of Schools