



## Superintendent's Report September 13, 2023

The 2023-2024 school year is officially underway! Our faculty and staff returned on September 1 and 5, 2023, and we welcomed 1,188 students on Wednesday, September 6, 2023. I hope that our students have enjoyed the first six days of school.

I want to thank our incredible educators, support staff, and administrators for their dedication and efforts to prepare a safe, nurturing, and welcoming environment for our students. You did an amazing job; the Closter School community is stronger because of you!

Also, thank you to the Closter PTO, who provided a wonderful first-day breakfast for our faculty, staff, and administrators on September 1, 2023. We truly are grateful for your hospitality on the first day of school.

As we start the new school year, I want to congratulate the 168 students who attended our literacy, mathematics, STEM, art, and special education summer programs. Kudos to these students for dedicating part of their summer time to learning, and thank you to the teachers who worked with them.

All of our students deserve recognition for their enthusiasm and adaptability as they transition from summer back to school. Seeing their eagerness to learn, reconnect with friends, and explore new opportunities is inspiring. I love the start of the school year, with all of its excitement, opportunity, and potential that lies ahead.

We held a Bond Referendum Information Session for Closter residents on Thursday, September 7, 2023, and an information session via Zoom for 23 Closter PTO members on Tuesday, September 12, 2023. We answered the questions of those who attended and encouraged people to vote. Last night, some Board trustees were present at the Tenakill Back-to-School Night to remind people to vote and to answer questions about the referendum. We will be present at the three upcoming Back to School Nights. I encourage all who are U.S. registered voters to vote on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at your usual polling place between 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. For more information about the bond referendum, please visit [our district webpage](#). Thank you to the entire Board and our administrators for preparing the bond referendum and communicating with our community stakeholders about it.

Mark your calendars for the remaining Back-to-School Nights:

- Thursday, September 14, 2023: Grades 3 – 4 , Hillside Elementary School, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, September 19, 2023: Grades 7 – 8, Tenakill Middle School, 7:00 – 8:45 p.m.
- Thursday, September 21, 2023: Grades PreK – 2, Hillside Elementary School, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

We will observe Hispanic Heritage Month starting Friday, September 15, 2023. Students will learn about the cultures and contributions of people of Hispanic heritage throughout the month.

Let's all work together to make this a wonderful and productive school year!

*Vincent Mc Hale*