ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Richard R. Corbett, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Parents and Guardians:

The 2026 - 2027 school year officially begins for students on Tuesday, September 8. On that day, your child will be welcomed by teachers and staff who are excited to meet their new students.

In three of our schools, students will be greeted by new principals and vice- principals. We welcome Ms. Vanessa Waxman, the new principal of Catherine A. Dwyer; Dr. Shari Castelli, interim principal of Birchwood; and Dr. Ellen Gianakis, principal, along with Ms. Penny Zitomer and Mr. Edwin Camacho, vice-principals, of Copeland Middle School. These new administrators bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to our schools, and I am confident they will receive a heartfelt welcome from our community.

If you have not yet done so, please review my letter (August 13) concerning the recent legislation addressing the use of cell phones and internet-enabled devices in schools. In short, if students bring internet-enabled devices to school, they must be turned off and secured in a book bag (elementary school) or locker (middle school).

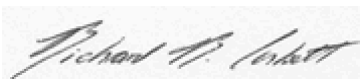
I invite you to participate in this year's listening sessions, which will include topics such as "*District Support for Student Mental Health*," "*Screen Time / Writing to Learn*," and "*HIB*." Specific dates and times will be announced in early September.

Coffee Chats with the Superintendent are opportunities to informally discuss general educational topics with the administration and up to three board members. These will be held on October 13 at 6:30 p.m., March 16 at 9:00 a.m., April 13 at 6:30 p.m., and June 8 at 9:00 a.m. Since we have limited space, we ask you to rsvp to Kim Willer (kwiller@rocktwp.net).

I would like to inform everyone that the Genesis Parent Portal will open at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 25, 2026. Here, you will find vital information regarding your child(ren)'s academic year, including schedules, the teacher's name, and bus assignments. In the coming weeks, you will receive additional information regarding the upcoming school year.

We are looking forward to a successful school year filled with learning and fun.

Sincerely,



Richard R. Corbett, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools