



Millcreek Township School District

Millcreek Education Center

3740 West 26th Street • Erie, Pennsylvania 16506-2096 • (814) 835-5300



www.mtsd.org

"Building Foundations for Life"

February 2020

Dear Millcreek Township School District Students, Staff, Parents, and Community:

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Co-Acting Superintendents, we would like to thank the community, administrative staff, teachers, support personnel, and all others for their enthusiastic support of our District Mission: *"The Millcreek Township School District provides a world-class education that prepares students to reach their potential as life-long learners and responsible citizens."*

As we approach the last half of our 2019-2020 school year, we look forward to the many challenges and opportunities to continue enhancing our District's success. The search process for a new Superintendent began with hiring Ray and Associates, Inc., to conduct the search for our District's next leader. We will keep the public informed, via our website (www.mtsd.org), and will be asking for stakeholder input to help focus desirable attributes of candidates. Final candidates will be interviewed at a public meeting.

Our responsibility, and duty, is to advocate for you and your children. Student success is our product, and we are dedicated to giving our students the tools and experience to help them succeed in whatever endeavor they choose after high school. We encourage you to be an active participant in your child's education. Security is a priority and the Board is considering several projects that will improve safety for our students.

Many new initiatives have been implemented for our students. At the elementary level, we formed a Literacy Focus group to address future needs. At the middle school level, we are investigating ways to provide support for students in the areas of language arts and math. At the high schools, we continue to support and grow our Distinguished Scholar Program, Advanced Placement course offerings, and other elective offerings. Soon, we will release magnificent news related to our McDowell Manufacturing Academy. With the recent award of some grants to help fund these aforementioned initiatives, we are poised to do great things for our students. The Millcreek Township School District maintains its students, faculty, families, and community at the center of its decisions. The theme for our professional development for the 2020-2021 school year is "professional self-care." This theme will translate into our social and emotional learning curriculum, will push towards positive school culture within the District and outside of the District, and will focus on caring for all members of our learning community.

The next Superintendent will lead our District at a time when our financial position is the strongest it's been in 15 years. Our improved financial position allowed us to secure \$50 million in debt at a true interest rate of 2%. Details explaining our improved credit rating and financial position can be found on the District website under the Business Department.

With the recent approval of a bond issue, we plan to update mechanical, electrical, and plumbing infrastructure across most of our buildings starting in the summer of 2020 and continuing for the next 3 years. Documentation supporting these updates are found on the District's website under the Maintenance Department. The Stantec report and Equipment Life Expectancy report validate the need to replace/upgrade equipment or services which are no

longer supported. These topics were addressed in our last Town Hall meeting. These needed updates and repairs are required to assure our facilities are first class for our students and taxpayers.

We are dedicated to communicate with our public, and while we have several communication venues in place, we are investigating adding other tools to continually improve this endeavor. The District will host Town Hall meetings for public input on a variety of topics.

In closing, we encourage all stakeholders to attend our Board meetings and to get involved in your School District. We want to hear from you! Thank you for allowing us to serve, and we look forward to continued success in our District.

Sincerely,



John DiPlacido
School Board President



Darcie L. Moseley
Co-Acting Superintendent



Aaron O'Toole
Co-Acting Superintendent