

WANTAGH UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

# WANTAGH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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JOHN MCNAMARA  
*SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS*

RANDEE BONAGURA, ED.D.  
*PRINCIPAL*

RACHEL DENDER  
*ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL*

Dear Wantagh Elementary Families,

The dedicated staff at Wantagh Elementary and I feel privileged to be a part of this school family. Working closely together, we will create a positive, rewarding, and fun educational experience for your child. Ms. Rachel Dender, our Assistant Principal, and I will be working as an administrative team to foster students' academic as well as their social-emotional growth. Our vision for Wantagh Elementary School is one where the 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills of communication, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking come together through active engagement by parents, teachers and students.

You and your child will be supported by outstanding educators and support staff who will provide a warm and nurturing academic atmosphere, meeting students' individual needs. Our full-day kindergarten program helps students be successful right from the start and focuses on language and literacy development, investigations into math and science concepts, encourages creativity and social interaction as well as develops work habits and routines that are keys to success. Students in grades K-3 will participate in Foundations to enhance their phonemic awareness and fluency. All classes in all grades will be utilizing reading & writing workshop units of study, a phenomenon-based science curriculum, and the technology-infused Go Math program. These tools will help our children be ready for their academic journey throughout elementary school and for their future endeavors.

We greatly value the strong connection between the home and school environments. Parents are encouraged to engage with their children's educational experience as much as possible. There will be many opportunities for families to participate in school events in various ways. The PTA sponsors many activities including the Fall Family Festival, Movie Night, and Book Fairs. School-wide enrichment opportunities such as hands-on field trips, and curriculum celebrations ensure that learning happens both inside and outside of the classroom, and parents are invited to be part of these experiences.

I am looking forward to the upcoming school year and know it will bring new and exciting learning and friendships for everyone. My door is always open - please call or email anytime with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Randee Bonagura, Ed.D.