



# Binghamton City School District

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**June 24, 2022**

Dear Binghamton Families,

The 2021-2022 school year is officially behind us, and I would like to congratulate our staff, students, and families on their ongoing commitment to our schools and the Binghamton community. I am grateful to everyone who contributes to our district's success, and to all the students who give us hope. This year presented challenges that far exceeded what was anticipated, but with these challenges came new learning, growth, and solutions. I am very proud of what each and every student and employee has accomplished. Our students deserve the best, and their efforts to be their very best selves are valued and noticed.

June is always a whirlwind of a month, filled with so many year-end celebrations, complete with smiling faces and a few tears, knowing time together as we know it is coming to a close. I especially look forward to celebrating our esteemed Binghamton High School Class of 2022, who this Sunday, will turn their tassels and embark on their journey into the next phase of their lives. It is important for all of us to take the time to appreciate our students' achievements, no matter how great or small, and encourage them to find joy in their accomplishments.

While school is ending, important work, planning and preparation will continue across our district. We are in the midst of the strategic planning process, a collaborative process that occurs every five years. This process involves defining our district's mission, vision, and values, and creating a roadmap to accomplish our goals and achieve excellence. We have engaged administrators, school board members, community members, parents, staff, and students. We look forward to sharing our plans and how they will be measured with you in the coming months, along with the unveiling of a new Patriot athletic logo.

Additionally, we held five community meetings this month in response to the community requesting increased transparency and community engagement in the way the district is evaluating its buildings and their current use (or feasibility). The same information shared at the June 14 Board of Education meeting was presented, followed by an opportunity for individuals to ask questions and share perspectives and insight. I would like to thank those who have participated and shared their thoughts to date regarding the district's ongoing [feasibility study](#). The input gathered from these sessions will be shared with the Board of Education at its July 19 meeting, where next steps in the study will be discussed, including continued community engagement.

With all the excitement that comes with the end of the school year, let us be reminded that June is recognized as Pride Month. I hope that members of our school community who are LGBTQ+ feel welcomed, accepted, and loved in the Binghamton City School District, this month, and every month. We see you, support you, and celebrate you.

I am eager to experience and participate in all the positive progress that awaits us in our next school year. I hope the summer will be a fulfilling and a safe one for our students and families. You all deserve it!

Sincerely,

Tonia Thompson, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

***Educating, empowering and challenging all students to become productive, global citizens through innovative approaches to learning.***