



ELEANOR VAN GELDER SCHOOL

MICHELE HIGGINS
PRINCIPAL
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January 15, 2021

Dear Eleanor Van Gelder Families,

It is with great excitement that I write this letter to you as the incoming principal of Eleanor Van Gelder School. It is an honor to join the Edgewater community. After meeting with several community and staff members, it is evident what a wonderful school community we have here at EVG.

In many ways, this move to Edgewater represents a return home, as my career in education started 22 years ago in Leonia. In those 22 years, I have taught second through sixth grades and spent the last two years as an administrator in the Paramus School District. During that time, I also earned a Master of Science in Educational Technology from Ramapo College and a Master of Arts in Educational Administration from Caldwell University. I am eager to bring my skills as an educational leader to the Eleanor Van Gelder School.

When I am not at school, I enjoy spending time with my family. As a parent of two boys, ages 13 and 11, and a daughter who is 7, I understand the importance of a strong home-school connection. Working hand and hand will ensure great success for your children.

Over the next few weeks, I look forward to immersing myself in our school and community getting to know the building, the community, and familiarizing myself with the unique needs of our school. My philosophy of education is that all children can learn, and their success is our success. I also believe educating the whole child is important, ensuring the social and emotional needs of each child are also nurtured.

To our students, I cannot wait to meet you! Since we are currently all virtual, I will be visiting each of your virtual classrooms to introduce myself and begin to get to know each of you.

In closing, please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions, concerns, or ideas that will continue the success of our school. I look forward to meeting you at the PTO meeting on Wednesday, January 20th, at 7:30 pm.

Sincerely,

Michele Higgins