



Dear Hillcrest Families,

Welcome to the new school year!. We have been planning and planning for the arrival of our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders for the 2016 – 2017 school year!

As we strive for academic excellence for ALL of our students, I will share with you a quote that I shared with my staff as part of my welcome back e-mail this year – This reflects our commitment to each and everyone of our Hillcrest students:

*As I have said before, not every child has an equal talent or an equal ability or an equal motivation, but they should have an equal right to develop their talent and their ability and their motivation, to make something of themselves." John F. Kennedy*

We sincerely believe that your child's education is our most important work. Your involvement in this work is crucial to your child's success. By working together, we can accomplish so much more than if we each worked separately and so I am asking that you partner with us this year so that together we will be able to offer your child the very best opportunities to enhance his/her academic, social, emotional, and physical growth. I'm attaching a link to an oldie but goodie on the importance of Parent/Family Engagement for our schools. Please take some time to watch. It's about 20 minutes long – but worth every minute!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BI4rqX\\_F69c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BI4rqX_F69c)

It is my hope that this will be the *most* rewarding school year for all of our children. As a community school, we value the role that students, parents, staff and community members play in creating a successful school. Please work with us to find ways to actively engage you in our school community. We welcome parent engagement and hope you will consider the multiple ways you can assist us. The very first opportunity comes on our Back To School Nights – Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> for our 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Families and Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup> for our 5<sup>th</sup> Grade families. Please come out and share your ideas for building an even greater school! Remember, We are Stronger Together!

As always, my door is open to you! Help us make this the year we won't soon forget

Educationally Yours

Jacqueline Liburd