

August 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians:

As we approach the upcoming school year, we will be celebrating the 91<sup>st</sup> year of instruction in the Sewanhaka Central High School District. Before our students arrive in September, our professional staff will return on September 3<sup>rd</sup> for our Opening Day Program, during which time we will welcome new and returning faculty and staff. We also will honor our Teachers of the Year and employees who have been with the District for 25 years or more. Our goal continues to be to ensure that each child is provided with an education designed to meet his or her needs. We believe that our professional staff is instrumental in providing for this success.

District Athletic Physicals will take place at LIJ on August 10, 2019. Please check you home school's website for information on bus transportation.

During the summer months, renovations and upgrades have been completed at each of our five high schools. The PA system has been upgraded at Elmont Memorial High School. Exterior doors, that will provide additional safety, have been installed at Floral Park Memorial and H. Frank Carey High Schools. A new ADA access ramp has been installed at New Hyde Park High School. The facilities at the Academic Learning Center, housed at Sewanhaka High School, have been expanded.

The new security measures that were implemented last year have greatly enhanced the safety and security for our students and staff. Beginning in September, additional security staff will be assigned in the evening hours at each of the high schools.

The District is very proud of our iPad one-to-one program, which is entering its fourth year. Teachers continue to find new and exciting ways to use iPads as a tool to enhance classroom instruction, making it both more innovative and student-centered. Our program is receiving very positive national and international attention, and our District's teachers, department chairpersons, assistant principals, principals, and technology staff should all be congratulated on their efforts to build and develop this program. In the upcoming weeks, you will receive additional information from your student's school regarding iPad distribution.

With the school year just around the corner, I hope that you and your family members enjoy the remainder of the summer and begin to plan appropriately for the upcoming school year. In the near future, the fall athletic teams will begin their preparations, the marching bands will initiate rehearsals and the building administrations will complete the scheduling process, in preparation for September. This time of year is always filled with anticipation and excitement. We are all looking forward toward working with your children during the 2019-2020 school year.

I look forward to working collaboratively with you, throughout the next school year, to meet the needs of our exceptional students. The development of excellent study routines is essential for student success. Our staff will continue to work, in conjunction with our families, to help all students. As always, our goal is for our students to benefit from all that our schools have to offer. Please contact your child's counselor if you have any questions about what you can do to promote your child's academic success and personal well-being in school. I am proud to begin my journey as the Superintendent of Schools in the Sewanhaka Central High School District and look forward to creating a strategic plan which will maintain and expand upon the District's academic, athletic and performing arts programs during the next school year.

Sincerely yours,

James J. Grossane, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools