

Flemington-Raritan Regional School District Ms. Kari McGann



Superintendent of Schools 50 Court Street, Flemington, New Jersey 08822-1300 Phone: (908) 284-7561 Fax: (908) 284-7656

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Dear Parents,

In multiple newsletters and letters throughout the past year, I have shared with the community the efforts of the District to support the development and implementation of a plan for school district security to protect the school community's investment in school buildings, facilities, staff, and our students. You can find the September 2019 newsletter here and the August 2019 newsletter here. In both of these newsletters, I shared information about Class III Officers to provide safety and security in the district.

On March 6, 2019, I shared with the FRSD community that I spoke with members of the Raritan Township Committee to modify the number of police officers to allow the employment of Class III special law enforcement officers (SLEOs) to serve in the Flemington-Raritan Regional School District community. You can find that letter here. Class III Officers are retired police officers who return to part-time service specifically to work in schools. They have full police authority, wear a uniform, and carry a firearm.

In April of 2018, the Flemington-Raritan Board of Education passed district policy 7446- School Security Program to authorize the employment of school district security officers. You can find that policy here.

I'm very pleased to announce that Raritan Township has sworn in Officer Michael P. Fitzpatrick and Officer Harry E. Hults, Jr as two of the three Class III Special Law Enforcement Officers designated for Flemington-Raritan Regional School District. Both officers were in our district this past week, meeting building principals and familiarizing themselves with our buildings. Officer Hults and Officer Fitzpatrick will start on Monday, October 21.

Officer Hults' career in law enforcement includes experience in Hunterdon County, with Holland Township Police Department in Milford and with the Sheriff's Office in Hunterdon County in Flemington. He attended high school locally at Hunterdon Central Regional High School. He is a certified School Resource Officer and graduated locally from the Trenton Police Academy.

Officer Fitzpatrick's career was with the Hillsborough Township Police Department. He has a Masters of Arts in Political Science with a concentration in Criminal Justice. He is also a certified School Resource Officer and holds many certifications and leadership awards. Officer Fitzpatrick's children graduated from J.P. Case Middle school and attended elementary school at Barley Sheaf.

Strategic Goals:

Goal Area #1: Academics/Curriculum "The district will implement a data driven, multi-year curriculum and professional development plan that increases teachers' instructional skills and ensure that every child has access to materials and a curriculum that is aligned with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards." (Monitor and adjust the multi-year plan; Conduct data driven needs assessments and evaluations to ensure the efficacy of the implementation process for new curriculum materials & professional development; continue to utilize a classroom based professional development program focused on collaboration, demonstration lessons, & reflective dialogue.)

Goal Area #2: <u>Special Services</u> "Review the assessment of the structure, procedure, and processes completed by the Superintendent to develop an action plan to address areas of deficit." (Align staffing ad programs based on student needs; Improve and enhance early intervention & transitional programs; Identify student/faculty mental health issues & implement a systematic approach of support; Utilize both functional & discrepancy student information when determining eligibility)

Goal Area #3: Resource Management "Ensure that fiscal, facility & human resources are allocated to meet district needs." (Identify & analyze community demographics; Assess impact of demographic trends on district operations; Identify district priorities; Plan & implement consistent & effective processes; review department procedures & modify practices for efficiencies.)

Goal Area #4: <u>Communications and Leadership</u> "Cultivate relationships that build trust & respect with all stakeholders." (Engage others with inclusivity & hear all perspectives; Communicate with transparency to ensure understanding through humility; Provide consistent leadership to maintain civility to move the district forward.)



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Both officers have distinguished themselves over a twenty-five-year career with a focus on safety, security, and mentorship. We will soon be communicating with students to introduce them to Officer Hults and Officer Fitzpatrick and give them opportunities to meet them. Parents and community members can expect to see our Class III officers at any one of our six schools in the district on any given day.

I am grateful for the partnership that we have with Raritan Township Mayor Jeff Kuhl, the members of the Raritan Township Committee, Raritan Township Administrator Don Hutchins, and Chief Al Payne of the Raritan Township Police Department. They--like our Board of Education, staff, you, and me--are committed to the safety and wellness of your children.

Sincerely,

Kari McGann

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Superintendent of Schools
Flemington-Raritan Regional School District
Every Student, Every Day, Every Opportunity

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