

# PHILLIPS AVENUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Dear Phillips Avenue Families:

It is with great pleasure that I write to introduce myself to you as the new Phillips Avenue principal. As you may know, I am not a newcomer. I had the privilege of working at Phillips Avenue for three years with Ms. Rodgers and many of our current staff members. I am eager to renew friendships and to meet all our amazing Phillips Avenue students, and their families.

Currently, I am in my seventeenth year in Riverhead, and have had the opportunity to hold various positions within the district. I began as the Assistant Principal in the Middle School, moved to Phillips Avenue as the Associate Principal, then to our District Office as Director of Professional Personnel, and thereafter returned to the Middle School as Principal. When I learned of Ms. Rodgers' retirement, I was excited about the possibility and opportunity to return to Phillips Avenue. I subsequently submitted a request for transfer to Phillips, and here I am.

My leadership style is one of collaboration. Staff at Phillips will continue to build on the social, emotional and academic growth of our students by working as a collaborative team. The home of school connection is vital to our students' success. Our goal at Phillips is to ensure that all our families feel welcome, are involved in their child's education, and that our partnership grows strongly.

Phillips Avenue has always been a home away from home to our students, peopled with caring, supportive faculty and staff, and most importantly a strong, living, breathing community. Together, we shall continue to build this unique community, with outstandingly fine programs including: Fountas & Pinnell Literacy; Ready Math; Great Kindness Challenge; Mind Up; Color Run and Restorative Practices, just to name a few.

Also, we shall share, in a partnership with the Riverhead Community Awareness Program (CAP) through which our students will be receiving many of the school supplies they will need in the coming school year. Mrs. Felicia Scocozza, Director of CAP, called to inform us that Mr. Brian Stark, the CAP Board President, and Mr. Ethan Greenidge, an alumnus of the Riverhead School District, currently a member of the New Orleans Saints will be donating \$4,000 towards Phillips Avenue students' supplies for the 2022-2023 school year. Thank you, Mrs. Scocozza, Mr. Stark, Mr. Greenidge and Riverhead CAP, for your support!

Once again, know that I look forward to working with each of you during the coming school year, and I shall always be available for any questions, concerns or suggestions you may have.

Most sincerely,

Dr. Steve Hudson