



Olga Hugelmeyer
Superintendent of Schools

June 25, 2021

Dear Elizabeth Public Schools Learning Community:

After 179 extremely challenging days that have required all of us to navigate unprecedented circumstances, we have reached the last day of the 2020-2021 school year.

Today, our students and team members will enter and leave our schools and classrooms for the last day of this school year. That is an amazing thing to be able to say. Not too long ago, there was a lot of fear and uncertainty that reopening our schools this year might not even be possible, but we persevered.

Throughout this school year and since the pandemic first began in March 2020, our students had to adjust to remote learning while missing out on learning in their classrooms, social interactions with friends and classmates, and various special events and activities.

Families had to become increasingly active in their children's education while they juggled their own work and life schedules.

Teachers had to continuously adjust on the fly to a whole new way of educating students, using new technology platforms, while making sure they kept all of their students engaged and learning the content necessary to succeed.

Food service staff had to make sure that our students had access to breakfast and lunch throughout the school year and summer.

Technology hardware department members had to take in student and team member devices to repair or replace them to make certain that education remained uninterrupted as much as possible.

Support staff had to take on the incredible task of ensuring our schools and offices were sanitized and as safe as possible throughout the year for students and fellow team members.

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

We knew that getting through these incredible challenges and reopening our schools was going to take all of us to come together and work together, including our Board of Education, local officials, team members, and families. Each and every person connected to our school community has made valued contributions to the ability of Elizabeth Public Schools to continue teaching and learning throughout the pandemic and to reopen our doors to in-person learning. We succeeded together.

I am incredibly grateful for your efforts to make this school year as positive and rewarding as possible. Your dedication and commitment to providing impactful and memorable learning experiences for our students and families is more appreciated than I can possibly express. I hope you feel a great sense of pride for all we have been able to achieve during these unprecedented circumstances.

To our returning students and families, we look forward to seeing you all back in our schools in 2021-2022. To our Class of 2021 graduating seniors, we admire your resiliency and determination to finish your Elizabeth Public Schools career under these conditions and hope you will use those great character traits to succeed in all your college, career, and life opportunities. We wish you the best in all your future endeavors!

Thank you once more for your continued patience, understanding, and support throughout this 2020-2021 school year. I wish you all a wonderful, healthy, and safe summer. I hope you find some time to relax and enjoy time with family and friends as we recharge for the 2021-2022 school year.

I look forward to us all being back together in our schools once again in September.

Take care, stay safe, and be well.

Sincerely,



Olga Hugelmeyer
Superintendent of Schools