



Nutley Public Schools

Mr. Kent Bania, Superintendent
315 Franklin Avenue
Nutley, New Jersey 07110

August 30, 2022

Dear Staff, Parents, Students and Community Members,

At the June Board of Education meeting, I had the honor of being appointed as Superintendent of the Nutley Public Schools. I officially began this role on July 1st, after having held the position of Assistant Superintendent for two years.

I began my career in education in Nutley, upon graduating from Rutgers University, in 1999. I have been a part of the Nutley community for the past 23 years as teacher, coach, Science Coordinator, and Director of Curriculum, prior to my recent and current roles. I, like you, know what a unique and special place Nutley is.

As I take on this new leadership role and begin the school year, I want to acknowledge our tremendous team who has worked hard all summer to prepare for our students. Our principals, coordinators, Central Office staff, secretaries, custodial, maintenance and grounds staff, and our teachers and support staff members are second to none. Collectively, we all care about our students and their future successes.

District and Board Goals

Our goal continues to be to provide the best possible education and opportunities for our students, in all grades, at all schools. We hope to support and inspire them as they go on to become citizens of the world. They will leave our district confident and well-educated, with the ability to be independent, free thinkers who empathize with others, contribute to their communities and think critically and logically. Our district goals can be found [here](#).

Last month, the Board of Education crafted their goals for the year, all of which are in line with what I know we can achieve together. They can be found, [linked here](#), on our website.

Opening Day

I am excited for the opportunity to lead the district and continue to move it forward. As summer winds down, I look forward to seeing staff on Thursday, September 1st and students for the first full day of school on Tuesday, September 6th. Your building principals will communicate with more information.

Open Houses

The district has scheduled in-person Open House dates. We are excited to welcome back parents and visitors to our buildings.

All elementary schools will hold their Back to School Night on Wednesday, September 21st.

JHWMS will hold their Back to School Night on Thursday, September 22nd.

NHS will hold their Back to School Night on Thursday, September 29th.
Buildings will be in touch with times and more specifics as the dates approach.

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COVID Restrictions

We are looking forward to a return of traditional school practices, with masking continuing to be optional and a return to pre-pandemic distancing guidelines. As we await the NJDOH guidance for the upcoming school year, we are hopeful that the new guidance will help to support the needs of all students. As soon as we receive new guidance from the state, we will follow up with more details.

Curriculum Updates

Over the summer, the ELA curriculum was revised based on the findings of last year's program review. We will also implement PE and Health curriculum to meet the 2020 NJ Department of Education Health and PE standards. Also, the district has provided information specifically intended to build transparency, as well as help parents who wish to opt out their students regarding the 2020 Health Standards. Information is [Linked here.](#)

Safety and Security

The state has mandated that crisis and threat assessment teams be in place by next June, 2023. The District has been proactive in safety and security and has this team already in place.

In addition, at Monday night's Board meeting, the district approved additional Safe Schools Resource Officers. We will now employ a full security team, to cover all district schools.

Portal Opening

The portal for elementary schools will open on Wednesday, August 31st at 3PM. Students/parents can check the portal then for schedules.

I look forward to the 2022-2023 school year and working together to have an exciting and productive year.

Best,



Kent Bania
Superintendent of Schools