

Principal's Log 2.1

Dear TMS Families,

I am so pleased to be back for a second year as the Principal of this wonderful school. I owe gratitude to many of you for your help last year. Change is always challenging. Many of you helped carry the load and I am grateful.

Last year, I learned that TMS is a very special place with deeply rooted traditions that provide strength and consistency, and innovative teachers engaged in continual growth. I look forward to supporting the process of educating the students and families of Tuckahoe. Please welcome our new Staff Members: Nicole Dulaney - Earth Science / 8th grade Science, Ellie D'Angelo - Library Aide, and Christina Clemente - Special Education.

This year, we begin the first year of our strategic planning initiative. Birthed from research and experience, gathered from rigorous data-gathering processes, our four areas of emphasis are Social and Emotional Learning (SEL), Diverse Learners, Contemporary Teaching and Learning and Professional Learning. Task forces have formed to learn and grow in these areas. I encourage everyone to get involved in these initiatives.

As we open the year, in support of our SEL learning, I ask that you keep this quote in mind and share it with your children. It's from the writing of Viktor E. Frankel. "Between stimulus and response, there is a space. In that space, there is a power to choose our response. In our response lies our growth and our freedom." I share this quote with you in the interest of mental health wellness. It is hard to say goodbye to summer.

Our family and professional lives are so busy, that sometimes a reminder of the wonderful work we do in partnership with students can get lost in thinking about past events or future tasks. Let's agree to take care of each other as we embark upon another school year.

Enjoy the first few days of falling back into routines and rituals, organizing supplies, and setting goals. I know this will be another amazing year for Tuckahoe Middle School.

Sincerely,
Gregory Stiefel, Principal TMS
<https://twitter.com/GregStiefel>

Please be advised that there will be no westbound traffic on Middle Road during arrival in the morning and all parents must use the Ridge Street entrance to Middle Road to drop off. Please click on the link below for a map showing the flow of traffic.

[MS HS Drop-Off and Pick-Up Map](#)

Be sure to check out our website for PTA flyers, calendar snapshots, and other reminders.
http://tms.tuckahoeschools.org/201718_weekly_enewsletter