

## **Huntington Union Free School District**

"A Tradition of Excellence Since 1657"

James W. Polansky

Superintendent of Schools

August 27, 2014

**Dear Huntington School Community Members:** 

Welcome back!! The opening of a new school year is all about excitement and anticipation of the days ahead. As we bid a fond farewell to members of the Huntington High School Class of 2014, we can once again take pride in their accomplishments and celebrate a successful past year for students across the district in the classroom, on stage, on the athletic field and in the community.

We are truly fortunate in Huntington to offer a high quality curricular program at all levels, as well as extensive and broad ranging extracurricular opportunities. Last year, student participation and performance in advanced coursework continued an increasing trend. Huntington students earned numerous honors and recognition in all disciplines and logged thousands of community service hours. Class of 2014 graduates will attend prestigious colleges and universities throughout the country, many with substantial scholarship monies in hand. We expect all of this to continue during the coming year and beyond!

In Huntington, we continue to work through challenges associated with the ongoing standards-based transition. We will remain focused on building our instructional capacity and actively engaging our students in the educational process. District teachers and staff will continue to foster welcoming school environments and authentic learning experiences. We are committed to developing well rounded students and to preparing them for what they will surely experience in a global, technologically-driven 21st century society. At the same time, we will remain mindful of the facts that funding for new resources and additional support services is scarce and that realizing efficiencies is more critical than ever as we face the current prospect of a multi-year property tax freeze.

During the coming year, we will enthusiastically re-open the doors of full-day kindergarten classrooms throughout the district. We are excited about the expansion of the Jack Abrams STEM Magnet School program, which will include grade six and four additional sections overall. We are also eager to continue in our expansion of STEM enrichment initiatives throughout the district. We have worked diligently to expand opportunities for parents and community members to take an active role in Huntington education and learn firsthand about what our students experience daily.

The 2014-15 school year brings with it endless possibilities for the Huntington school community. Once again, welcome back and an emphatic welcome to members of the Huntington High School Class of 2027!

Sincerely.

<del>Jam</del>es W. Polansky

Superintendent of Schools

James Polanch