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SOUTH COUNTRY
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Antonio Santana

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August 26, 2024

Dear Parents / Guardians,

As we approach the new school year, our district is eagerly anticipating the return of staff and students, ready for another year of growth and achievement. In preparation, we've updated several curricula across the district, including Elementary Art and Earth Space Science at Bellport High School, and Computer courses at Bellport Middle School. Spanish, Home Language Arts, and Dual Language programs have all seen revisions, as well as Word Study for grades 3-5 and the Math and ELA MTSS Toolkits. We've also aligned Science Investigations and Social Studies for grades 4-5, introduced a new Active Citizenship course at Bellport High School, and revised ENL and PE/Health curriculums across various grades.

Over the summer, our district has also been hard at work ensuring that our facilities are safe, efficient, and ready to support our students, staff, and community in the upcoming school year. Comprehensive building condition assessments were conducted to identify key areas for improvement, leading to renovations and upgrades across our schools. At Bellport High School, the Main Office has undergone a complete redesign to better serve our administrative needs and enhance the overall environment. District-wide, we've repaved sidewalks and parking lots, ensuring safety and accessibility for all. The tennis courts received a fresh surface, providing an improved athletic facility for our students and community.

In alignment with ADA standards, new ramps have been installed at Headstart and Critz, furthering our commitment to inclusivity. At Brookhaven Elementary School, the Kindergarten Wing has been renovated to create a more conducive learning environment for our youngest learners, alongside the installation of new kitchen floors. Drainage repairs have also been completed at Bellport High School, addressing long-standing concerns. These renovations reflect our ongoing commitment to maintaining and enhancing our school environments, ensuring they are equipped to support the educational success and well-being of every student.

The district has also adopted our new Code of Conduct which represents the culmination of year's worth of collaborative work and stakeholder engagement. We are extremely proud of the final product as it really emphasizes our commitment to social and emotional supports and restorative practices. Our Code highlights our dedication to equity and the dignity of every member of our school community. The new Code of Conduct can be accessed here South Country Code of Conduct.

We are proud of all the work we have accomplished during the summer break and will continue to work towards our Clipper PRIDE!

The first day of school for all students is Tuesday, September 3, 2024. In an effort to continue to be environmentally conscious, all summer packets will be posted on our district website by the end of the day on Tuesday, August 27, 2024, including student schedules via the Parent Portal. The materials contained in the packets will be posted on the home webpage of your child's respective school.

Please note that the parent / student affirmations must be completed in the Parent Portal by August 30, 2024. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the summer packets or if you want to request hard copies, please contact your child's school at the number(s) listed below:

Bellport High School (631) 730-1575
Bellport Middle School (631) 730-1626
Frank P. Long Intermediate School (631) 730-1725
Brookhaven Elementary School (631) 730-1700
Kreamer Street Elementary School (631) 730-1650
Verne W. Critz Elementary School (631) 730-1675
South Haven Early Childhood Center (631) 730-2180
South Country District Office (631) 730-1500

At South Country Central School District, our aim is to cultivate a space where teachers, students, administrators, parents, and community members collaborate closely to create an environment that truly reflects the positive and supportive nature of our community. Together, we are united in our mission to provide our students with the best possible learning experience. As we enter this new school year, we are setting high expectations, embracing hard work, and offering unwavering support for both students and staff— all guided by kindness. And of course, let's not forget that school should be enjoyable too!

We are really looking forward to welcoming back our students on Tuesday, September 3rd, for our first day of school and an entirely fresh start. Let's make this year our best year in South Country!

It really is a pleasure and honor serving the South Country community as your Superintendent of Schools.

Sincerely,

Antonio Santana

Antonio Santana
Superintendent of Schools