

September 2022

Dear District 30 Community:

It is with great joy and excitement that I welcome our students, families, staff, and community partners to the 2022-2023 school year. This year will be one that is filled with opportunities as we welcome our new families to District 30 and the New York City public school system. As a community, we will continue to nurture our children's talents and prepare them to be critical thinkers and to follow their dreams of becoming productive citizens of our society.

We have worked collectively as a District to develop academic goals in the content areas of English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science to advance literacy instruction, strengthen students' foundational skills to advance equity, and close learning gaps. These goals are grounded in the district 30 core beliefs of Knowing All Students Well, Personalizing Learning, Elevating Student Voice, and Providing Opportunities & Access for our students. As such, we value all stakeholders' voices as we conduct district-wide Listening and Learning Tours to garner feedback to ground our work for the 2022 - 2023 school year.

During the summer, it was rewarding to connect with our community during the District's Listening & Learning Tours. These conversations allowed for the sharing of ideas to make our District even better. If you did not have the opportunity to attend, I encourage you to attend your school community's Listening & Learning session, which will provide an additional opportunity to share your ideas on how to sustain what is working and share thoughts for improvement of our schools.

This year we continue our journey of reimagining the student experience through personalizing instruction for our children. We will engage our Presidents' Council, Community Education Council (CEC), and school staff in a book study of Students at the Center: Personalizing Instruction Through the Habits of Mind by Bena Kallick and Allison Zmuda to cohesively implement strategies at school and at home. The book outlines the four attributes of personalized learning. They include:

Voice: student's involvement and engagement in the learning process

Co-Creation: student collaboration with teachers in the development of learning opportunities

Social Construction: opportunities for students to contextualize their learning with their peers

Self-Discovery: the process of students' coming to reflect and understand themselves as learners

This year our District will complete the third and final year of the New York State Integration Project for Professional Learning Communities Grant (NYSIP-PLC). Our teachers in Kindergarten through Grade 8 will have received professional development workshops designed to increase an understanding of implicit biases, social-emotional learning (SEL), culturally responsive and sustaining education (CR-SE), Habits of Mind, and Principles of Learning through partnerships with The Cavu Group and Literacy Support Systems (LSS) by June 2023. Our families will also continue to receive workshops related to this work. Additionally, we will continue working with New York City Kids Rise to support families in saving for college. We will sustain our partnerships with our various sponsors and community organizations to connect schools with resources to where they are needed.

Thank you for your continued support, your dedication and steadfast commitment in helping our children strive to be on the right path of success. I am truly honored to serve you and will continue to collaboratively ground our decisions by always asking "How is this good for all children?"

Sincerely,

Philip A. Composto, Ed.D.

Dr. Philip A. Composto
Community Superintendent