



"Moving from a system of Schools to a SCHOOL SYSTEM"

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

November 24, 2014

Superintendent of Schools, Larry Licopoli, Ph.D.

2014-2015: Focus on Literacy and Transition

--HAPPY THANKSGIVING--

1. Happy Thanksgiving!

- a. As we approach the holiday season, please accept my best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving and vacation break starting this Wednesday.

2. Announcements:

a. Breakfast Club

- i. Please come out and support our drama/theater students in their fall production of John Hughes' **"The Breakfast Club,"** directed by theater/drama teacher, Mr. Terry Sandler. The Breakfast Club will be performed at the Ford Theater in the Central Administration Building, opposite Peekskill High School on the following dates and times:
 - **Thursday, December 4 @ 7PM**
 - **Friday, December 5 @ 7PM**
 - **Saturday, December 6 @ 2PM and 7PM**
- ii. For this performance, the Ford Theater has been refitted with a professional lighting and sound system. It would be a very positive showing from our schools and community if we can have as many people attend the performances and support our student actors. I for one will be attending both Thursday and Friday! Please join us for this student play.

b. Annual Seasonal Caroling

- i. Please [see this attached flyer](#)—and bring your voices to Peekskill. ☺

3. Clarification: Root Cause Survey

Due to being cited for the disproportionate suspension of African American males, the District is required to complete a staff survey. The survey is important to the understanding the Root Cause process and asks respondents about their curriculum,

school climate, self-efficacy, teacher-student relationships, instructional supports, and responsiveness to the needs of diverse students. It also includes specific sections for school leaders and teachers. The District is being supported by NYU Technical Assistance Center on Disproportionality and each of our schools has a team that is participating in the Root Cause analysis workshops held at Central Office.

The survey is designed to be completed in approximately 30 minutes and all responses are anonymous. Although respondents can't navigate away from the page, one can come back to where they left off. There is no time limit, so the respondent can stop and start on the same computer as needed.

The timeline to complete our Root Cause process will conclude on Dec. 12th, so NYU is requesting our timely support to complete the survey. I have requested our principals to work with you and figure out a way for you to complete this requirement as part of prep time or perhaps dedicating a faculty or staff meeting for this purpose. In advance, I thank you for your cooperation.