

GREAT MEADOWS REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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August 7, 2023

Dear GMRSD Families:

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! I hope everyone in our school community is enjoying the opportunity this summer to recharge and refresh as we prepare to embark on another yearlong journey of learning together. I look forward to welcoming our students back into the halls of Central Elementary and Great Meadows Middle School on September 5. In turn, I hope our students and families will join me in welcoming our two new principals, Ms. Samantha Westberg and Ms. Wendy Flynn, to Great Meadows.

Ms. Westberg is likely familiar to many in our school community. She has served as our Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Intervention for the last two years, working closely with staff and students to ensure our programs are engaging and enriching and that support is available to those who may need it. Prior to arriving in Great Meadows, Ms. Westberg served as an elementary school teacher for 17 years in the Chester School District (Morris County).

Ms. Flynn begins her administrative career after 22 years at Hackettstown Middle School, where she taught all of the core subjects and served as a team leader before becoming a Tiered Schoolwide Enrichment Instructor and, most recently, the Acting Middle School Assistant Principal.

Both principals began July 1 with an eagerness to create school environments that promote student and staff success. There are a number of District Goals for the coming year that will serve as evidence of this, and we invite all in our community to join us in accomplishing these goals:

- Our Diversity Committee has worked diligently to increase opportunities for students to celebrate our similarities and differences. As we did in 2022-23, this year we will continue to increase our commitment to celebrating diversity in our school, our community, and the world. We invite community members to sign onto this Committee as opportunities arise to help spread the word and work toward a district-wide celebration.
- Through the creation of Green Teams at each school facility and by partnering with community stakeholders, GMRSD will achieve active membership and participation in Sustainable NJ, a "network and movement of municipalities, schools and school districts working collectively to bring about a sustainable New Jersey...Sustainable Jersey researches best practices for what communities could and should do to contribute to a sustainable future."
- GMRSD will create outdoor learning spaces and increase in-class and extracurricular opportunities focused on physical wellness. We hope this can be a way to not only improve health and wellness, but to create more opportunities for community-building.

This is a year of new beginnings for everyone in Great Meadows. I invite you to be a part of what promises to be an exciting time for all of us, a time of unlimited possibilities. Welcome back!

Sincerely,

Michael Mai

Michael Mai
Superintendent of Schools
Director of Special Services