



NEW HOPE-SOLEBURY SCHOOL DISTRICT
*Engaging, Enriching, and Empowering All Students
through a World-Class Education*

August 12, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As summer draws to a close, it is time to bring our school community back together to embark on another school year together. The start of a new school year brings an opportunity for a renewed focus, new challenges, and options for our students to explore new experiences. The entire New Hope-Solebury School District team looks forward to welcoming your children, inspiring them to be the best they can be and helping them to realize their potential.

As we begin a new school year together, we look forward to continuing our tradition of excellence. New Hope-Solebury School District provides a unique environment for teaching and learning, which embraces students and invites them to be active and contributing partners of our school community. Our small class sizes, supportive parents and community, strong curriculum, and dedicated faculty, staff and administrators helps to ensure that our students are provided with a nurturing learning environment which establishes a solid foundation on which they can build their futures and pursue their dreams.

This year promises to be another outstanding one in our school district. We are looking forward to expanding on our Project Based Learning initiative and challenging our students to broaden their horizons and engage in experiential learning to apply their learning to real problems and learning activities. We will enhance the learning experiences of our students by developing multisensory learning experiences which integrate technology as a tool to enhance their educational experience.

This year we will be enhancing our programs to improve the social and emotional learning of our students. Our School-Wide Positive Behavior Intervention and Support Program which has been state recognized at the LES and UES will be expanded into the Middle School. This program allows us to provide support for our students to support their appropriate behavioral choices while fostering the growth and development of a welcoming and supportive school community. Additionally, we will be implementing the No Place for Hate Program at all of our schools, which will further our efforts to celebrate our diversity and broaden student understanding of diverse groups.

Our faculty, staff and administration have worked throughout the summer to further enhance our instructional program and curriculum to align with the Pennsylvania Core Standards and integrate new ideas and concepts to further our ability to meet our students' needs. By reviewing our programs, curriculum and instructional strategies and reflecting on our educational program, our faculty and staff have sought to further increase our ability to meet student needs and to provide the optimal learning environment. Through continual review and assessment of our instructional program, we can continue to ensure that New Hope-Solebury remains one of the premier school districts in the county.

This year, we will have an opportunity to reflect upon our strengths, identify our opportunities for growth, and plan for our future through the development of our next PA Comprehensive Plan. Every three years, school districts are required to develop a strategic plan which allows us to chart the future of the school district. We are looking forward to this opportunity to consider how our school can meet the

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needs of our students in a changing world and ensure they are college and career ready. We invite you to join us as partners in this exciting process. There will be multiple opportunities to be involved through the completion of surveys, involvement in committees and providing us with your reflections about what we are doing well and what we can be doing better.

As you come back to join us for the start of the school year, you will see the hard work of our operations team who have worked to revitalize our campus and grounds, clean our buildings, and complete numerous projects to enhance our schools to provide the optimal learning environment for our students. This summer also saw the completion of many projects to enhance our campus including the beginning of the renovation on our tennis courts, the replacement of the boilers in our Middle School, the renovation of our high school guidance suite, the installation of carpet in our middle school library, painting throughout the school district and the installation of signage around our campus. We have many other projects which we are working to complete through the development of our facilities improvement plan.

We welcomed some new additions to our school district leadership team. Mr. David Francella assumed the post of Chief Operations Officer. We are looking forward to Mr. Francella continuing the great work that has happened in the business and operations department over the past several years and continuing to move our school district forward. Mr. Francella brings a wealth of experience in corporate finance and school finance to this position and is a CPA. He is going to be an outstanding addition to our team.

We also welcomed Mr. Todd Conn as our new Director of Operations. Mr. Conn brings nearly 30 years of experience in school district and corporate facility management and will be an outstanding addition to our team. We look forward to him leading us through the development of a facilities management plan to address critical issues identified in our recent facilities condition assessment. I hope you will join me in welcoming both of these new team members to the New Hope-Solebury School District.

On a personal note, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve as your superintendent and for welcoming me into your school district and community. New Hope-Solebury School District has all the ingredients needed to provide our students with an outstanding education. Through your support of our efforts we are able to realize our vision of engaging, empowering and enriching our students through a world class education. Thank you for all that you do to help us realize this auspicious goal and for being partners with us in working to realize the potential of all our students.

Respectfully,



Charles W. Lentz, Ed.D.
Superintendent

HELPFUL HINTS FOR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

(Webpages have been hyperlinked for your convenience)

- **Website Information** - We encourage you to continue to keep informed about your children's school and our district activities. One of our most valuable resources is our website which provides comprehensive information about our schools, our programs and our activities. [District Website](#), [High School Website](#), [Middle School Website](#), [Upper Elementary School Website](#), [Lower Elementary School Website](#)
- **School Calendar** – Our school calendar establishes our regular schedule for the school year, however, there are times when our calendar may need to be changed based upon weather or unforeseen circumstances. If we need to make alterations to the school day for these unforeseen circumstances, we will make those according to our [Hazardous Weather and Emergency Closing procedures](#). Emergency closings will be communicated as quickly as possible through our emergency communication system.
- **Chain of Command Document** – To improve and enhance communication, especially when trying to answer questions or resolve problems, it is important to follow the correct “chain of command.” Directing your questions or concerns to the appropriate person encourages greater collaboration and streamlines the process of answering questions, alleviating concerns, and ensuring that we are providing you with the information that you need. Most often those closest to the issue can provide you with the best information and it is valuable to begin with those staff on the front line to resolve your concerns. Our [Chain of Command](#) document will assist you in determining who to contact in various situations.
- **Registration** - It is never too late to register your child/children for school. Visit the registration page for guidance about information required to complete the [registration process](#) and how to make an appointment.
- **Immunization Requirements** – The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania requires that all children be immunized prior to enrollment in our schools. The immunization requirements are set forth by the Pennsylvania Department of Health and we are mandated to follow them. Read more about these requirements by viewing the [informational document](#) from the Department of Health. You can also visit our [Student Health Services](#) page for additional information.
- **Listserves** – If your child/children are matriculating from one building to another, you can update your listserv preferences by clicking [here](#). As you know, listservs provide a wealth of pertinent information about school events and keep you informed about what is going on in our school district and in our individual schools.
- **Social Media** – Did you know that you can find out about great things happening in our district by following our Twitter accounts? Our schools and many of our clubs, organizations and staff use Twitter as a means through which to keep you informed daily about many of our activities and programs. We also send out monthly a “Lions Pride” newsletter to keep you informed about what is going on in our school district.

Upcoming and Important Dates
Mark Your Calendars!

Thursday, August 15, 2019

Home Access Center (HAC)/"Portal" Opens for HS & MS at 4:00 PM

Thursday, August 22, 2019

UES/LES Mailings (Class placements, etc.)

Friday, August 23, 2019

Home Access Center (HAC)/"Portal" Opens for UES & LES at 12:00 Noon

Wednesday, August 28, 2019

Sixth Grade Welcome BBQ & Back-to-School Night – 5:00 PM

Tuesday, September 3, 2019

First Day of School – Welcome Back!

Wednesday, September 4, 2019

Kindergarten Back to School Night – 6:00 PM

Thursday, September 5, 2019

1st & 2nd Grade Back to School Night – 6:00 PM

Tuesday, September 10, 2019

HS Back to School Night – 6:30 PM

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

UES Back to School Night – 6:30 PM

Thursday, September 19, 2019

7th & 8th Grade Back to School Night – 6:00 PM