



Region 14 Schools

Inspiring Excellence

67 Washington Avenue
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Serving the Towns of Bethlehem and Woodbury

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September 28, 2018

Dear Region 14 Community,

I am extremely honored and very proud to have been selected by the Board to be your new Superintendent. I am especially grateful to Board Chair, Ms. Janet Morgan, Vice Chair, Maryanne Van Aken, the entire Region 14 Board, and Interim Superintendent Christine Syriac for their support, detailed information and overwhelming care of District 14 as a new Superintendent was sought.

Since my appointment as the new Superintendent a few weeks ago, I have received so many well wishes from the communities of Bethlehem and Woodbury and have begun to meet students, staff, administrators, and civic leaders. I am grateful for such a warm welcome. I believe that schools are stronger when they are embedded in communities that take pride in the success of their students and continuously consider creative ways to provide ongoing support. This is what I have already found through the Region 14 Board of Education and all those who I have met. It is evident the communities share in this belief. I am thrilled to witness such dedicated investment in the Region 14 schools.

My career in education has led me to travel widely and to successfully serve communities all over the State of Connecticut and the world. Most recently I returned from working in Rwanda where I led a fantastic team of passionate educators who shared their expertise with teachers in helping them develop their skills in the most challenging settings possible. The success our program realized was staggering. I believe anything is possible when it's all about the students. I feel blessed for the lessons I have learned, for what I have witnessed, and the friends that I have made. I excitedly await the new friends yet to emerge.

For the next 90 days, I will be on a learning and listening tour of the district and its towns. In order to serve the district, I strongly believe that, listening and learning about those whom I will serve is crucial. I am a passionate humanitarian who is careful, deliberate, honest, hardworking and fun. I love reading, cookies, rugby, and kids.

I look forward to greeting you individually and working with you to assure that students here in Region 14 reach new zeniths both in their personal and collective journey.

Let me share a 16c quote that has come to idealize my thinking for all students.....

*"If you treat an individual as he is, he will remain as he is.
But if you treat him as if he were what he ought to be and could be, he will become what he ought and could be."*

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

German dramatist, novelist, poet, & scientist (1749 - 1832)

With best wishes to all,

“Dr. O”

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J. Olzacki', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Joseph A. Olzacki, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools