



Superintendent's Report

February 5, 2025

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the parents of the Korean Parents Group, the Lunar New Year Assembly Committee, and the dedicated teachers who supported our students in preparing for the exceptional assemblies held on Friday, January 24, 2025! The Lunar New Year assemblies featured a variety of performances, including singing, instrumental music, drumming, and dancing, while also providing important insights into the Lunar New Year and the Year of the Snake. Both schools had the pleasure of showcasing a performance by the Top Mixed Martial Arts from Northvale. It was a thrilling day that was both entertaining and informative. The assemblies celebrated the richness of Closter's diverse cultures, reinforcing what makes Closter a wonderful place for living and learning.

The *ThoughtExchange* connected to our district goal of creating a Profile of a Closter Learner is now closed. Thank you to the 478 people who participated, and for your 541 thoughts. Here is a summary of the highest-rated thoughts on what students will need to be successful:

Eighth-grade graduates need strong written and verbal communication skills to express ideas and engage in discussions. They should be independent yet able to collaborate, take pride in their work, and strive for excellence. Social-emotional skills are crucial, including empathy, conflict resolution, and resilience. They must be organized, capable of problem-solving, and self-advocating. A solid foundation in core academics, critical thinking, and digital literacy is essential. Additionally, they should possess time management, adaptability, cultural awareness, and a strong sense of responsibility and integrity to navigate high school and future challenges successfully.

A committee will be meeting later this month to begin analyzing the survey results and to begin working on creating the Profile of a Closter Learner. The completed profile document will be an essential guidepost as our district moves forward in the next few years. It will help our administrators and Board of Education make decisions about curriculum development, resource allocation, budget decisions, and overall school improvement initiatives to support all students and ensure they reach their full potential - based on the input of stakeholders. Again, thank you to everyone who participated in the *ThoughtExchange*!

Save the date!! The Closter PTO will host their annual gala on Friday, March 21, 2025, from 7:00 to 11 pm at the Edgewood Country Club in River Vale. The theme is Viva Las Vegas. More information will follow soon. Check out the [Closter PTO webpage](#) for information on this event, the Me & My Guy Dance, the My Girl & I Dance, and more.

The school district will be closed from Monday, February 17, 2025, through Friday, February 21, 2025, for winter break. Schools will reopen on Monday, Monday, February 24, 2025. Please enjoy the time off and be safe!

Vincent Mc Hale