



Torrington Middle School

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Shelley Rinaldi

Principal

TBA

Assistant Principal

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Assistant Principal

Hilary Sterling

Assistant Principal

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Dean of Students

Dear Viking Families,

I sincerely hope that you are enjoying your summer break. In a few weeks, the new school year will be upon us and students and staff will be returning to school to engage in exciting learning experiences. As principal of Torrington Middle School, I would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome back to school to students and staff.

The first day of school is Thursday, September 1st and it will be a full day for students. I am very excited to greet students as they embark on a new year of discovery, growth and friendships!

Over the summer, administrators, custodians and administrative assistants have been working hard to prepare the building and ensure a smooth start to the year. Being new to the building, I was very impressed with the cleanliness and state of the facilities. Classrooms, hallways, and bathrooms look amazing! Additionally, all windows in our building have been replaced with new ones allowing ample sunshine to flow into classes.

As students return, they will notice that we have several new staff members that have joined the Viking Family. I would like to introduce the following individuals:

- Deborah Alduini - Math
- Katie Wood, Drew Desiderio - ELA
- Lisa Hodgkins - Reading Specialist
- Lorraine Ferrante, Samantha Flunory - Special Education
- Carol Oberheim, Michaela Mancini, Paul Meiners, Kim Petzel, Mario Abreu - Support Staff
- Matthew Palmisano, Alexis Tyrrell - Physical Education
- James Happ, Patricia Gannon, Diane Greene, Mary Casillas, Sandra Jasensky, Karen Powers, Evelyn Fang, Bryant Lopez - Para Professionals
- Lorie Wesolowski - Cafeteria Monitor

In addition, in order to ensure a successful transition into middle school, incoming 6th graders are invited to orientation on August 29th. At this time, students will learn school expectations for middle school, take a tour of the building as well as meet school administrators and staff members.

- 4:30-5:00 students with last names that begin with letters A - G
- 5:15-5:45 students with last names that begin with letters H - P
- 6:00-6:30 students with last names that begin with letters Q - Z

The Torrington Board of Education does not discriminate in any of its programs, activities or employment practices on the basis of any protected class status.

In the event you have a conflict with the time that you have been assigned, please contact the school and we will arrange for a different time slot.

There are a few logistics to ensure a safe entry to Torrington Middle School each and every day, I would like to remind families of the following arrival and dismissal procedures:

Arrival: Doors will be open between 7:25-7:45 am Pull into the East Pearl Road entrance and proceed past the soccer fields following the road to the back of the building and follow staff directions. 7th and 8th graders are dropped off on the Soccer field side and 6th graders will be dropped off on the opposite side of the building by the baseball fields.

Dismissal: Pick up will begin at 2:40 pm and follow the same procedure as morning drop off. Please note that If you are picking your child up prior to regular dismissal time, you must do so by 2:15 and you will be required to show your ID to front office staff.

Lastly, students are reminded that **cell phone use is not allowed in school at any time**. As you recall, this BOE policy was implemented at the end of the school year and greatly increased students' ability to focus in class and complete learning tasks. Upon entry into the building, all students will be provided with a pouch on the first day of school. They must secure their phone in the pouch for the entire school day. Students may open the pouch and access their phone at the end of the day as they leave the building. We appreciate the support of parents and guardians as we continue to implement this policy.

Throughout the school year we will communicate frequently using Powerschool School Messenger. You will also find that our Torrington Middle School Website is a wonderful resource for school information for your child. Please check it often!

On behalf of the entire staff, we look forward to the start of a new school year! Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Shelley Rinaldi

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