

Peekskill City School District

A System Focused on Every Student; Every Day



The Mission of the Peekskill City School District is to educate students in a caring, inspiring environment characterized by a spirit of excellence and high expectations; prepare graduates to meet or exceed standards; graduate students who respect and appreciate cultural diversity; and prepare students to pursue adult lives as contributing citizens of our local and global community.

Mary Keenan Foster
Interim Superintendent

1031 Elm Street • Peekskill, NY 10566-3499
(914) 737-330, ext. 303 FAX: (914) 737-3722
mfooster@peekskillcsd.org

Dear Peekskill Community,

I am honored to serve the Peekskill community as Interim Superintendent for the 2017-2018 school year. The new academic year comes with the promise of many exciting opportunities for our students and I am looking forward to continuing our collaborative efforts alongside all District and community stakeholders.

Over the summer, our District and building leaders, School Learning Teams (SLTs), curriculum writers, special educators and clinical staff worked together to design District and school comprehensive plans that will guide our work with students this year. Literacy is central to every plan and encompasses all content areas with high expectations for academic excellence for every student. In addition to this focus on literacy, we are also increasing student learning opportunities in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics).

As we continue to extend our reach from our classrooms into the greater Peekskill community, here at PCSD we are sustaining and growing the Community School Model by working with long-standing community partners and inviting new partnerships into all of our schools. With the help of our newly implemented Peekskill Basics initiative, we are reaching out to the parents and caregivers of our youngest children, birth through age three, to offer vital information and educational resources to ensure these future students build a strong foundation in their earliest years. Thanks to our District's recent award of New York State's My Brother's Keeper Grant, we look forward to pairing students at the middle and high school levels with mentors to provide additional academic and emotional support while further strengthening our community ties.

At Peekskill, we are committed to each and every child in the District, and we believe each individual holds within themselves the ability to achieve whatever they dream. As educators, it is our job to assist parents and caregivers in nurturing our children's abilities and dreams. With that responsibility in mind, we promise to teach every child to be a competent and confident learner, but this is not a task that can be done in isolation – we must all work together for the common good of our children's successful futures. I urge you to be an active participant in our District and invite you get involved by exploring volunteer opportunities at our schools and by coming to our Board of Education meetings, events and workshops.

Finally, please know I welcome your feedback and encourage you to share your ideas for our District. I am happy to meet and discuss these topics upon appointment, or at our upcoming Coffee with the Superintendent event on Oct. 28 at 9 a.m. in the Administration Building.

Thank you for supporting our District as we work to provide academic excellence for every student, every day. I wish you all a wonderful school year.

Sincerely yours,

Mary Keenan Foster
Interim Superintendent of Schools