



Empowering learners to embrace and influence the future with courage and compassion.

Clinton Board of Education Updates & Information – July 2018

NEW ADMINISTRATION

The Clinton Board of Education is pleased to announce the appointment of two new administrators.

New Assistant Principal of Joel Elementary School

Ms. Abby Rice has been appointed as the Assistant Principal of Lewin G. Joel Jr. School. Ms. Rice comes to Clinton with six years of administrative experience, having served as the Assistant Principal of Old Greenwich Elementary School in Greenwich, Connecticut since 2012.

Ms. Rice holds a 6th year degree in educational leadership from Southern Connecticut State University and a master's degree in special education and bachelor's degree in elementary and special education from the University of Connecticut. Prior to her administrative role, Ms. Rice served as a special education teacher in various New Haven Public Schools.

The selection committee recommended Ms. Rice after an extensive interview process that included over 150 applicants. Ms. Rice joins the Clinton community and brings a proven track-record of teaching the whole child and fostering a strong school culture climate. She impressed all with her high energy level and commitment to working collaboratively with teachers, students, and their families. We are excited to have this proven and dedicated early childhood educator partnering with Principal Angela Guarascio and the outstanding staff to serve the students and families of Joel Elementary School.

New Principal of Pierson Elementary School

Ms. Debra Murray has been appointed as the Principal of Abraham Pierson School for the 2018-2019 school year. Ms. Murray holds certification in educational leadership from Southern Connecticut State University, a certification in remedial reading and language arts from Albertus Magnus College, and a master's and bachelor's degree in elementary education from Central Connecticut State University.

Ms. Murray has spent her career as an elementary educator and administrator in the New Britain Public Schools. Since 2012, she has been the Assistant Principal of Chamberlain Elementary School. She has taught grades 4 and 5 and has background experience in literacy, intervention, and curriculum. Ms. Murray is a proven instructional leader and has successfully led school improvement initiatives that resulted in increased academic outcomes for students. She is an advocate for improving the lives of all children and is dedicated to creating a positive school culture through building strong relationships with staff, students, and families. We are fortunate to have Ms. Murray joining our district, and committing to providing support and leadership to the talented staff of Pierson Elementary School.

SUMMER WORK UPDATES

Capital Projects – Roofing

Sections of Joel Elementary and Eliot Middle School Roofs are currently being replaced. Work began two weeks ago at Joel and last week at Eliot. This project was part of an approved bonding project from May 2017. The project is being overseen by the Town Municipal Building Committee in collaboration with the school's Director of Building and Grounds. All work is expected to be completed by mid-August in time for teachers to return and prepare the building for our students.

Board of Education Updates

Although it is summer, the Board of Education has been focused on several important priorities for the district. In June, July, and August, board members have been participating in administrative hiring committees, contract negotiations, capital planning, policy review and development, facilities evaluation, and strategic planning for the district.

District Website

The Clinton Public School website is being upgraded and we are working diligently to reformat and revise the website. Based on parent feedback to our spring website survey, we are working to create a new, user-friendly interface that will provide important information to stakeholders. The new website will provide an interface that will be easily viewed and accessed on cell phones and tablets, and make it easy to quickly find the information that is most important to our families. We hope to have the conversion complete by the opening of school.

IMPORTANT DATES

- *August 15, 2018 – Welcome back letters and information mailed to parents*
- *August 20, 2018 – Parent Portal opened*
- *August 29, 2018 – First Day of School*