



## Whitney Point Central School District

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August 2014

Dear Whitney Point Community,

As summer vacation comes to a close, we once again look forward to a new school year. I hope you all had an opportunity to enjoy the beautiful weather and special times with family and friends.

As we continue to work toward the District Vision *of being a community of excellence achieved through a commitment to HIGH performance, morale, and involvement*, the District was able to offer a number of summer enrichment programs. Students attending these programs engaged in literacy events and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) activities. The students were kept busy building robots, solving problems, exploring nature, visiting college campuses, and much, much, more! As the school year begins, we are pleased to be able to continue the current 4:00 bus schedule in order to provide extra help and enrichment opportunities to our students.

Throughout the district, faculty and staff have been busy preparing for the return of our students. Each year brings promise of new beginnings and accomplishments. We look forward to continuing to expand student opportunities through collaborations with neighboring colleges and organizations and by participating in local, state, and federal grants. Over the last few years, we have been working to meet the challenge of assuring our students are college and career ready. As students are exposed to higher level thinking and problem-solving activities, we are constantly amazed at their progress and abilities. As data results become available, we are celebrating an increase in student performance and graduation rates.

The accountability status of all schools and districts will remain the same for the 2014-15 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.

The sign outside the TRA has been a big hit this year and Kathy Gummo in our district office takes great pride in keeping our community informed about school events in ever-changing and exciting ways! I would also encourage you to visit our new website to receive up-to-date information and sign up to receive email and/or texts alerts.

I can hardly believe I am in my third year as Superintendent! It has been a pleasure getting to know the students and so many members of the community. Your kindness and support is greatly appreciated. It is an honor and privilege to work in Whitney Point CSD- WHERE KIDS ARE THE POINT!

Sincerely,

Patricia Follette  
Superintendent

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*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.*