

## HIGHLAND FALLS-FORT MONTGOMERY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dr. Frank Sheboy, Superintendent of Schools

Sept. 4, 2019

Dear Parent, Guardians, and Families,

The cool evenings have begun to occur with greater regularity as we start the 2019-2020 school year. It is my sincere hope that each of you had a wonderful summer. We have had an incredibly busy summer preparing for our children to return to school.

Over the past two months, we have done a great deal to enhance our facilities. We spent the entire summer painting and cleaning our schools and classrooms to make them vibrant learning spaces for our children. We've taken some time to spruce up each of the buildings inside and out. Once again, the Fort Montgomery Elementary School sparkles. We relocated a number of classrooms and learning spaces and re-mulched the playground area. We know that this will enhance the learning opportunities for all of our children. At the Highland Falls Intermediate School we reconfigured the second floor classroom plan, contributing to a more collaborative learning environment where our instruction and our students' learning will be enhanced. The work on the capital project at James I. O'Neill is well under way and early in the fall, our students will begin to reap the benefits of the community's investment in the school. This project addresses many needs at James I. O'Neill High School, including upgrading our science classrooms, fulfilling requirements under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), addressing a number of health and safety concerns inside and outside of the building, replacing our asphalt walkways and driveways, and upgrading our physical education and athletic facilities.

Academically, we enter a new year in a very different position than we were not so many years ago. We now have a Reward School in James I. O'Neill High School that has been recognized as one of the best high schools in our state and in the region. Our arts programs are among the best anywhere and accolades continue to pour in. The Highland Falls Intermediate School faculty and staff continue to identify ways of approaching individualized learning and in improving opportunities for our children. The academic program at the Fort Montgomery Elementary School remains strong and our focus on literacy is apparent throughout the classrooms and in the halls. From our model Pre-Kindergarten class to all of K-2 classes, students are challenged, engaged, and empowered in their learning.

I want to thank each and every one of you for your continued support of our programs. Your trust in us and your advocacy for our children is what enables us to do great things every day for them.

Kind regards and warm wishes for an Amazing school year!

Dr. Frank Sheboy,

Superintendent of Schools