



SYRACUSE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Jaime Alicea, Superintendent of Schools

Huntington PK-8 School

Joanne M. Harlow, Principal

August 2018

Dear Huntington Families,

Welcome all new and returning families to the 2018-2019 school year! We are excited to be starting a new year with you and your child. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children's success and we will do our very best to carry out those responsibilities. We are indeed a supportive and caring community with the common goals of nurturing responsible, caring students and promoting high-level learning. We ask that you guide and help support your child's learning.

School for students in grades K-8 begins on Thursday, September 6th, and PK students start on Friday, September 7th, with free breakfast and lunch.

- **Kindergarten Orientation**-September 5th from 1:00-3:00 pm in classrooms
- **Back-to-School Open House for all families**- Wednesday, Sept. 12th at 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
- **PK Orientation**- We are happy to welcome a new PK teacher, Ms. Payne! PK Orientation is scheduled for Thursday, September 6th, at 11:00 am (Ms. Payne); and at 10:00 and 1:00 (Ms. Appleton); in classrooms.

Each year brings positive change; we are delighted to be welcoming several new teachers in our elementary grades as well as our middle school grades. Our staff have been busy all summer participating in professional development and planning, and we are eager to begin working with your child. This year we are continuing to focus on K-2 Literacy, ensuring that all students achieve mastery of reading skills by third grade. We continue to implement Personalized Learning school-wide, and students in grades K-8 will be engaged in setting and monitoring their own individual learning and academic goals. Instruction will be differentiated to meet students' needs based on data, learning styles, and interests. At the middle school, students will be focused on setting college and career goals, studying programs and careers, conducting research, etc., and setting specific short-term and long-term objectives to achieve those goals.

We are continuing to identify ways to ensure that all students learn in a safe, orderly environment. One very important policy we are still enforcing is students' use of cell phones. Electronic media which is not designated for classroom use is NOT PERMITTED in the classroom, hallways, cafeteria, playground, or restrooms. All electronic devices must remain out of sight (in backpacks, lockers, etc.) and turned off. We ask for your support in this. Students are free to use the phones in the main office in case of an emergency.

As you may have noticed, our **building renovation** is now underway. Until **November** at the earliest, there will be **no entrance into either parking lot for parents to park, drop off, or pick up**. All walkers must walk

along the [barricaded] sidewalk from Sunnycrest, and enter through the double cafeteria doors. There will be a designated sidewalk erected for walkers and parents to walk from Sunnycrest. All busses will still drop students off around the back of the building until the new front bus loop is completed. At **dismissal**, all walkers will exit through the double cafeteria doors and walk out to Sunnycrest. Parent pick-ups will again need to be waiting for their child on Sunnycrest or the surrounding streets. Staff and extra security will be on hand to assist in this process and ensure everyone's safety. Help us keep every child safe during this process by abiding by the postings and street signs, as well as security personnel. Please be mindful of walkers on Sunnycrest as they arrive and depart from school. Hopefully this process will be much improved by Thanksgiving, and please watch for more information as school begins.

During the first week of school, teachers will be sending home envelopes with important school communication. Please look this material over and return it back to school with your child ASAP. It is **crucial** that we have updated phone numbers and addresses. Please also make sure you have notified Transportation (435-4260) of any changes (i.e. home address, daycare, etc.) if your child rides a bus.

To stay informed throughout the year, please log onto our webpage at www.syracusecityschools.com, and follow us on Twitter [@HuntingtonSCSD](https://twitter.com/HuntingtonSCSD). Our PTO also has a website (www.huntingtonschoolpto.org) with a link to their Facebook page. Please consider joining or attending the PTO this year, which benefits ALL students at our school! The list for recommended **school supplies** can be found on the Huntington School home page. We thank you so much for your contributions and donations.

Again, welcome! The staff and I are excited to begin the new school year with you and your child. We look forward to seeing your child in school, **on time, every day**, supporting them in their academic growth, and to building a strong partnership with all of our families. We hope to see everyone on September 12th at our Back-to-School Open House!

Sincerely,

Joanne Harlow, Principal
Dan Evans, Vice Principal
Leanna Kirch, Vice Principal
Jerome Watts, Vice Principal

***Huntington PK-8 School, where all school community members are learners, leaders,
and global citizens.***

“Every child, every day!”