Memorandum

To: Albert Ganem, Interim Superintendent of Schools
From: John Campbell, Principal, Berlin Memorial School
Date: September 6, 2025, 2025
Re: Report to School Committee

Berlin Memorial Highlights – August/September, 2025

First Week of School Notes

The dust of opening day has settled, and we are now in full learning mode! Students have adjusted to new grade levels, new teachers and new expectations. A quick thank you to parents picking up or dropping off for quickly learning the protocol for that process.

We will start beginning of the year benchmark assessments this week, and will keep you informed of results at a future School Committee meeting.

Safety Drills

As you know, we have taken a very proactive stance around safety awareness in our school district. With the support of our friends at Berlin Fire, we have our first fire drill of the year which went very smoothly. I will keep School Committee informed of our work on this throughout the school year.

Building Updates

There is almost always some beginning of the year building surprise. This year it was the invasions of cranky bees. After a couple of students had a run in with everyone's favorite pollinators, we reached out to our Facilities Director, Dan Ayala. Mr. Ayala was about to arrange for a quick resolution to the problem.

The mission of Berlin Memorial School is to empower each student to achieve personal excellence by fostering respect, responsibility, and resourcefulness with the support of the entire community.

First Days of School

Parents and guardians were advised on August 1st about their child's placement for the upcoming school year. Teachers work hard each spring to put together class lists that will support student success, while also being mindful of the social needs of the children in each room. We greatly appreciate the trust our community places in those decisions.

The letter also includes a link to our *Teacherlist* on-line supply lists for each grade. The lists are reasonably small, and we remind any family who needs assistance with school supplies to let us know so that we can help.

Staff will return to school on Tuesday, August 26th. The first day for students in Grades 1-5 is Thursday, August 28th, with Kindergarten students starting the next day.