



East Rutherford School District

All Children Can Succeed

November 22, 2017

Happy Thanksgiving!

Thanksgiving is a time of happiness and more importantly, being thankful. It's a time that I try to reflect on the many wonderful things that I overlook in the daily hustle and bustle that we all get caught up in. There are so many gifts, for which I am professionally and personally thankful once again.

As the Superintendent of Schools, I am thankful for the people that work in our district... teachers, teacher assistants, paraprofessional, bus/lunch aides, bus drivers, maintenance staff, administrative assistants, secretarial staff, nurses, food service employees, custodians, computer techs and administrators—all of whom work hard each and every day to make our district successful in educating our amazing students. The leadership of our school board members also is a critical component in our success. Our professional staff have never wavered in their commitment to serving our students and their families of the East Rutherford School District. Our staff is a great gift to our community and to me.

I am thankful for the many community partners, including service organizations, non-profit organizations, the business community, Carlstadt-East Rutherford Regional High School, human services providers, other governmental entities, and so many more who support our schools and the work that we do in so many ways. I am so lucky to have a community that cares a great deal about its children. I am thankful for our Mayor and Council, and local public safety personnel including law enforcement, fire and rescue, emergency services, the medical community and the many others who help keep our schools safe and help us to respond to a crisis situation. I have worked in other school districts, and I can honestly say that I have never experienced such a high level of cooperation and collaboration with public safety personnel. It makes a huge difference in terms of the safety and well-being of our students and staff.

I am thankful for the many volunteers in our schools, who assist us with fundraising and countless other activities. This involvement means a great deal to our teachers and our students. I am thankful for the families we serve.

I am thankful for the truly wonderful students who attend both McKenzie and Faust Schools. Our students are polite, respectful and always try to do the right thing. This is a credit to the families and to the entire community. I am grateful for our students in our schools each and every day.

Finally, I am so very thankful for my wife and children, who continue to support my profession knowing that the end product is maintaining district-wide learning environments that are conducive to learning, which will allow students to become productive members of society, ready for the complex world of tomorrow. I continue to feel that there is a special place in heaven for the spouses of superintendents, believe me. My wife has been the greatest blessing in my life. I couldn't do the work I do without her support and endless patience.

From my family to yours, I wish each of you a very Happy Thanksgiving with family and friends!

Sincerely,

Giovanni A. Giancaspro
Superintendent of Schools

GIANCASPRO



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A Thanksgiving Garden

~anonymous

Plant three rows of peas:

Peace in our hearts
Peace in our school
Peace in our world.

Plant four rows of squash:

Squash indifference
Squash grumbling
Squash selfishness.

Plant four rows of lettuce:

Lettuce be faithful
Lettuce be kind
Lettuce be obedient
Lettuce *really* love one another.

No garden should be without turnips:

Turnip for school
Turnip on time
Turnip to help one another.

To conclude our garden, we must have thyme:

Thyme for study
Thyme for friends
Thyme for family

Water freely with patience and cultivate with love.

There is abundance in your garden
Because you reap what you sow.

*The East Rutherford Public Schools wishes Our
School Community a very Happy Thanksgiving!*