

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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October 2017

Dear Peekskill Community,

Our 2017-2018 school year is off to a strong start. We enjoyed welcoming families to our opening nights where we had the chance to share curriculum, syllabi, upcoming events and opportunities for parent partnerships. We would like to extend a special thank you to the dads and other significant adult role models who brought their child or children to school on September 19, as we celebrated "Dads Take Your Child to School Day," one of our first district-wide events for this year.

September was marked with remembrances for our brothers and sisters who lost their lives on 9/11 and a patriotic remembrance on Constitution Day. This month, we are looking forward to celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month. Throughout October, schools will be honoring important Hispanic Americans and their contributions to our country and our lives.

An important tenet in our district mission statement is that of preparing students to pursue adult lives as contributing citizens of our local and global community. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is quoted as saying, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, what are you doing for others?" Teaching our students to take responsibility and to respect the school community, the city in which they live and the global community is a charge we take very seriously. In keeping with this mission, our staff and community members recently participated in a number of activities while also providing service opportunities for our students. These activities include: the distribution of food at Hillcrest through the Westchester Mobile Food Pantry; giving blood at the PHS/Red Cross blood drive; translating for families at the Arts 10566 registration day; providing books and information through the Peekskill Basics Initiative and registering new voters in collaboration with the NAACP and the City of Peekskill. I would like to thank all who participated for your hours of service and dedication to our community.

Our fall sports teams are working hard on and off the field, court, track and pool. Please continue to support our athletes and cheer them on. We are looking forward to our Homecoming events on Saturday, October 21. I would also like to invite parents and community members to join me at our Fall Coffee with the Superintendent event on Saturday, October 28 at the District Administration Building at 9:00 a.m. We can converse and share ideas to help inform our district work.

Looking forward to warm days, cool nights, changing leaves, pumpkin flavored everything and a month of excellent teaching and learning.

Yours in Education,

Mary Keenaw Foster

Interim Superintendent