



CHESTER UPLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of Superintendent

232 W. 9th Street-1st Floor

CHESTER, PA 19013

Dear Chester Upland Families,

As the new Superintendent of Schools, I am proud and excited to reach out to you in great anticipation for the new school year ahead.

Chester Upland and nearly all other districts are preparing to welcome students back for in-person instruction on the first day of school, which for us is scheduled for Monday, August 30th. Every fall brings with it great excitement for the start of school year; but this year seems even more special given the school closings over the past two years resulting from the pandemic.

Local, state, and federal health authorities have determined that it is safe for schools to reopen this fall, and we look forward to welcoming back all our students, faculty, and staff. There will be the need for some changes, possible restrictions, added cleanings, and other safety precautions, but at this point, we are fully preparing for a return to school. As research indicates, and as I think as we all know to be true, in person learning is the best option for nearly all students to learn and grow, academically and socially. We recognize, however, that because of compromised immune systems and/or other health factors, some families may wish to continue in or opt for a cyber school option, and it is our intent to continue to provide that option and service this school year.

During the next few weeks, you will see positive signs that the new school year is right around the corner. Construction projects in several of our schools are underway, with a mid-August completion date. Parents can expect additional information in mid-August regarding their children's schedule and/or classroom assignment. In addition, updated information based on the latest health recommendations, such as guidance/requirements regarding masks, social distancing, and other initiatives to be put in place to help promote a safe environment for all our students, faculty, and staff will be provided.

Again, it is with great pride and excitement that I reach out to you as the new Superintendent of Schools in Chester Upland, and I truly look forward to meeting and working with everyone this coming school year.

Enthusiastically,

Dr. Craig L. Parkinson