

**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

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November 2017

Dear Peekskill Community,

It is sometimes difficult to remember all we have to be thankful for when we are faced with some extraordinary challenges in our district, our schools, our city, state and world. I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the recent terrorist attack and ask all of us to remember the people who lost their lives on October 31, 2017 in NYC.

As a district we are committed to student safety. We ask that you help us by getting your children to school daily and on time; restricting cell phone use during school time to emergencies and help us teach social media responsibility. The days are shorter and it is dark earlier, so we need to be careful when driving in the evenings and mindful that our children should be accompanied when walking home from after school activities.

November 9<sup>th</sup> marks the end of the first quarter. We are proud of the work your children have accomplished in the first two months of the school year. Please attend our November 15<sup>th</sup> parent/teacher conferences and work in partnership with your child's teacher(s) to help your child continue to grow and achieve this school year.

November brings some special events including the Athletic Hall of Fame dinner on November 17<sup>th</sup> at Colonial Terrace. This year's honorees are: Lou Panzanaro, Jr. (1963), Edward "Pete" Peterson (1980), Latoscha Daniels Athey (1991), and the Varsity Boys' Basketball Teams of 2005, 2006, 2007. Please consider joining us at this special event. A flyer is on our website home page with the details.

Our fall production of "High School Musical" will be at the Peekskill High School auditorium on November 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. We hope you will join us for what will be an enjoyable evening or afternoon of theatrical fun.

On behalf of the entire district, I wish everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving filled with family and friends. It is a time to count our blessings, help those in need, and remember "If every person made it a rule that wherever you are, whenever you can, you will try to act a little **kinder than is necessary** - the world really would be a better place (R. J. Palacio, 2012).

Yours in Education,  
*Mary Keenan Foster*  
Interim Superintendent