

## Kari McGann, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

## Every Student, Every Day, Every Opportunity

September 4, 2024

Dear Flemington-Raritan Regional School District Faculty, Staff Members, Parents, and Community Members,

This week, students around our county and the State of New Jersey are headed back to school tomorrow. The school shooting that occurred at a high school outside of Atlanta, Georgia today is a senseless tragedy that leaves all of us with troubling emotions as we prepare to open a new school year tomorrow. Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims, their families, friends, and the school staff.

I want to emphasize the working relationship the Flemington-Raritan Regional School District has with our partners at the Flemington Borough and Raritan Township Police Departments. As Superintendent of Schools, I am in contact with local law enforcement and our Class III Officers regarding safety and our schools. I keep informed about issues affecting schools throughout Hunterdon County and our nation.

Our District partners with the Flemington Borough and Raritan Township Police Departments. We have Class III officers on campuses and assigned to the Flemington-Raritan Regional School District to provide safety, security, and on-site support. Our Class III officers are retired law enforcement officers who previously served as fully-trained, full-time police officers in New Jersey. They are important members of our district safety team.

Additionally, one of our vice principals serves as a district safety specialist. He has completed specialized training, serves as chairperson of the District Security Committee, and assists the Superintendent in decision-making on safety and security in the district. The district's Director of Educational Facilities, Operations, and Security supports efforts to ensure buildings and grounds are secure.

Please be reminded that as part of the 2019 referendum, the district installed an upgraded security system through a contract with DataComm. Our schools' safety measures were improved with a lockdown and emergency notification system which allows us to immediately alert everyone on school grounds of a lockdown, active threat, or other emergency event.

Last year, the district implemented a visitor management system to further strengthen safety procedures. Part of keeping students and faculty safe is knowing who is in our buildings at all times; the visitor management system assists us in doing that. The system screens visitors, contractors, and volunteers in our schools and provides us with a safer environment for our students and staff.

Our district remains vigilant about security. Please be reminded that if there are district-wide safety and security messages such as security drills, power outages, or other crises that require district-wide communication, those messages and alerts will come from the Superintendent's office. If you have any concerns or questions about safety and security, please reach out to your building principal.

It continues to be an honor to serve as your Superintendent.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kari McGann Superintendent of Schools

## Strategic Goals:

Goal Area #2: Develop a continuation of a multi-tiered system of support within the district to target the social, emotional, and mental health needs of students.

Goal Area #1: The District will provide a comprehensive and rigorous educational experience that connects and expands students' knowledge while engaging and empowering all learners to synthesize and apply their skills and understandings in meaningful ways.

Goal Area #3: The district will create opportunities to foster unity between the community and the school district in order to strengthen partnerships and develop a shared responsibility for student success.

Goal Area #4: Create an enticing and competitive work environment to attract and retain high-quality candidates representative of students' diverse backgrounds in the Flemington Raritan Regional School District community.

Goal Area #5: Ensure the finance and facilities needs are budgeted to upkeep and meet the needs of the growing district.