

WHARTON BOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

www.wbps.org

"Learn to Thrive in a Dynamic World"

Marie V. Duffy Elementary School

"Governor's School of Excellence"

Pamela S. Blalock, Principal

Alfred C. MacKinnon Middle School

Dr. Patrick Ketch, Principal

Christopher Herdman
Superintendent

Sandy Cammarata
Business Administrator

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Director of
Curriculum & Instruction

Marie Giantomasi
Director of Special Education
& Child Study Team Services

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February 15, 2018

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The safety and security of the children is of paramount importance to the school district. Administrators, teachers and support staff alike accept this challenge and appreciate the trust that you, as student families, bestow upon the district. This trust is not taken lightly.

With recent tragedies that have occurred, particularly in school settings, I would like to remind our greater school community the upgrades that the district has undertaken to enhance the safety of our students and staff.

The district has augmented its surveillance capabilities with the installation of cameras throughout the facility and campus, increasing our aggregate number of cameras to thirty-nine. The software installed with this upgrade provides the Wharton Police Department and First Responders remote access to the cameras to assist in times of emergency.

Just this week, the district has installed scanners to confirm the safety of any visitor entering the facility through information digitally linked to their identification. To clarify, this scanner will not be used to, or have the ability to check for residency or citizenship. It will only be operated to ensure the safety of the students and staff within the building.

The district's architectural firm has already created blue prints for locked vestibules for both the Duffy and MacKinnon schools. The construction of these structures will be accomplished this summer.

The Wharton Schools have made much progress, in recent years, to enhance the safety of our educational environment and strive for continual improvement in a dynamic world. The Board of Education, administration, teachers and support staff's principal goal is to provide our students the avenue and skillset to reach their fullest academic potential, while in a safe and comfortable educational environment.

Sincerely,



Christopher J. Herdman
Superintendent