TONAWANDA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
100 HINDS STREET
TONAWANDA, NEW YORK 14150
716-694-7784-Phone / 716-695-8738-Fax

TIMOTHY A. OLDENBURG, Ed.D.
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

August 20, 2026

Dear Timberwolves Parent/Guardian:

In two short weeks, we will welcome our students back to school for the start of the 2026-2027 school year. I hope your summer has provided your family with opportunities to relax, recharge, and enjoy time together. Across the Tonawanda City School District, our teachers, administrators, and support staff are hard at work preparing for another exciting year of learning, growth, and achievement.

The first day of school for students is Tuesday, September 1. We are excited and ready to welcome our Timberwolves back! Please find our 2026-2027 Academic Calendar by clicking HERE.

We are pleased to share that, through funding provided by the RECOVS Grant, the Tonawanda City School District has been able to purchase the majority of school supplies needed for students for the 2026-2027 school year for all students entering kindergarten through fifth grade.

As a result, families of students in grades K – 5 do not need to purchase school supply items that appear on the school supply lists shared with you by teachers. This also includes backpacks, headphones and water bottles.

This year's return to school will look a little different at our Middle/High School as we continue the significant work associated with our TONA2024 Middle School/High School Building Infrastructure & Enhancement Capital Improvement Project. A tremendous amount of construction has taken place throughout the summer, and while we have made significant progress, our students and staff will return to a building that remains a work in progress.

I want to assure our families that **we will be ready for students on September 1.**

While there will be unfinished areas both inside and outside of the Middle/High School, we are carefully planning for the opening of school and for the needs of our students and staff. Construction work inside the building will not occur while students are learning and instruction is taking place. Our expectation remains the same as it is every school year, that our students will be engaged in rigorous, thoughtful, and meaningful instruction each day with minimal interruptions or disturbances related to the ongoing project.

Some exciting improvements are already complete, including the installation of our **new artificial turf on the athletic field**. Other areas remain under construction, including portions of the roof, several Middle School classrooms, the auditorium, and some student and staff restrooms. We have planned for each of these temporary circumstances and have appropriate classrooms, instructional spaces, and restrooms available to accommodate everyone throughout the school day. Learn more about our capital project progress by clicking HERE.

The construction activity our students see this year represents an investment in the future of our schools. The TONA2024 project includes improvements to classrooms, restrooms, the auditorium, roofing and mechanical systems, accessibility, safety and security, athletic facilities, and other important areas throughout the Middle/High School. Although getting from the old to the new will require some patience and flexibility, the result will be improved learning and working environments that will serve generations of Tonawanda students.

Important Middle/High School Entrance Changes

Families should also be aware that **door numbers at the Middle/High School have changed.** Please make note of the following new entrance numbers:

- **New Door #1 – MS/HS Main Entrance** *(formerly Door #3)*
- **New Door #9 – District Offices Entrance** *(formerly Door #11)*
- **New Door #29 – Athletic Entrance & Teacher Parking Entrance** *(formerly Door #1)*
- **New Door #12 – Faculty Parking Lot Entrance** *(formerly Door #14)*
- **New Door #14 – Nurse's Office** *(formerly Door #17)*

We recognize that a construction project of this size will require adjustment from all of us. There may be moments throughout the year when routines, traffic patterns, entrances, or available spaces need to change as work progresses. When changes affect our students and families, we will communicate them as clearly and as far in advance as possible. We appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation as we navigate this exciting period of transformation together.

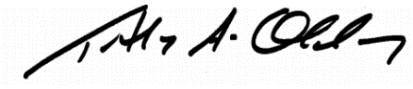
Most importantly, while parts of our Middle/High School may temporarily look different, **what happens inside our classrooms will not change.** Our teachers will teach, our students will learn, our activities and programs will continue, and our schools will remain places where students are supported, challenged, and encouraged to succeed.

There is always something special about the beginning of a new school year with the return of students to our hallways, the reunion of classmates and colleagues, and the opportunity for a fresh start. This year, we also have the opportunity to watch the future of our Middle/High School take shape around us.

Thank you for your continued patience, partnership, and support of the Tonawanda City School District. Please enjoy these final days of summer. I look forward to seeing our students on **Tuesday, September 1**, and to beginning another outstanding year together.

Go Timberwolves!

Sincerely,



Timothy A. Oldenburg, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools