

Burlington County Special Services School District www.burlcoschools.org

Discover Your Potential

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August 10, 2023

Dear BCSSSD Parents, Guardians and Students,

I am delighted to take this opportunity to warmly welcome all students, parents, and guardians to the new academic year at the Burlington County Special Services School District. As the Superintendent, I would like to extend my heartfelt appreciation to each member of our school community for your continuous support, cooperation, and commitment toward the important work we do at BCSSSD and in education. Please continue to follow us on our social media channels for important updates and ongoing progress made within the district.

As the summer creates opportunities to rest, relax and be refreshed, we at BCSSSD have had an eye on the start of the new school year and creating a great experience for the students entrusted to us. New signs at our entrances will greet our visitors. We also anticipate the completion of our state of the art playground by the end of September. We are also happy that updates will be completed by the end of the summer to our HVAC systems across campuses as well as upgrades to our parking lot. In addition to a number of new staff who will be joining us this year, we are excited to welcome two assistant principals Roseatta Darcy and Michael Berger to our administrative team to support Principal Dennis Leigh and Director of CST and Related Services and ESU, Dr. Bobbie Downs.

As we embrace the future, starting at the end of this month, our support staff and administrators will be trained on the latest artificial intelligence tools to enhance personal and professional growth, efficiency and workflow. I am pleased to mention that we have increased our footprint in interactive technology to support student individual programmatic needs. As we learn more about the new tools and applications, we are very much aware of the importance of security, safety and privacy which will be a high priority.

We strive to provide a safe, inclusive, and engaging learning environment that promotes student success, well-being, respect, tolerance, diversity and equity of opportunity. We have implemented various programs and initiatives that focus on mental health, resilience, and promoting positive relationships. Our dedicated Child Study Team is available to provide guidance and support to students and families, addressing individual needs and concerns. Our teachers, staff, and administrators are ready to continue to nurture your child's potential, ignite their imaginations, and equip them with the skills and knowledge they will need to succeed academically, emotionally, physically and personally.

We believe in cultivating a sense of belonging, respect, and responsibility among students, teachers, staff, and parents. Working together, we can create a positive atmosphere that fosters a growth mindset, resilience, and a lifelong love for learning. We encourage open communication between home and school, recognizing the vital role parents and guardians play in their child's education.

BCSSSD and the Board of Education are committed to providing an exceptional education that supports innovation, promotes student well-being, and ensures social and emotional support. We believe that innovation plays a crucial role in preparing our students for the ever-changing world they will inherit.

As we look forward to the start of the school year, we remind our parents and guardians prior to the start of the school year to be mindful of a requirement to sign off on the Genesis Parent Portal which will require the update to student medical information, family contact information and acknowledgement of key policies pertaining to school operations. We thank you in advance for your cooperation and collaboration. Please also look out for a welcome back communication from your child's building principal.

The first day of school for students is Thursday, September 7, 2023. This will be an early dismissal for students. Important information may be found on our district website at www.burlcoschools.org and select BCSSSD which include some of the following:

- · The District Calendar
- The Parent/Student Handbook
- · Information regarding emergency school closings
- Information regarding cafeteria services
- District Policies
- · Information regarding the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act for students

We wish everyone a pleasant remainder of the summer, and hope you join in our enthusiasm for a great year of learning. We thank you for entrusting your child to BCSSSD and thank our Board of Education and the Burlington County Board of Commissioners for their ongoing support of our mission and purpose.

Sincerely yours,

Gr

Dr. Christopher Nagy Superintendent