

It's already August and the countdown to a new school year begins! We welcome back our students in twenty-nine days on Thursday, September 4, 2025!

This school year, we will warmly greet eleven new staff members, three long-term leave replacement teachers, and six new paraprofessionals. The new teachers will attend a three-day instructional orientation delivered by the Northern Valley Curriculum Center beginning on Monday, August 18, 2025. During that orientation, they will learn how to support students as they grow academically, socially, and emotionally. Then the newly hired teachers and long-term leave replacement teachers will attend our district orientation on Thursday, August 21, 2025, to learn about our instructional expectations, the evaluation process, business office procedures, and daily procedures. The experience and skills of our newly hired staff certainly will enrich our wonderful school district.

Our entire staff will reconvene on Tuesday, September 2, 2025, and Wednesday, September 3, 2025. These two days will begin with a welcome back breakfast provided by the PTO, followed by my address to the staff. There will be school-level meetings, department- and grade-level meetings, and training sessions — all in preparation for a great start to the new school year. These are busy and important staff days!

This week I have received communication from the Closter Police Department about recent incidents that have caused concern and fear within our community. Closter Public Schools joins the Police Department in standing in strong support of our Jewish community members. We agree that hate speech, threats and acts of anti-Semitism have no place in Closter or anywhere. Chief of Police James Buccola has asked that anyone with information or concerns to contact the Closter Police Department.

Once again, I remind students to read and practice math facts. Enjoy the last weeks of summer!

Vincent Mr. Hale