



Interdistrict Discovery Magnet School
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Dear Parents and Guardian,

Welcome back to a brand-new school year as we continue our journey as an exemplary STEM school here at Discovery! I hope you had a restful summer as we start another exceptional school year!

This year we will continue to focus on addressing the Common Core State Standards through an interdisciplinary approach to teaching and learning, raising rigor in the classroom through student engagement, continue to build on our social emotional intelligence through restorative practices rather than punitive consequences, promote positive school climate by implementing RULER and Move this World, and create a genuine dialogue between all stakeholders to increase parental involvement. To provide our diverse group of students a rigorous academic and social balance we have established excellence in teaching with a plethora of programs and community partnership that are critical in developing the “Whole Child” for a global world! Our students will continue to receive enrichment activities from Discovery Science Center, Maritime Aquarium, CT Audubon and Beardsley Zoo to support our “Hands on, Minds on” approach.

I am excited to share new staff members for the 2022-23 school year. Joining our Discovery team this year are Ms. Gelatly as our Music teacher, Ms. Cassandra Fraioli, in Grade 3, Mr. Jason Riha, in Grade 4 ELA /Social Studies, Ms. Christelle Lafontant, in Grade 5 ELA/Social Studies, Mr. Justin Limoli in Grade 7/8 ELA and Mr. Harry Mandel in Grade 7/8 Math. In her new role as the writing specialist, Ms. Commodore is replacing Mrs. Feola, who is now an Assistant Principal in the district. Ms. Horkheimer, continues to be our part-time AP. Additionally, Nurse Joseph Sandrowski is replacing Nurse Bridget. Ms. Collins, who has retired, will now serve as our building sub for the 2022-23 school year. I believe that we have solidified various positions through these changes to further enhance the quality of education. Our dedicated staff goes above and beyond the call of duty to provide instruction to meet the needs of ALL our students.

Communication is a key in building a strong home-school connection. I hope that our partnership continues with my, “Open Door Policy”, but please know that your first line of communication is your child’s teacher. To provide parents with on-time and current information, we’ll continue to utilize Parent Square, email blasts, monthly newsletter, and monthly activity calendar. I encourage you to check our website for most updated information on a regular basis. For planning purposes, I have included the Aug/Sept. activity calendar.

Discovery is a unique place where parent partnership is tremendous! I encourage you to participate in various activities and programs that we have established for you here at Discovery and take an active role in your child’s education. Our PAC (Parent Advisory Committee) and SGC (School Governance Council) are two such committees that are always looking for volunteers to plan and assist in school events. Our Open House is scheduled for Wednesday September 14th from 5:30 to 6:30 and our “Welcome Back Picnic is scheduled for Friday, September 23rd from 5:30 to 7:30. I hope to see you all.

With committed and supportive parents, dedicated staff, and hard-working students, everything is in place for this to be yet another highly successful school year here at IDMS. We look forward to the 2022-2023 school year with enthusiasm, excitement, confidence, and high expectations for students and staff alike. I wish every member of the IDMS family a year filled with happiness and a positive educational experience.

With appreciation,

Sangeeta Bella – Principal