

August 2014

Greetings,

The world has changed. Work has changed. Technology has changed. Communication has changed. The pace of the world has changed. Interconnectedness has changed. Collaboration has changed. Just about everything has changed!

In order to make sure each child in the Coxsackie-Athens Schools is ready for this changing world, a vision for college, career and citizenship readiness has emerged. Centered on the concept that each student will be inspired, have a purpose and a **PATHWAY TO SUCCESS**, our vision is founded on an uncompromising and relentless commitment to preparing students for college, career and citizenship; in other words, preparing students for their future. At the heart of our vision are three commitments: instruction that engages, culture that empowers, and technology that enables. We know if we are able to engage, empower and enable each student, they will be *inspired to achieve extraordinary success*.

As parents and caregivers, you have a vital role in the success of your child. Thus, we encourage you to look at your own child's individual growth and learning, along with evidence related to your child's progress. Here are some questions I encourage you to consider:

- Is your child happy to go to school and be engaged in learning?
- Can your child explain what she is learning and why? Can your child give examples of skills she has mastered?
- Is your child developing good work habits? Does he understand that he can become smarter through hard work?
- Does your child have one adult at school whom she trusts and who is committed to her success?
- Do we provide you with enough evidence of your child's progress?
- If you have concerns, have you reached out to your child's teacher(s) to share your perspective?

I encourage you to be engaged with your child's school, look at evidence of your own child's learning and work with your child's teachers to ensure your child is challenged, supported, engaged, empowered and enabled. We all prosper when parents are involved as the first teachers of their children.

Coxsackie-Athens Central has a proud and distinguished educational history, but we know we can always do better. We are committed to supporting our teachers as they find more effective and more engaging ways to improve the skills and knowledge of our children. We will provide classrooms where the instruction is engaging, the culture is empowering and the technology is enabling. We will be a place where partnerships with higher education, business and other regional assets are integrated into the daily learning of students and adults. Our schools will be a place that *inspires all learners to achieve extraordinary success*.

I look forward to strengthening our partnership with you, so together we *ensure success for each student*.

Please do not hesitate to come up to me and tell me, how we are doing.

Sincerely,

Randy Squier
Superintendent of Schools