



**Superintendent's Letter  
December 2016**

As I write this letter parents are walking through the hallways of Deane Porter and Forrestdale Schools on their way to or from conferences with their child's teacher. Seeing these interactions reminds me how important the school-community and teacher-parent relationship are and causes me to reflect on the exemplary model Rumson sets -- dedicated teachers, caring parents, and a supporting community.

In a season of festivities around the joy of family and the celebration of childhood it is important to remember how important our school family is to a happy and healthy year for our students! This importance manifests itself in the celebration of differences, the cherishing of community, and the honoring of our own personal successes. Here in the Rumson School District we are doing all we can to live up to this by honoring students who obtained perfect NJASK Science and ELA & Math PARCC scores at our November Board of Education meeting, the champion achievements of our Field Hockey Team, Boys Soccer Team, and Girls Soccer Team at our Fall Sports Banquet, and the support of our PTO in bringing us a series of experiences for our students from the Center for Holocaust, Human Rights, and Genocide Education. In this last experience students in grades seven and eight are working with professionals from the CHHANGE Center and Holocaust survivors to understand the human journey of tolerance and intolerance through journaling, examining historical artifacts, and role playing. In addition, we celebrated our first National Junior Honor Society Induction in November and look forward to the service this organization will provide to our school and extended community.

As you can see, there is so much for our family to celebrate and I hope to see all of you joining us in this celebration by attending our Deane Porter and Forrestdale Winter Concerts/Sing Alongs, visiting our third graders at the Victory Park Tree Lighting Ceremony, and joining us in our Deane Porter Giving Tree and Forrestdale Toys for Tots Drive.

It is a busy time of the year but I can't think of a better kind of busy I would like to be. I hope you all embrace the craziness and treasure this "most wonderful time of the year" with your family and friends...perhaps we can all work on "less crazy" as our New Year resolution!

Wishing you and yours a happy holiday season and a most fortunate New Year!

With pride,

Dr. John E. Bormann  
Superintendent of Schools