



# WOODBRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

40 Beecher Road – South  
Woodbridge, Connecticut 06525

Vonda J. Tencza – Superintendent  
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Dear Beecher Road School Families and Community,

Happy New School Year! On behalf of the Woodbridge School District Board of Education and all of us who work with and support your children, I want to welcome our new and returning families to a fantastic school year at Beecher Road School. Summer vacation seemed endless to me as a child, filled with many small moments that blurred together into one long period of wonderfulness. What I realize now as an adult is that each day is precious and fleeting, and the small moments really are the big things in life. I hope that you all found time to enjoy small moments, read great books, honor traditions, and even make a few new traditions to uphold in future years.

Our first day for students will be Monday August 28. As a reminder to families, this year both August 28 and August 29 are early release days for students (1:10 PM), are full days for staff and there is no Extended Day option. Building Principal Analisa Sherman and her staff will be sharing your children's classroom teacher and important information about some new BRS arrival/departure times and protocols that will be in place at the start and end of the school day.

During the summer our school was a busy place with various summer programs, many of which were implemented by our dedicated staff. Our custodial crew was busy cleaning and making our beautiful building ready for learning, and our secretarial staff were busy preparing materials so that our opening days are successful. Administrators were also busy hiring for staff openings, and Principal Sherman will share more opening day news as the time draws closer. We welcome a new member of the Beecher Road School Administrative Team, Mrs. Cheryl Tafel. Our school is so large and we are proud to have another administrator to help share the work that is necessary to keep our school the 'gem' of Woodbridge. As a member of our Administrative Team, Mrs. Cheryl Tafel joins Principal, Analisa Sherman; Assistant Principal, James Sapia; Director of Special Services, Carrie Borcharding; and Donna Coonan, our Director of Business Services and Operations.

This year we will focus on creating and growing a culture of gratitude. There is a great deal of research around the power and impact of gratitude, and we will be exploring this as a school community. Gratitude goes a step beyond appreciation -- gratitude recognizes how the positive things in our lives are often due to forces outside of ourselves, particularly the efforts of other people. Gratitude has the power to connect us and make us stronger. I look forward to our collective work together and am eager to have our community witness the ripple effects of gratitude.

Beecher Road School is family; there is no better place in which to learn and work. Strong partnerships with families are integral to the success of our learners and the district as a whole. Thank you for your continued support as we strive to do our very best for everyone in our community. Every one of our learners deserves excellence, and we simply cannot do this important work without you. We look forward to seeing you and your children soon.

Sincerely,

Vonda J. Tencza  
Superintendent