



Whitney Point Central School District

Where KIDS are the POINT!

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!

THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL IS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH (grades 1-12)

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 6TH (PreK-K)

August 15, 2013

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I would like to welcome all students back to school! This year, once again, we will start school on Thursday, rather than the traditional Wednesday start date.

As a district, we continue to work on our vision of being a community of excellence achieved through a commitment to HIGH performance, morale, and involvement. As the new school year begins, I would challenge you to see how you can contribute to this vision and help make the Whitney Point Central School District a positive place for all students to excel!

At Whitney Point we continue to strive to provide the best education for our students. Our staff has been busy this summer preparing for a new school year. Recently, the New York State Education Department released information about the new Common Core Assessments. The Commissioner of Education, Dr. John King, explained that the drop in 3-8 test scores across the state was expected and is a result of changes made to prepare our students to be college and career ready. He cautions that the change in test scores (including possibly your child's score) does not mean students are learning less or teachers and students are performing at lower levels than last year. Parent reports are being prepared and will be sent to parents of 3-8 students near the start of the school year. I would encourage you to go to <http://www.engageny.org/parent-and-family-resources> to find out more about these assessments and how we can partner to support your child in this new learning.

The accountability status of all schools and districts will remain the same for the 2013-14 school year. Whitney Point Central School District and the Tioughnioga Riverside Academy have been identified as a "Focus" district and school according to New York State Accountability Regulations. This accountability status is related to one subgroup's performance on the NY State English Language Arts and Math Assessments. The District continues to implement a comprehensive plan to and work toward continuous improvement. One of the guidelines associated with Focus status requires districts that have multiple schools providing instruction at a grade level to offer school choice. Since Whitney Point does not fall into this category, it is not a requirement for our district.

We continue to look for ways to provide you with on-going communication and will be updating our website. I encourage you to visit the website at www.wpcsd.org and sign up to receive alerts and current news from the district.

As I start my second year as Superintendent, I want to say thank you for your support. I look forward to continuing to work with you to make our school and community a great place to be. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. I wish you all a happy first day of school and a very productive year!

Sincerely,
Patricia A. Follette
Superintendent

The Mission of the Whitney Point Central School District is to provide an excellent education ensuring that all children maximize their potential, become contributing citizens, and pursue lifelong learning.