



## Superintendent's Report September 22, 2022

Our school year is well underway. From the conversations I have had with our teachers, students and parents, everyone is happy to be back to a more traditional school year. Back-to-School Nights were held at both schools and thank you to everyone who attended. Our schools are vibrant places with so much learning taking place. It was a pleasure to for all of us who work in Closter Public Schools to connect with parents in-person at the Back-to-School Nights!

I want to let everyone know that we have posted a [district assessment calendar](#) to our district website. This document lists all of the standardized assessments that will be administered this year with information about the grades participating, the testing time, the test administration time window, and when results will be available. Our principals also sent this information home to all families. Please take a look at the district assessment calendar to be aware of when testing will take place throughout the year for your student.

The NJDOE *Start Strong* assessments will be taking place soon for all students in grades four through eight. The assessments will be given in English language arts, grades four through eight, mathematics, grades four through eight, Algebra I, grade eight, and in science, grade six. These assessments will last about 45 to 60 minutes and will provide immediate results to teachers. Parent reports will be provided as well. The *Start Strong* assessments utilize three performance levels: "Strong Support May be Needed"; "Some Support May be Needed"; and "Less Support May be Needed." Principals will be providing more information about when students in grades four through eight will be taking the *Start Strong* assessments.

During Hispanic Heritage Month, which began on September 15, 2022, our students are learning about the traditions of Hispanic cultures and about the contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans. Hispanic Heritage Month continues through October 15, 2022, so I encourage you to ask your children what they are learning during this special month. We will be observing Global Diversity Awareness Month in October and I invite everyone to check out our [District Diversity Council Action Plan for 2022-2023](#), which is posted on our district website. We are proud of the work we are doing to celebrate diversity and to welcome and include everyone in our district.

Schools will be closed for Rosh Hashanah on Monday, September 26, 2022. I wish a sweet new year to all those who are celebrating.

Vincent Mc Hale