

PS/MS114Q
THE BELLE HARBOR SCHOOL
400 Beach 135TH Street
Belle Harbor, NY 11694
Telephone: (718)634-3382 Fax: (718)945-4510

Elizabeth Welsome, Principal

Deana Folchetti-Puglin, Assistant Principal (IA)

September 12, 2018

Welcome Back Families!

I want to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back to the 2018-2019 school year. We survived the extreme heat and humidity of the first few days of school and hopefully we're in for some more comfortable temperatures in the near future. It was a busy summer as I prepared for the new school year. However, the building is not quite as exciting without the energy of the staff and students so I am happy to have everyone back! Mrs. Folchetti and I visited each classroom last week to welcome our students back and we were received with smiles and excitement from all.

I spent a great deal of time interviewing and hiring some wonderful new additions to the PS/MS 114 staff. We have two new teachers, Ms. Cox and Ms. Amabile and our new guidance counselor is Ms. Weiss. As a staff, we look forward to continuing our own learning so that we are able to best meet the needs of the amazing children who enter our doors each day.

It is hard to believe that I am beginning my second year as principal of The Belle Harbor School. I am so pleased when I reflect on the hard work that we, as a staff, have accomplished thus far and I am so excited about all that is yet to come.

Last year we implemented a new writing program, brought advisory periods to our middle school, and began to implement social emotional learning across the school. This year, we continue our push for rigorous, engaging instruction through 5th grade departmentalization, joining the Algebra for All Initiative and a return to technology, including coding and computer programming. We have purchased the Teachers College Reading program for Kindergarten and First grade along with many new resources for small group reading instruction across grades. We continue our push for social emotional learning with training in The Beautiful Me program and advisory periods in grade 5. We also look forward to building parent support in areas such as grant writing and special education. These are just a few of the many initiatives implemented last year and set for the upcoming school year. We will keep you updated at our monthly PTA meetings (please come!) and through our website and Remind app.

Our Meet the Teacher Night is set for Monday, September 17th from 4:30-7:30. A separate schedule will be sent home and posted on our website this week. Please come and meet our staff and learn about the expectations and curriculum for this school year.

Looking ahead, our first Dress for a Cause will be held on Friday, September 28th and we will wear Gold shirts to raise money for Childhood Cancer Awareness. Our donation will be made to The St. Baldrick's Foundation.

Thank you all for the on-going support as we strive to be the best we can be for the students of The Belle Harbor School.

See you soon,
Mrs. Welsome