

Greetings,

Today is Sunday, August 21st. We are now down to the final 17 days before the beginning of another school year. However, 2022-2023 will not just be “another” school year. When we open our doors to students on **Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>** we do so without restriction for the first time since 2019. I cannot recall being more optimistic, energized, and excited about a school year than I am right now about 2022-2023 here at Hillery Park Elementary.

The theme of the 2022-2023 school will be ***A Commitment to Excellence***. Included in our school-wide commitments are *creating and sustaining a safe and welcoming school environment* and *re-building our partnership with parents and families*. These past three years have been a challenge beyond compare. However, we came together, battled through the adversity and are now ready move forward with the goals we have for building the type of school to home partnership all of us want here at Hillery Park Elementary School. Together we will make this happen! Here is how:

#### **Communication:**

- ✓ Monthly calendar of events, *Monthly Messages*, multiple modes of communication including social media and School Messenger. The frequency, accuracy and timeliness of communication will be a focal point for our school this year. We will require updated phone numbers and email address from all families.

#### **Collaboration:**

- ✓ Our ***Parent Teacher Association*** will have a membership drive all September. This group will meet monthly both in-person and virtually to discuss ideas for enhancing our overall school program. Additionally, on-line surveys will be used to collect your input on how we conduct business as a school. Your voice will be valued.

#### **Celebration**

- ✓ We will hold beginning, middle and end of year Award Ceremonies to acknowledge our students’ achievements and accomplishments. Parents, families, and friends will be invited to attend and celebrate our students’ success. We will hold a *Community Night, Cultural Celebration*, concerts, and school musical this year.

#### **Cooperation**

- ✓ Parents and families must respect the protocols we have in place to run a school building. We must work together to ensure students are in attendance daily, arrive on time, in uniform and for a full day. Safety and attendance are major areas of emphasis again this year. We need your cooperation to be successful.

One of the easiest and most efficient means of staying abreast of your child’s schedule, grades, attendance, and overall progress is to create a Parent Portal account. By doing this today, you can see how your student’s homeroom teacher will be for the upcoming school year. To create a Parent Portal account, please follow this link [Information Technology / Parent Portal \(buffaloschools.org\)](https://buffaloschools.org/information-technology/parent-portal).

To find welcome back letters and supply lists from our teachers please visit our Hillery Park Elementary webpage at: [2022-2023 School Supply Lists / 2022-2023 School Supply Lists \(buffaloschools.org\)](https://buffaloschools.org/2022-2023-school-supply-lists/)

I ask that you please go back and review the July parent letter I sent last month which include Uniform Policy and other important guidelines for the 2022=2023 school year at Hillery Park Elementary School. I am also including a school calendar for September. We look forward to renewing and building a stronger home to school connection and investing in our partnership in learning with you and your family.

Respectfully,

Vincent T. Vanderlip  
Principal-Hillery Park Elementary School #27