

## Creating a New Vision

August 31, 2012

Dear Whitney Point Community,

The leaves are turning bright colors and the big yellow busses are ready to roll. This is a sure sign that the school year is about to begin. I would like to welcome back all Whitney Point students and their families and extend an extra big welcome to new students and their families! The beginning of school is always a special time of year and I know I share the same enthusiasm about the coming year as the Board of Education, administration, faculty and staff.

As we look to the future, the Board of Education has created a vision statement to guide the district. It simply states:

***The Vision of the Whitney Point Central School district is to become a community of excellence achieved through HIGH performance, morale, and involvement.***

The words of this statement were carefully chosen to encompass the wide range of opportunities offered throughout the district and community and to provide focus to to assure that together we continually move in a positive direction and use our precious resources to support our priorities.

There are some updates in the district that I want to be sure that you are aware of:

1. **Dignity for All Students:** Treating each other with respect and caring is foundational at Whitney Point and our Code of Conduct, Harassment Policies, and Electronic Use Policy have been updated to align with the Dignity for All Students Act. Our administrative team has been trained to support this initiative and we are implementing the nationally recognized Olweus Anti-Bullying Program in all schools. Copies of all district policies can be found on the district website at **[www.wpcsd.org](http://www.wpcsd.org)**.
2. **Evaluation Systems:** NYS passed a law that outlines new evaluation requirements for teachers and principals. At Whitney Point, we have worked to create an evaluation system that focuses on improved teaching and learning.
3. **Renovation Project:** We have completed the majority of work planned in the current renovation project. All three schools have received updated libraries, cafeterias, and teaching spaces including Smart Boards in every room. The High School and the Tioughnioga Riverside Academy have newly renovated auditoriums that are surely a source of pride for the district. There have been many updates to our athletic fields, heating, plumbing and electrical systems. Solar panels have been installed on each school's roof that generate electricity for the district on a daily basis. We are currently preparing to begin the last phase of the renovations that include a new bus loop, parent drop-off, visitor parking, and landscaping at the TRA, resurfaced tennis courts, work at the bus garage, and other items such as window replacements and additional electrical and plumbing work.

I wish everyone a great start to the new school year and look forward to working with you to bring to life the new vision of Whitney Point Central School District!

Sincerely,

**Patricia Follette**  
Superintendent