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TIVERTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Superintendent's Update to Families

September 11, 2026

Dear Tiverton Families,

It has been a productive and exciting, if somewhat unusual, week in Tiverton. With students off for Labor Day and Primary Election Day, our educators and administrators used the time for professional learning, collaboration, and planning. It was great to see that work translate into positive energy across our schools as students returned.

Celebrating Our District Teacher of the Year
Tiverton Public Schools is proud to continue the tradition of joining Rhode Island's cities and towns, and communities across the country, in celebrating the honor of being named a district's Teacher of the Year. Through the selection of one teacher, we honor the many exceptional educators who dedicate themselves to our students each day.

Congratulations to our 2026-27 District Teacher of the Year, Tiverton High School English teacher Sheryl Gagnon! Mrs. Gagnon began teaching at Tiverton High School in 1997. Over nearly 30 years, she has inspired countless students through her love of literature and teaching, her high expectations, and her unwavering support and commitment to academic excellence. We are grateful for Mrs. Gagnon's nearly three decades of dedication, care, and service to the students and families of Tiverton. Congratulations, Mrs. Gagnon, on this well-deserved honor!

Remembering September 11
Today, we pause to remember and honor the people who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, as well as their families and loved ones. We also recognize the first responders, service members, and countless others whose lives were forever changed. We are grateful for those who continue to serve and protect our communities.

Learning and Growing Together
Across the district, our educators have been engaged in professional learning focused on student achievement, instructional practices, student support and belonging, safety, and the effective use of data. Teachers are using early-year information, including STAR and DIBELS assessments, to identify student needs and provide targeted support and enrichment.

At Tiverton High School, the new PED storage plan was rolled out this week. While there were a few minor hiccups as the school community adjusted to the new system, feedback has been very positive. I appreciate the work of our THS administration in preparing staff and students, communicating expectations, and thoughtfully planning the implementation.

The Tiverton School Department does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, race, religion, national origin, color, or handicap in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

TMS Principal Search
Our search for the next Tiverton Middle School principal is moving forward. A committee of teachers, support professionals, parents and administrators interviewed five highly qualified candidates this week. A finalist interview will take place next week, and I hope to bring a recommended candidate to the School Committee for consideration at its next meeting.

Strategic Planning
Our district strategic planning process also continues to move forward. This week, I met with our facilitators and reviewed the first version of the plan in depth. Our Strategic Planning Stakeholder Group will review and further refine the plan next week, with the goal of presenting a final draft to the School Committee in October.

Welcoming Our Rising Tigers
I also had the pleasure of attending the Grade Four Rising Tiger Open House. It was wonderful to meet so many of our fourth-grade students and their families and to see the enthusiasm surrounding their transition to middle school. Our students, teachers, and families are already building a strong sense of connection and excitement for the year ahead.

Upcoming Open Houses
- Tiverton Middle School (Grades 5-8): Thursday, September 17 (6:00-7:00 p.m.)
- Ranger Elementary School: Wednesday, September 16 (6:00-7:00 p.m.)
- Pocasset Elementary School: Wednesday, September 16 (6:00-7:00 p.m.)
    - Last names A-M: 6:00-6:30 p.m.
    - Last names N-Z: 6:30-7:00 p.m.
- Tiverton High School: Thursday, September 24 (6:00-7:00 p.m.)

Consider Joining Tiverton SELAC
Consider joining the Special Education Local Advisory Committee (SELAC). Through advocacy and representation, Tiverton SELAC serves parents and guardians of students with special needs, fostering open communication among families, teachers, administrators, and the broader community. SELAC understands the uncertainty families may feel when entering or navigating the special education process. As a parent or guardian, you are your child's best advocate, and your insights and experiences are essential to developing effective plans and supports for your child. Tiverton SELAC brings parents and professionals together to support students with disabilities, share information, and provide meaningful input. Meetings are open to the public, and all parents and guardians are welcome to participate. Questions: tivertonselac@tivertonschools.org

SELAC 2026-27 Meeting Dates - All meetings are held from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the Tiverton High School Library: November 4; January 3; February 3; March 3; April 5; May 12 (SELAC Awards Night); June 5

I continue to be encouraged by the energy across Tiverton Public Schools. Our students are settling into the school year, our teachers are doing great work, and we are building positive momentum together.

Sincerely,



Christopher Haskins