June 24, 2016

Dear Huntington School District Community Members,

I’d like to take this moment to thank all of you – students, staff, parents and community members – for an outstanding 2015-2016 school year. We can take great pride as a school community in what has been accomplished across the district in the classroom, on stage, on the field and in the greater community.

Year-end events are always bittersweet. The looks (and tears) on the faces of students and parents at moving-up ceremonies and celebrations clearly suggest that students have learned and grown so much, have made everlasting memories and have become attached to their Huntington schools. They will soon realize, however, that this is their time to fly and that even greater things lie ahead for them.

As cliché as it sounds, it really does take a village. Thank you to our teachers and student support staff for the work they have done with their students, day in and day out. They could not achieve what they do without the support and encouragement provided by an exceptional group of teaching assistants, aides and monitors who care just as deeply about the children with whom they work. Additional thanks to our administrative and chairperson leaders. They remain at the forefront in terms of their professional knowledge and continually strive to develop and fine tune programs and strategies designed to help all children succeed.

To do what we do daily requires the additional support of an outstanding clerical staff. These individuals get the job done without fanfare and make so many more things possible for our students and staff. In a district with eight buildings, our custodial, grounds and maintenance staff members make things look easy when that is not always the case. They work tirelessly to make certain that our facilities sparkle and function soundly. Furthermore, in this age of rapidly changing and expanding technologies, our technology staff has done wonders in terms of making sure our networks and devices operate flawlessly and continuously.

Our school nurses are on call throughout the school day and continue to address every bump and bruise with both professionalism and compassion. Our security staff members not only keep our buildings and children safe and secure, but they genuinely come to know and connect with the children in their buildings. Additionally, our food service staff members are well known in all buildings for helping keep our children well-nourished and health-conscious.
I’d also like to express my sincerest appreciation to our Huntington parents and PTA leaders who are true partners in the educational process and are always there to provide support and lend a hand. And lastly, thank you to the students of Huntington for what you contribute to our school community and who provide the motivation for all of us to do what we do each year.

While challenges may continue to surface, together we will navigate them with common sense and integrity. Together we will continue to successfully prepare our students for the next stages of their lives, both academically and personally.

I wish you all the most relaxing and enjoyable of summers. My heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to members of the accomplished Huntington High School Class of 2016!

Sincerely,

James W. Polansky
Superintendent of Schools