



HOLMDEL PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT  
DR. J. SCOTT CASCOE

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September 1, 2022

Dear Holmdel Public Schools Community,

I hope this finds you all well, readying yourselves for a restful Labor Day weekend, and the beginning of an exciting and promising new school year.

It has been an incredibly busy and productive summer. Our facilities are in tip-top shape and ready to receive students and staff. Learning and activities were ongoing throughout the summer months. Together, with input from the community, staff, administration and the Board of Education we have established an ambitious and relevant set of [district](#) and [board](#) goals for the upcoming school year. These goals were approved by the Board of Education last night. The parent engagement goal will ensure that the district is providing regular opportunities to parents and students not only to offer feedback, but as importantly to share critical resources regarding digital citizenship and cyber safety, school security, HIB, and high interest curricular topics. Further, as per the board and district goal, the community can expect quarterly student achievement updates.

**District Welcomes New Staff:** This week our district welcomed over 40 new staff members for a three day orientation. Amidst teacher shortages throughout the state, Holmdel succeeded in recruiting and acquiring an outstanding cadre of educators to join in the district's professional community. This speaks to, amongst other things, the persistent appeal and positive reputation of the Holmdel Public School District.

**ICYMI:** In case you missed it, please be sure to check the link of [important dates](#) below, most notably for the back to school nights which will occur in the month of September.

**Health Education Update:** At last night's board meeting, the district Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Dr. Irwin presented an update to the Board of Education and the community with regard to the status of the [health education curriculum revisions \(audio\)](#). Please be advised, that a follow up informational evening will be held for families on Monday, October 3rd, and additional communication and reminders will be sent out. We look forward to seeing you there.

This year our students and staff for the first time in over two years will enter schools which look and feel like the schools of old. Nevertheless, we understand that some of the academic and social-emotional impacts of the pandemic remain. Today, when we received our district staff for the opening day convocation, we discussed the 3 R's: rejuvenation, reflection, and relationships as critical attributes of our professional community. Our parents and guardians are critical partners in all of our endeavors; any success we have is partially dependent on our efforts to engage our parent community. We ask that you join us in espousing the same norms and values. Being in tune with and tending to our mental and physical well-being fosters meaningful self-reflection, which in turn fosters positive relationships that enable us to achieve individually and collectively at the highest level. As part of my opening convocation, I utilized the

following videos on [rejuvenation](#), [reflection](#), [relationships](#) = [results](#). I invite you to watch them. Perhaps, you might reflect on how they apply in your own lives as parents, professionals, and our partners in the most important endeavor: the education and nurturing of the community's youngsters.

We have planned, prepared, and are ready to go. There is nothing we cannot do, nor is any goal too lofty when we come together as one. This includes our outstanding professional educators, our bright and motivated student population, and a constructively engaged parent community.

I thank you for your time and consideration and wish you all the best for a successful first day and amazing school year ahead.

[#WeAreHolmdel](#)

[#HolmdelProud](#)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Anthony Curran". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Superintendent