



# Smithtown Central School District

26 New York Avenue, Smithtown, New York 11787

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**Mark Secaur, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools  
(631) 382-2006

September 4, 2024

Dear Smithtown School Community,

Just a few hours ago, I had the pleasure of welcoming back our entire staff as we finalize our preparations for the 2024-2025 school year. It was great to see everyone and feel the excitement and nervous energy that always precedes a school year. I hope you and yours had a wonderful summer with friends and family, but it is now time for school and we can't wait to meet our new families and welcome back our returning students and their families. A great deal of effort goes into preparing for a school year and we very much look forward to our schools, once again, becoming the vibrant centers of learning you have come to know and expect.

As is always the case, our primary focus will be on teaching and learning. To optimize the learning that takes place, we will place a particular emphasis on student attendance and engagement. Every single one of our students needs to feel a sense of belonging, purpose and value. To emphasize this work, we are proud to introduce the **Smithtown Promise** which outlines four principles and 16 habits for adults and young people to establish and nurture. The principles and habits are outlined [HERE](#). We believe the Smithtown Promise will assist us as we seek to provide our students with the opportunities they need to grow academically, socially and emotionally. Additional information related to this initiative will be shared via a separate letter once the school year begins.

Our work this year will, once again, be guided by the goals set by our Board of Education found [HERE](#) as well as the [Smithtown 2027 Strategic Plan](#). As Antoine de Saint-Exupéry once said "*A goal without a plan is just a wish.*" With this quote in mind, we have sought to align our collective efforts via a goal setting process that allows us to both track progress and identify work that may need to be done as we seek to attain our goals.

As the new school year begins, please know that we are here and ready to assist your children on their journey to a future that is bright and full of promise. We look forward to seeing you everyone tomorrow!

Sincerely,

Mark Secaur, Ed.D.  
Superintendent