## Great Neck Public Schools John L. Miller - Great Neck North High School 35 Polo Road Great Neck, New York 11023 (516)441-4700



August 19, 2021

Dear Parents & Students:

I would like to welcome all our upperclassmen back to J. L. Miller Great Neck North High School! We have certainly shared an unprecedented educational experience over the past 15 months and with many of the challenges of the prior school year still ahead of us, we must continue to remain vigilant and focused on the health and well-being of our North High family. Truly, our success over the past year and a half has rested in all of you - in your dedication to learning, your optimism, and your adaptability. We are so excited to open our doors and start this school year with a fresh perspective and a renewed appreciation for all that we share together at North. Our experiences over the last months have certainly reminded us how important it is to be kind, grateful, and accepting in our interactions with one another.

As 10th, 11th, and 12th graders, you know that your high school years are of critical importance not only to forge a path towards graduation, but also to grow, discover, and mature. High school is a time for all students to discover their passions, develop self-confidence and grit, and become stronger, smarter, and more socially responsible. Through active participation in co-curricular activities and immersion in the Great Neck North school culture, you will not only have fun, but also find meaning and fulfillment in your career as a student. We encourage you to try a new club or activity this year or join a new team. Follow your interests and your passions and make this year a great one!

Together, with the support and guidance of our talented and caring staff of teachers, administrators, coaches, and counselors, we will construct a meaningful, vibrant, and personalized experience for all our students. Our orientation program for underclassmen (juniors, sophomores and freshmen) and our Senior College Night is scheduled for Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7 P.M. (details will follow in the coming weeks) and is a great opportunity to learn more about your child's educational journey.

In conjunction with the Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO), our Annual Open House is scheduled for September 30, at 7:00 P.M. and follow-up information will be forthcoming. This event, designed to celebrate a new school year, serves as an invitation to be involved in your child's high school experience, and provides the opportunity to meet your child's teachers and become familiar with the course content and expectations. More specific information pertaining to Open House will follow.

Our Calendar-Handbook is almost complete and will be published on our website by the end of the month. I encourage all students and parents to review the regulations and expectations in the handbook and to view the Back to School video slide presentation posted on our website. We have found that when parents and students read and discuss the handbook together, they have a shared understanding of our school expectations. This year, students are expected to arrive at school wearing appropriate face masks and visible ID badges. It is important to note that bandanas, gators, and masks with vents are not acceptable face coverings. In addition, please reinforce with your child that the wearing of masks at all times, with the exception of eating, is mandatory and that there is a zero-tolerance for non-compliance. If you have questions regarding health and safety protocols, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

The PTO and Shared Decision-Making are two vital collaborative groups that work with our staff to keep lines of communication open and effective. In both of these important groups, parents and school staff work together to discuss, design, and plan initiatives to strengthen our school and our school community. I encourage you to become a member of our very active PTO and attend our monthly meetings.

Finally, we look forward to seeing all of you on September 1! Students will start the school day on an Advisory schedule on both Wednesday, September 1, and Thursday, September 2, and period 1 begins at 8:36 A.M. Students in grades 9 and 10 will report to their respective Advisory classrooms at 8:00 A.M. on each of these days and students in grades 11 and 12 should arrive by 8:30 A.M. to ensure they are on time for period 1.

The staff at J. L. Miller Great Neck North High School is committed to fostering a safe, nurturing, welcoming, and supportive environment for all students. Please do not hesitate to contact us should an issue arise.

We look forward to meeting you and sharing a successful and exciting school year together!

Sincerely,

## Dan Holtzman

Dan Holtzman, Ed.D. Principal