



Jonathan Hart, Ph.D., *Superintendent*
Jason M. Bohm, CPA, *Business Administrator/Board Secretary*

jhart@readington.k12.nj.us
jbohm@readington.k12.nj.us

P.O. Box 807 • 52 Readington Road • Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889 • (908)-534-2195 • (908) 349-3042 fax

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the opening of the 2021-2022 school year! We are excited that our school doors will open for full-days of in-person instruction starting on September 8. It's a pleasure to welcome back our returning students and we are thrilled to meet those who are new to our school district.

For me, this past summer was an opportunity to rest but also reflect on the past school year. My rest included a family vacation to the Jersey Shore. This is where I started to think life began to feel normal again. My family and I were able to go on rides at the boardwalk, dine at restaurants, and visit places like the aquarium. But, it's clear that COVID is still here with us and will be part of our upcoming school year. Nevertheless, I am optimistic in thinking about all of the things we will do this year. We'll offer extra-curricular clubs, sports, and other activities. Students will be in school for full-days of instruction which will also let them have lunch and recess with peers. All of this suggests to me how far we have truly come from last year. Whatever challenges we face this year, I know we will triumph. I know this because we are a strong community who works together. I think about how far we have come since this time last August. We have achieved in the face of much adversity and we are stronger for it.

Furthermore, the bonds between family and school have only been strengthened with last year's virtual learning environment. This year, as we look to continue work toward our strategic goals, consider ways in which we can strengthen relationships and partnerships between home and school based on all that we learned last year. As always, talk with your child about setting goals for the year and encourage him/her to think about the connections they can make this year that perhaps could not be made last year. There is so much to look forward to as the fall approaches, and I am continually reminded of how we are a community who "Together, Inspire and Inquire."

As summer is drawing to an end, enjoy these last days off by soaking in the beautiful weather and spending time with loved ones. Our staff and administration look forward to greeting students on September 8. Until then, remember that we empower members of our community to lead purposeful lives with integrity, to cultivate a spirit of discovery, and to embrace connections in our diverse, global society. I look forward to living this mission with you as the school year gets underway!

Very truly yours,

Jonathan Hart, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools