



## Huntington Union Free School District

*"A Tradition of Excellence since 1657"*

James W. Polansky

Superintendent of Schools

August 24, 2016

Dear Huntington School Community Members:

As September approaches, I am honored to welcome parents, staff, and nearly 4,600 students back to Huntington's eight schools. I'd like to extend a special welcome to students entering our schools for the first time, including members of the Huntington High School class of 2029! Please accept my heartfelt thanks for the trust that you have placed in us to provide high quality and broad-ranging learning experiences for the children in our charge!

For generations, our schools have been the academic home to students from across our community and play a critical role in their young lives. As superintendent, I am privileged to serve in a place where traditions are held in such high regard, and where teaching and learning are so deeply valued. This mindset clearly helps us to ensure that every student can find success in and beyond the classroom, and also understand the importance of service to others.

Our hats are off to the esteemed members of Huntington High School's Class of 2016 who walked the podium this past June with pride, and are now off to some of the finest post-secondary institutions with over \$11 million in scholarship monies in hand. The last school year featured the accomplishments of Huntington students and staff at all grade levels – in the core disciplines, in the arts, on the field and in the community. It is without question that the coming year will be characterized by similar achievements and much more!

Our continuous improvement efforts will help to ensure that the high quality of our schools is upheld and the opportunities for our students, both present and future, are sustained. We will work diligently to help students develop the knowledge and skills they will need as they progress through their academic and professional careers. Additionally, we will maintain our attention toward identifying their individual strengths and needs, while promoting a district-wide culture of tolerance and respect.

Open lines of communication remain essential to the educational process. As a district, we will continue to do our very best to keep our community informed of the latest developments on the local, state and federal levels that have the potential to impact our students and schools. We encourage you to ask questions and provide feedback routinely. As in years past and with

political winds continuing to swirl, we will surely face unanticipated challenges and opportunities as the year progresses. Please know that we will address related matters with transparency, and maintain our efforts in terms of inclusion and collaboration with members of the district community. I encourage you to remain tuned in to district news by visiting the district's recently upgraded website ([www.hufsd.edu](http://www.hufsd.edu)) daily, and by following its Facebook, Twitter and Instagram page feeds.

Upon visiting our buildings this fall and hearing from your children's principal and teacher(s), you will surely notice the results of much work on and improvement to district programs, services and facilities that occurred prior to and during the summer months. Our school classrooms and hallways are currently sparkling and eagerly anticipating the soon-to-return student presence. Be reminded that school opens for all students on **Wednesday, September 7**.

On behalf of the Board of Education and administration, please accept my gratitude for your support of our schools and students and, on a personal level, for the opportunity to lead and work with you as your superintendent.

I wish you a productive and enjoyable 2016-17 campaign!

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Polansky". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

James W. Polansky  
Superintendent of Schools