Dear Middletown Families,

The COVID-19 pandemic presents new challenges to school systems throughout the world, however, within those challenges lie opportunities to reimagine learning in unique and innovative ways while also ensuring students and staff are safe and emotionally supported.

As Superintendent, Dr. Conner shared in recent communication to the Middletown community, Middletown Public Schools will begin the 2020-2021 academic year in a hybrid model. Hybrid learning combines face-to-face and online teaching into one cohesive experience for learners. Approximately half of the class sessions will be in school, while the other half will have students working online remotely. A hybrid model offers our youngsters unique learning opportunities and allows students to benefit from two formats. Personalization, engagement and critical thinking are the goals we seek in this learning environment that combines the best aspects of in-person and online teaching.

The Middletown Public School hybrid model will have schools operate on alternating schedules with students in A/B cohorts. Operational structures will function at a reduced ratio of 50%. The COVID-19 pandemic is an ever-evolving and fluid situation. Similarly, our learning environments will likely evolve over the course of the year.

Teachers will create content, design lessons and assess student understanding within various platforms, such as Google Classroom, Padlet, Seesaw, and Zoom. Students will engage in online classroom communities that encourage collaboration, discussion and creativity. Opportunities for asynchronous learning on platforms such as Pathblazer, Footsteps2Brilliance and Waggle will promote supplemental quality learning experiences for our learners.

Students participating in live in-school instruction will utilize district provided devices to access lessons, instructional materials, activities and assessments. Devices will also be used for real-time communication and collaboration between the teacher and students, including students learning at home.

A survey has been shared with all families to complete in PowerSchool. Once schools receive the data from the surveys, student schedules and cohorts will be finalized. We look forward to the opportunity to serve your child(ren) for the 2020-2021 academic school year and are committed to providing a quality learning experience to all our learners whether it occurs on-site or virtually.

Sincerely,

Magda Parvey
Dr. Magda Parvey
Chief Academic Officer