



**Superintendent's Letter
January 2017**

Happy New Year! In the famous lyrics of Rolf to Liesl in the Sound of Music we hear a great message...

"You are 16 going on 17
Baby it's time to think
Better beware
Be canny and careful
Baby you're on the brink".

These words remind me that in this new year we all need to continue to live up to our school mission statement "The Rumson School District ignites the potential of its learners by growing, inspiring, and cultivating personal excellence academically, socially, and emotionally." Having seen what has transpired over the last few months of 2016, 2017 certainly better beware of the great potential of our students, staff, and community. We have celebrated the accomplishments of students on the PARCC/NJASK, championship fall sports, the service of our schools to the Monmouth-Ocean Food Bank, the talents of our performers in our school concerts, and numerous personal successes of students in the classroom, on the field, and throughout the community!

As we turn to 2017 "it's time to think" about how we can continue to ignite the potential of our schools and to anticipate what we could be "on the brink" of achieving. Our first main achievement will be in being recognized in January by the Monmouth-Ocean Food Bank for obtaining the Phillip N. Connelly Award to recognize Forrestdale's exceptional spirit, commitment, and dedication toward the cause of fighting hunger. Beyond this we anticipate great things from our school production of Guys and Dolls, the performance of our basketball teams as they break in our new gymnasium floor, and the creations of students coming out of our Deane-Porter Maker Space and Forrestdale Innovation Classroom. On top of all this, the renovation of our Forrestdale greenhouse is underway and all kinds of potential will begin sprouting in this new learning environment.

In the spirit of the Morning Meetings occurring during this first week of January, let's make a commitment to our resolutions and in doing so include in our own the collective effort to ignite the potential of our schools. I hope the commitment to this mission has been recognized through interactions with teachers and administrators and committed efforts demonstrated by the district's staff and that we continue to hold each other to ensuring the very best opportunities and achievements for our students in 2017.

With pride,

Dr. John E. Bormann
Superintendent of Schools