



WARE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Dear Ware Learning Community,

Good afternoon! I hope this letter finds everyone doing well. With three weeks of school under our belts the buildings are abuzz with student learning and activities. It was nice to return without any restrictions on face coverings, social distancing, contact tracing, or any other requirements of living through a public health crisis. It is evident within the buildings of how happy students are being back in school with no restrictions and having the feel of the “old normal” way of educating our students. Knowing the importance of how to mitigate COVID, I continue to encourage people to follow guidance provided to us from our school nurses in the *News from the Nurses Newsletter* which can be found on our website at https://www.wareps.org/news/whats_new/news_from_the_nurse.

Some of the impact left by the pandemic is the lack of personnel as we continue to seek an Engineering teacher at the JS High School in addition to a few paraprofessional openings. As we transition out of the pandemic we continue to struggle with substitutes throughout the district. This summer the School Committee adjusted the rate of pay for substitutes in hopes of attracting additional individuals to substitute for Ware Public Schools. If you are interested in substitute teaching, please apply [here](#).

As the weather begins to cool, our thoughts are into a new academic school year. With our return to school comes Fall Open House for all buildings. The dates for this event at each building include the following:

- **SMK:**
 - Pre-school & Kindergarten, **September 27th** from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
 - Grades 1-3, **September 29th** from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.
- **WMS:**
 - Grades 4-6, **September 22nd** from 6:00 – 7:30 pm
- **WJSHS:**
 - Grades 7-12, **October 4th** from 6:00 – 7:30 pm

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Fall Open Houses!

This year proves to be an extremely busy one as there are a few initiatives going on within the district. This year the district will undertake work to establish a Strategic Plan. To assure we hear from all stakeholders, meetings will be held and surveys given in order to capture all people’s voices and concerns. Please be on the lookout for times, locations, and survey links to collect this information.

To assure we are reflecting on our practices throughout the spectrum of work we undertake daily, other initiatives occurring this year within the district include the District Literacy Team, the Culturally Responsive Leadership Team, and the Social Emotional Learning Team. Thanks to everyone who is an active participant to all the initiatives going on throughout the district. I look forward to the important work before us.

Have a good weekend,

Dr. Marlene A. DiLeo