



Paramus High School Office of the Principal

Raymond J. Kiem, Principal
Insta: *mrkiem_PHS*

rkiem@paramusschools.org
201.261.7800 ext. 3100

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Dear Parents / Guardians:

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year! As the Principal of PHS it remains an honor for me to send you this introductory letter as we approach the opening of another year long journey that promises to reflect our rich tradition of student-centered success and excellence. As a family first community, we are prepared to usher the incoming Freshman class into our community while simultaneously helping steer the entire student-body towards their future endeavors.

We sincerely believe that student wellness is the foundation for academic success. Therefore, our school goal remains focused on positively identifying the social and emotional needs of students and then weaving appropriate teaching strategies, assessments, and conversations into our practice. By creating these meaningful and sustainable relationships we anticipate a more dynamic experience for all students.

It is my pleasure to announce a new administrative addition at PHS. Ms. Angione has replaced Mr. Natalo in the role of Vice Principal. She will be directly in charge of grades 9 & 11. Ms. Angione is a student-centered educator who comes to us with an extremely successful background as a teacher, coach, and mentor. We all welcome her to Spartan Nation as she is eager to begin working alongside the families and students of PHS.

Technology wise, we continue to upgrade our capacity as a 1:1 Chromebook high school. Beginning immediately, all staff members at PHS (and the district) will be utilizing **GMAIL accounts only**. As a reminder, every staff member's email is their FIRST INTIAL + LAST NAME @ paramusschools.org. This transition is consistent with our dedication to both Chromebooks and the Google Platform for education.

Our year begins on Thursday, September 5th. There will be an extended Administrative Homeroom to distribute Chromebooks (*9th grade only -Please be advised that in order for students to receive their Chromebooks, the updated PHS Technology Agreement must be electronically signed. This form is available via Genesis*), distribute relevant information, and begin connecting with students.

You have also received an email with instructions on how to access student schedules. Students will need to know their HOMEROOM location when they arrive on September 5th. Students' full schedules will be released during Administrative Homeroom.

As a district we continue to *Go Green!* Therefore all of our important information will continue to be streamlined through the Genesis Parent Portal, email, and our district website. If you have not created a Genesis account, we ask that you sign up at your earliest convenience. If you have an account, please update your information in Genesis ASAP. Please note that as a district we are discontinuing the use of the Honeywell System for communication. In replacement, we will now be using School Messenger.

In addition, I am also pleased to announce the unveiling of the **Official Paramus High School APP!** Along with providing us with one-click access for information and news, the PHS APP will connect us all in faster and more efficient ways.

Stay tuned, there are more details to follow on both School Messenger and the PHS APP!

I continue to believe that as the adults in this community, we must strive to build that bridge between the school and the family each and every year. Together, we have to recognize our position as the ultimate role models for your sons and daughters. As a community we must celebrate their success and when necessary we will redirect them with dignity. As a father and a Principal, I understand the challenge that arises when we attempt to promote independence while at the same time maintaining oversight on our kids' decisions and behaviors. Please stay connected with the educators at PHS, we are all advocates for student success and well-being. In collaboration, we can achieve anything!

Our Back to School Night is Wednesday, September 18th at 7 p.m. I look forward to seeing you then. Enjoy the remainder of the summer – the first day of school is around the corner!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raymond J. Kiem", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Raymond J. Kiem
Principal