

HARRINGTON PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT

ADAM D. FRIED, ED.D.
SUPERINTENDENT/BOARD SECRETARY

November 15, 2019

Dear Harrington Park Families,

This year the Harrington Park School District continues to look to the future of this community by continuing to be one of the most innovative school districts in the state as well as to grow with the changing demographics of our family members. As a family, we have always promised to make the HP community our priority and to understand the needs of this incredibly diverse population of members.

Our focus in Harrington Park School District remains constant. We believe all children will “Lead the Way” in the development of our nation's great future. As a family, we care about each and every student and we aim to show it by providing the best professional educators, administrators, mentors, and advocates to our entire community. We must continue to be a place where students are engaged and where they meet challenges within a safe and nurturing environment. Through programs based around Health and Wellness, we are helping students and family members build productive and sustaining relationships with the knowledge that our sole purpose is to support them as they become the leaders of tomorrow.

Within our school plan, we must be held accountable to the promise of educational excellence as well in the establishment of future leaders. This year in support of the strategic plan and our commitment to meet the needs of our changing community, we will expand our current preschool program.

Our family focus in the creation of the Developmental Learning Center will be on the child as an active learner that recognizes the family’s important role in supporting this vision. The daily life of the “Little Spartans” will be rich in experiences that draw on the children’s abilities and interests while stimulating new learning and curiosity. Attention to the growth and development of each child and family is a hallmark of the Harrington Park School’s award winning mission, one that forges strong relationships and supports children to make meaningful connections that cross generations.

In the Developmental Learning Center, our professional educators will work collaboratively to create a rich environment where children's interests are valued and explored. This child-centered

“Leading the Way”

approach leads to the emergence of an in-depth curricular study. This integrated curriculum and hands-on approach is used to teach skills and concepts in the arts, fostering problem-solving ability and independent thinking. Every experience opens opportunities to explore the chosen topic as well as related topics, depending on the shared experience or special interests of the group. Children are encouraged to ask questions and to find answers through research, experimentation, observation, and exploration.

The Harrington Park School and the DLC staff will include specialists in science, literacy, library, studio art, music, movement and social and emotional growth. The classroom teachers and specialists all work closely together to ensure that the curriculum is well-integrated and age appropriate. Our program carefully balances the integration of literacy, math, science, music and movement. Community play, math games, journal writing, and outdoor time add to the richness of the experience.

As family members, our community will play an active and critical role in our children's experience at the DLC. From chaperoning field trips to celebrating classroom experiences and school wide events, there will be many ways for our family members to participate in this exciting adventure. We want our children to be embraced by our G-Squad (Grandma/Grandpa Squad) powered by our relationship with the community's Club 60 as well as a peer-to-peer mentoring program that we are developing with our 8th grade leadership program. As we like to say "Once a Spartan always a Spartan".

Please join me in the expansion of this rich and loving family as we include our 3 and 4 year old "Little Spartans" in the creation of our Developmental Learning Center. Help us to allow the next generation to "Lead the Way". For more information please visit us at www.hpsd.org

Sincerely,

Adam D. Fried, Ed.D.
Superintendent