



Sparta Township
Public Schools

SUPERINTENDENT'S BACK TO SCHOOL NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS

August 2015

First day for
all students

**Thursday
September 3, 2015**

School Alignment & Times

Alpine

Mr. Giuseppe Leone, Principal

Pre-K – Grade 2

AM Pre-K 9:10AM – 11:45AM

PM Pre-K 1:10PM – 3:45PM

Grades K - 2 9:10AM – 3:45PM

Mohawk Avenue

Mrs. Laura Trent, Principal

Grade 3

8:50AM – 3:25PM

Helen Morgan

Mr. Douglas Layman, Principal

Grades 4 – 5

9:05AM – 3:40PM

Middle School

Mr. Michael Gregory, Principal

Grades 6 – 8

7:40AM – 2:40PM

High School

Mrs. Janet Ferraro, Principal

Grades 9 – 12

7:18AM – 2:26PM

From the Superintendent



Mr. Dennis Tobin

Welcome to the 2015-2016 school year. I hope you have had a relaxing and enjoyable summer with family and friends.

As we begin another school year, we look forward to you being part of our Spartan family and hope you become involved in our schools and community. I encourage every student and parent to embrace the opportunity to make this a great school year!

The 2015-2016 school year will bring a number of exciting new changes. This school year we are proud to provide our kindergarten students with a full day program that will focus on establishing a solid academic foundation, along with developing important social skills. Our high school will implement this year the first of a three phase STEM Academy that will focus on Medical Biology. The next two phases, Engineering and Computer Design, will become part of our high school curriculum over the next two school years. We have also changed the school times for four of our five buildings (listed in left column.) This new district time schedule will put our three elementary school buildings and two secondary schools on similar time schedules. This new time schedule will also provide for a more efficient district transportation system, along with adequate time for our secondary students to participate in after school athletic/co-curricular programs.

In addition, we have a number of new school administrator assignments for the 2015-2016 school year. Dr. Daniel Johnson (former high school principal) will take over as Assistant Superintendent in charge of our academic programming and staff professional development. Mrs. Barbara Decker also returns to our school district as our new Business Administrator/Board Secretary. Mrs. Danielle Hamblin comes from the Randolph school district to serve as our new Director of Special Services. Mrs. Janet Ferraro is our new high school Principal after serving 28 years as a teacher, coach and Vice Principal. Mr. Rory Fitzgerald will change roles at our high school moving from our Director of Guidance to our new Vice Principal. Our new Student Assistance Counselor (SAC) will be Ms. Danielle Colte, who formerly served as one of our high school guidance counselors. Mrs. Kacey Dalton, formerly our district SAC, will now serve as our new high school Director of Guidance. We are confident that all these quality educators will be most successful in their new district roles.

**September Calendar
Important dates
to remember**

01	Teacher In-Service
02	Teacher In-Service
03	Schools Open
07	Labor Day- Schools Closed
08	High School Back-to-School Night
09	Middle School Back-to-School Night Grade 6
10	Middle School Back-to-School Night Grade 7
15	Helen Morgan Back-to-School Night Grade 4
16	Helen Morgan Back-to-School Night Grade 5
21	Alpine Back-to-School Night Pre-K AM, K, & Grade 1
24	Alpine Back-to-School Night Pre-K PM & Grade 2
30	Mohawk Avenue Back-to-School Night Grade 3
17	Middle School Back-to-School Night Grade 8
17	Grade 9 Parent Mtg.
23	Schools Closed
24	Grade 12 Parent Mtg.

I also would like to inform our students and parents that the 2015-2016 school calendar once again reflects eight emergency school closings. This, we hope, will allow us to keep our scheduled March 25 – April 3 spring recess for our staff and school families. The full 10-month calendar is available on our district website.

Our school district has a proud history of academic excellence and community spirit, and it is this pride that will allow us to reach new heights for our students in the upcoming school year. Academically our graduates have achieved at the highest levels in the classroom and are attending many of the finest Colleges and Universities in the Country – the class of 2015 were crowned Sussex County Debate Team Champions, featured an Award winning Robotics Team that was recognized on the State, National and World levels, had 7 National Merit Letters of Commendation; a West Point Appointment; a Naval ROTC Scholarship; a Marine enlistment; Students attending such fine Universities as Columbia, Cornell, MIT and Berkeley , and was awarded approximately 23 million dollars in college scholarship money. In the area of performing arts we had students recognized on the county and state levels for their outstanding art work, performances on the stage, and musical talents. In the sports arena we had numerous individuals and teams win league, county, and state championships, along with individuals who placed and were recognized on the national level. The accomplishments of our students are second to none. This is a credit to our students, staff, community, and families.

Although we are quite proud of our school district; we are always looking to improve in every aspect. To this end we have developed a five year district Long Range Strategic Plan (available on our district website). This strategic plan will create a vision of the future and has identified goals and strategies necessary to move our district forward to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Our building Principals have sent out student/parent letters with specific building information regarding the opening of school. Student schedules and teacher assignments have also been made available on Genesis.

Best wishes to all of our Spartan families for an enjoyable and successful 2015-2016 school year!

Sincerely,



Dennis Tobin
Superintendent