

RIVERHEAD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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August 24, 2023

Dear Blue Waves Families,

As the start of the 2023-2024 school year quickly approaches, I would like to welcome back all of our new and returning students to the Riverhead Central School District. I hope you and your families have had a restful, enjoyable summer and feel refreshed and ready to begin an exciting new school year. I am looking forward to seeing your smiling faces on the first day of school on September 6th!

This summer, our District proudly launched our new communications platform, ParentSquare, which will enhance school-to-home connections. While multiple tools were previously used, unifying communication lines in one platform provides a more effective and seamless experience for both families and staff. ParentSquare will be used to engage with parents/guardians and provide you with the opportunity to actively participate in your children's education. The platform is now available for parents/guardians and staff to use on your computers and mobile devices. We look forward to the strong engagement this intuitive, two-way platform will bring forth as it empowers the community to stay connected and informed.

There have also been major upgrades made to our school facilities over the summer. The Pulaski Street Intermediate School gymnasium has been renovated, as well as the Aquebogue Elementary School kindergarten playground area, which has been rejuvenated with a sealcoat of the pavement. The Phillips Avenue Elementary School playground is in the process of being revamped as well. Soft, rubber surfacing is being installed, and the invasive burr weed that took up space has been removed. At the Roanoke Avenue Elementary School library, the damaged vinyl composition flooring was replaced with new, luxury vinyl tile, which not only looks great, but is more durable and easier to care for.

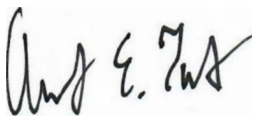
In addition, the area behind the Riverhead Middle School's locker rooms has been repaired, re-establishing safe pathways around the rear of the building and mitigating the issue of flooding during poor weather conditions. More facilities and grounds projects are getting started in the near future, including classroom door

replacements at Riley and Roanoke, major restroom renovations at Riley and Pulaski and the installation of a new ADA access ramp at Aquebogue. There will also be a new sound system installed at the Riverhead High School auditorium, and the replaced sound system will be repurposed for use inside of the Pulaski auditorium. Other projects will get off the ground as the school year continues to roll in.

This school year, we will also continue our emphasis on safety and security within our schools. Providing a safe, supportive and nurturing environment for our students is foundational to their education, and maintaining secure classrooms and facilities is our utmost priority. With this in mind, the District initiated an extensive security capital program. This included the installation of 125 new cameras, updated camera software, access control devices at target entries and exits, door sensors to prevent unauthorized building entries and exits and strobe warning lights to better alert occupants and those outside the premises of emergency events within school buildings. The middle school and high school will also be utilizing ScholarChip, a web-based school safety system.

A successful school year takes a team effort, and I look forward to working alongside our dedicated staff and community members to make this year a great one.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aug E. Tornatore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Aug" and last name "Tornatore" clearly visible.

Dr. Augustine E. Tornatore
Superintendent of Schools