
Jonathan P. Raymond, Superintendent

Dear Colleague



June 22, 2022

Dear Colleague:

When I was in high school, the head of school would always implore students to “finish strong!” At the time, those words meant study hard, compete all the way through athletic events, and give my all. While I still encourage our students to “finish strong,” these words have a broader meaning.

Over the last several weeks as I’ve visited our schools, attended musical and theater performances, awards events, and now graduations, I’ve seen and experienced school leadership teams, faculty and staff, and central district staff finishing strong. I see the exhaustion in your faces, smiles, and bodies as you push to the end – adding more learning, supporting a student with a Regents exam, perfecting that final graduation song, applauding our students’ accomplishments, making our facilities sparkle, and greeting families and friends in our schools as they celebrate their children’s successes. Your dedication, care, support, and love for our children and families is evident. Thank you!

Last week, we said thank you to our 2021-2022 retiring school district employees. Collectively, this group represents over 900 years of dedicated service to our community – incredible! We are humbled and grateful for all they have given and wish them well on their future endeavors. We also granted tenure to 45 talented educators. We are grateful for their service and commitment to New Rochelle City Schools. Thank you!

Tomorrow, I will address our 2022 graduates from New Rochelle High School. While I certainly intend to praise them for all they have overcome and accomplished, I will lift up an important ideal upon which this country was founded and the basis of two federal holidays – Juneteenth and Independence Day – freedom.

Through education comes opportunity and empowerment. My hope is we continue to do our part to educate, inspire, and empower our students so they become confident and passionately engaged learners who use their skills and unique voices to address the seemingly intractable issues facing our community, nation, and the world. Thank you for seeing our students, giving them a voice, and encouraging them to be the change in the world.

I hope you will take time to relax and recharge with family and friends this summer. Enjoy some quiet time and reflect on all we have accomplished together this year – the sense of community we are restoring. We are one New Rochelle.

With appreciation, respect, and thanks for your service to our students, families, and communities,

Superintendent of Schools

New Rochelle High School • Albert Leonard Middle School • Isaac E. Young Middle School • Henry Barnard Early Childhood Center
Columbus Elementary School • Daniel Webster Elementary School • George M. Davis Jr. Elementary School • Jefferson Elementary School
Trinity Elementary School • William B. Ward Elementary School