



Public Schools of Edison Township

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Bernard F. Bragen, Jr., Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

August 16, 2022

Dear Colleague,

Welcome to the start of the 2022-2023 school year! I hope this summer was a happy and productive one, providing you an opportunity to recharge and energize yourself for the start of a new school year. Ours is a unique profession where we can reinvent ourselves annually with the start of each new school year; bringing new students, and maybe new grade levels, buildings, and even new assignments. I challenge you to use this opportunity to become the best you possibly can be. Teaching is a noble profession and a vocation where we are able to change the world one child at a time, positively impacting the future of our community every day. You should be proud of your efforts and your chosen calling and what you accomplish on a daily basis.

Please also know that we remain committed to doing all we can to support your continued success. Your principals, assistant principals, supervisors and central office administrators are here to ensure that you have all of the support in place for you to be successful, both professionally and personally. This is truly a team effort, and we are all in this together.

The start of this school year brings some new and exciting improvements for our district. First and foremost is the return to full-day kindergarten after a lapse of over a decade. This has been a monumental effort for all involved, and we are grateful for everyone's efforts. The ripple effects of this initiative will positively impact our students for years to come. In addition, we are happy to report that the new addition at Lincoln Elementary School will be open for students on the first day of school. This has been an almost two-year project with many hurdles thrown in the way, from the pandemic to global supply chain shortages. We are pleased to announce the classrooms will be ready for students on opening day. These enhancements to our elementary education programs are only the tip of the iceberg.

Students at Edison High School will have access to a brand new auditorium, along with a new small gym floor. The gym floor at John Adams Middle School also has been replaced. These are just a few of the many projects that have been completed over the summer to improve our schools for the children of our community. Please click this [link](#) to see all the projects completed this summer. The district remains committed to continually enhancing our facilities to provide our staff and students with superlative educational programs in appropriate learning environments.

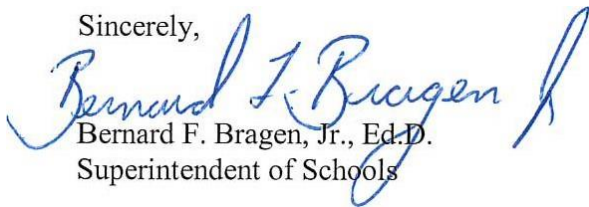
Nothing Less Than Excellence

We are extremely grateful for the efforts of our maintenance, grounds and custodial staff who worked diligently and often in stifling heat to ensure our classrooms and schools are ready for your return in September. They are truly second to none.

As you may be aware, we have also begun our infrastructure initiative to **end overcrowding**, and we are currently in the middle of phase one implementation. Phase one projects will impact every student in the district, with each of the district's four middle schools receiving enhancements, along with a 30-classroom addition at John P. Stevens High School. We are hopeful to complete all three phases of the plan within four years. A review of our latest presentation on phase one can be found [here](#). Perhaps, the most exciting aspect of these projects is that they will be completed as part of our annual capital budget expenditures with no additional funding required from our taxpayers. Please check our website regularly for updates. These are exciting times in the Edison Public Schools, and we are thrilled to be on this journey with all of you!

Welcome to the start of the 2022-2023 school year! I remain humbled and honored to work with such an awesome group of professionals in the Edison Public Schools. If I can ever be of assistance to you, please feel free to contact me. And as always, continue to **Shine Bright Edison!**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Bernard F. Bragen, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bernard F. Bragen, Jr., Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools