



## **Superintendent's Report June 14, 2021**

The end of this unique, pandemic school year is fast approaching. There are only six days remaining! I want to congratulate and thank our students, teachers, administrators, staff and parents for their determination, perseverance and dedication throughout the entire year. It was a challenging journey but we survived it by providing instruction safely to our students. Our journey was filled with lots of learning this year as we learned new ways to deliver instruction, learned new technologies, and learned the importance of respect and understanding when differences of opinion arise. I trust that we are now a stronger school community as a result of all that we have learned. Again, thank you to everyone for every step, fast or slow, that we took together to return to normal.

Our fourth grade moving-on ceremony and eighth grade graduation will take place at Memorial Field on Wednesday, June 16, 2021, with special thanks to our Mayor and Council for granting permission to use the field. The fourth grade moving-on ceremony will take place at 4:00 p.m. and the eighth grade graduation will take place at 7:00 p.m. The rain date for both events is Thursday, June 17, 2021. Please note that the final three days of school, June 18, 21 and 22, will still be single-session days, as originally scheduled on our calendar.

The School Restart and Recovery Committee met on June 9, 2021. At this meeting we discussed the Safe Reopening Plan, which is a requirement of the federal American Rescue Plan Act grant. Please note that the Safe Reopening plan is not our final reopening plan. The committee will reconvene in July after Governor Murphy and the NJDOE release the directives and guidelines for the 2021-2022 school reopening. We are certain that school will return to a full-day, in-person school schedule, with no option for fully-virtual instruction. We are well situated for reopening in September and will work out all the details for a full reopening plan.

We have several summer programs taking place. There will be:

- 14 students in the Pre-K Extended School Year Program;
- 11 students in the Hillside School STEM program;
- 11 students in the Hillside School ELA and Arts program;
- 76 students in the Hillside School Academic Support Program;
- 37 students in the Tenakill Middle School Academic Support program;
- 7 students in the Tenakill Middle School ELA and Arts program;
- 21 students in the Tenakill Middle School STEM program;
- 8 students in the Multisensory Reading Program;
- 5 students in the Valley Summer Program.

As part of these programs, we are providing summer virtual support for 34 English Language Learners. Learning never stops in Closter Public Schools. I encourage all students to read and practice math over the summer to keep in academic shape!

I wish everyone a relaxing, safe and healthy summer! I look forward to a wonderful 2021-2022 academic year.

*Vincent Mc Hale*