
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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August 2017

Dear Parents and Friends:

I am very excited to be welcoming you all back for the beginning of the 2017-18 school year in just a few short weeks. Consistent with the past few years, the Bloomfield School District continues to thrive – our comprehensive budget prioritizes student learning while supporting strategic multi-year initiatives in curriculum, technology and position control. Our steadfast commitment to our physical infrastructure is once again evidenced in this budget with \$1.8 million investment in capital repair. *The 2017-18 school year will assuredly be another banner year for the Bloomfield community!*

During this coming year, our teachers, staff and administrators will witness a continued focus and on-going best practices for *Readers & Writer's Workshop* and Balanced Literacy K-8 with a continuation of *Word Study*; overseen jointly by our Supervisor of Language Arts and our new Supervisor of K-5 Literacy. This school year presents a revised curricula for Grades 11 and 12 Advanced Placement and all electives in English Language Arts. During the past summer we have developed new curriculum guides for grades 7-11 in language arts and we are prepared to start this new school year with added resources to support K-12 cross-content literacy. Welcoming a new supervisor of mathematics, we will continue our standards-based programs in mathematics and our multi-year phase-in of *Math Investigations* as a feeder program to CMP3.

Thankful to the Board of Education for approving a new Supervisor of Science in our past budget, our new K-5 curriculum and resources are aligned with *Next Generation Science Standards* for the 2017-18 school year and we will be introducing new resources to support STEM/STEAM Education K-12. Entering his second full year of service in Bloomfield, our Supervisor of Social Studies and World Language will oversee the roll out of a new curricula in K-5 world language and social studies as well as grade 7 global studies and grade 8 native speaker Spanish.

The technology department will be expanding our successful Middle School 1:1 initiative with a

Chromebook roll-out for all 7th, 8th, and 9th grade students. During this school year, we will gradually replace our *SmartBoards* with Epson Interactive Whiteboards in all classrooms and conversion of the oldest laptops to Google-supported 'Chromium OS.' As we continue to value quality in-house professional development, we will be expanding training in Google Apps, Classroom and Collaboration Tools while tracking and leveling our Teacher Academy courses.

With a continued focus on school security we completed a \$307,000 investment in security upgrades including maintaining guards and installation of new security cameras. During this school year we have committed another \$800,000 for added security upgrades including anti-intruder locks throughout the district. Our attention to facilities' infrastructure repair is evidenced at each of our buildings – including ceiling replacement, new lighting, parking lot resurfacing, bathroom upgrade/renovation, exterior lighting and large-scale cosmetic repairs including painting.

As your Superintendent of Schools, I am very proud of the improvements to the educational program as well as facilities that have occurred over the past year.

Please enjoy your remaining days of summer and thank you for your ongoing commitment to the Bloomfield School District.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Salvatore Goncalves", written in a cursive style.

SALVATORE GONCALVES
Superintendent of Schools