

WEST DEPTFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Christian C. Gismondi, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools
Lawrence Carvalho, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent for HR & CAO
Steven Jakubowski, Jr., Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Thomas N. Tucci, Director of Technology & Special Projects
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Dear West Deptford Community,

I trust this message finds you well as we approach the end of October, a time of year filled with excitement and anticipation. Firstly, I would like to express my gratitude to our incredible students, families, teachers, and staff members for their hard work and dedication to education. It is through your commitment that we have achieved a strong start to the school year.

As we reach the midpoint of the first marking period, I am pleased to report that many of our students are performing exceptionally well academically. Their diligence and commitment to their studies are truly commendable, and we hope they continue to excel as we progress through the academic year. To those who may be facing challenges, please remember that our dedicated educators and support staff are here to work hand in hand with families for student growth. We believe in our student's potential and want to help them succeed.

I am excited to provide you with an update on our transportation department, as we take significant steps toward enhancing our services and improving convenience for our students and families. As you may know, one of our first goals was to run our own fleet of buses, and I am pleased to announce that we have successfully achieved this milestone. This accomplishment marks a significant transition for our district, and it would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of our transportation team.

Our next crucial step in this journey is to establish a permanent transportation hub right here in West Deptford. We are committed to creating a local transportation office and a safe, convenient location for storing our buses within our community. We are currently in the planning and development stages of this project. Over the coming month, we will share more information regarding the progress, timelines, and any changes in the transportation department's operations. I want to express my gratitude to our dedicated transportation staff, as well as our entire school community, for your support as we move forward with this important initiative. Together, we are making West Deptford a better place for our students, families, and the entire community.

Over the past month, West Deptford Schools have been committed to involving students in the continuous learning and understanding of respect, safety, and acceptance. Respect Week, Unity Day, and Red Ribbon Week are district-wide initiatives where important themes are infused into

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our daily activities. Fire Prevention week was another great success, alongside Kindness Week, Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations, and service-learning projects. And it's been fun to see students and staff alike come together to root on the Phillies over the past few weeks as well - there is excitement in the air for sure!

As we approach Halloween, I want to remind everyone to prioritize safety during this festive time. While Halloween is a time for fun and creativity, it is essential to ensure that costumes are safe, well-fitted, and easily visible in low light. I encourage parents and guardians to discuss safety measures with their children and reinforce the importance of responsible trick-or-treating. Let's make this Halloween an enjoyable and safe experience for our young ones.

In closing, I am truly proud of the West Deptford community's dedication and spirit. Together, we will continue to support one another and provide our students with an outstanding educational experience.

Sincerely,

Dr. Brian C. Gismondi,

Superintendent West Deptford School District