



Greetings, Northeast Families -

We have had a tremendous first few days of school! Each classroom community is focused on developing solid relationships, understanding routines and expectations, and students are beginning to explore the year's curriculum ahead. Students have been collaboratively defining friendship, and the characteristics of a friend in small groups. Students are practicing how to read to themselves, or listen to reading as they build their independence and stamina. And students are interviewing one another to find their commonalities and their differences - *both* to be celebrated. This is sure to be another outstanding year filled with lively learning as students dive into projects known as "case studies" where they engage with the learning standards in meaningful, real-world contexts, learn from experts, and create high quality products meant for audiences beyond the classroom walls. I look forward to sharing student learning as a result of these exciting projects! Our school and district will also be focusing on culturally responsive teaching practices, inclusion, and other teaching and learning innovations this year.

Our curriculum nights are quickly approaching: Thursday, September 15 (4th and 5th grade), Thursday, September 22 (3rd grade), Tuesday, September 27 (2nd grade), and Thursday, September 29 (Kindergarten and 1st grade). I'm hoping to see all of our families who have children who receive English as a New Language (ENL) supports on Tuesday, September 20 at 6:30 p.m. in the Library. During this, we'll share information about the ENL program, learning standards, testing information and more. The presentation materials will be translated into Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew, Japanese and Korean. It will be a great time to learn more, and to ask our wonderful ENL teachers questions. Although our first PTA meeting of the year has already passed, I encourage you to get involved with our vibrant PTA in whatever ways you can, and to certainly join the PTA listerv.

As I begin year two as leader of this incredible community, I want to thank everyone for welcoming me into this Northeast family, and for supporting each other as we take risks and try new things for the sake of our children. I'm proud and honored to be a part of Northeast, and am beyond thrilled to be starting this year together. Please feel free to always call (257-2121), email (lily.talcott@icsd.k12.ny.us) or stop by if you have any questions, comments, concerns, ideas, etc.; I have an "open door" policy. As we work to keep good communication with you all, please update your email addresses and phone numbers with the office as they change. Enjoy this lovely fall weather, and thank you for your commitment to our children's education.

Sincerely,

Lily Talcott, Principal