

UPPER PERKIOMEN SCHOOL DISTRICT

ALLYN J. ROCHE, Ed.D
Superintendent of Schools

ANDREA J. FARINA, Ed.D
Assistant Superintendent

Dear Upper Perkiomen School District Families:

As President of the Upper Perkiomen School District Board of Directors, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the start of the 2021-22 school year!!

As a Board, we are committed to working in tandem with our super Superintendent, Dr. Allyn Roche, our Administration, and staff to create a well-rounded education for the kids of our community.

We are dedicated to the education, safety, health (both mental and physical) and well-being of the kids and families we serve. As a Board and district, we strive to create an inclusive atmosphere where all students can learn and grow.

One job we have as directors is to be a liaison between the district and the public. If you have questions or comments, we have several avenues to connect with us on whatever topic or question you have. The [Board Communication Line](#) is available on the district website, [our individual email addresses](#) are also available, and you can email the entire board at UPSDBoard@upsd.org.

The full board meets twice monthly – the second Thursday of the month at 7pm for our regular meeting and the fourth Thursday at 7pm for our workshop meeting. At regular meetings, we approve payments and have debate on all manner of topics before the Board. Our workshop meetings are geared toward committee updates and may include timely debate and voting on matters that need tending to ahead of our regular monthly meeting. Visit the district's [Agendas & Minutes](#) page for details. Minutes do not appear until the Board approves them at the next meeting. There is also public comment before agenda items are approved and also at the conclusion of the meeting. All meeting recordings are available on the district's [YouTube channel](#).

Committees are where the work gets done! We have Curriculum & Instruction, Communication, Facilities, Finance, Special Education & Pupil Services, Policy, and Extracurricular committees. These meetings are monthly and are much less formal than the full board meetings. The full schedule of committee meetings is also located on the district's [Agendas & Minutes](#) page. All are welcome to attend (they are in-person at the Education Center), and everyone's input is encouraged!

To say last year was difficult is an understatement. I am pleased to say the Board has assembled an excellent group of administrators. We believe we have – to our credit – approved one heck of a team! This team has proven over and over to us that they are committed and can (and do) thoughtfully work together. Nothing like a pandemic to bring out the best!

Dr. Roche, as well as our Pandemic Coordinator extraordinaire, Dr. Andrea Farina, along with the nurses, Facilities, IT, Curriculum & Instruction, Food Service and, of course, our dedicated teachers and staff all worked together to make the best of an unprecedented situation.

Whether our students are career-bound, secondary education-bound or military service-bound, the Board supports and encourages multiple learning pathways for individualized student outcomes. We have a record number of students attending the Western Montgomery Technical Center. In addition, the district, in cooperation with the Upper Perkiomen Valley Chamber of Commerce PerkUp Program, works with local businesses to provide the Pathways to Success on-site business tours for students as they explore career and education opportunities.

Also, this year we are proud to announce that our vision of Full Day Kindergarten district wide has come to fruition! We knew this would give our youngest learners the best start to their school careers.

This year we have implemented our Guaranteed Energy Savings (GESA) program. New LED lighting throughout all buildings is just one of many energy-saving projects included in our plans. Many other capital improvements are planned over the next few years. These capital improvements will not only improve the longevity of our facilities, but they will help to create a better, safer, and cleaner learning environment for all.

In closing, the Board wishes everyone – Administration, Teachers, Parents, Students, and Staff a happy, healthy, and productive school year!!!

Melanie Cunningham, Board President
The Upper Perkiomen Board of School Directors