

Babylon Union Free School District

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Dear Babylon School District Community,

As you may know, on Monday, July 3, 2023, I officially assumed my position as Superintendent of Schools for the Babylon School District. Ms. Linda McGarvey, our District Clerk, did the honors of officially swearing me into office first thing Monday morning and then did the same for Mr. Robert Verdi and Ms. Catherine Wieland, our new Board of Education Trustees. In addition, Mr. Jeff Haubrich, former Babylon Memorial Grade School (BMGS) Principal assumed his new role as the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction and Ms. Lauren Fretto, former Assistant Principal at BMGS, took over as the Grade School Principal. It is with great excitement that I look forward to working with this newly assembled team of impassioned leaders who are committed to serving the members of the Babylon learning community.

While change can be unnerving, it can also be an antecedent to growth. The Babylon community has much to celebrate for what it has accomplished over the years. I am confident that the team in place will help to not only sustain the tradition of excellence that the Babylon School District is well known for but will also work to propel our district to new heights. This past year has provided me with the opportunity to get to know our students, staff and families and observe the quality programs and opportunities that the Babylon School District offers. As a result, I can wholeheartedly say that the Babylon learning community is comprised of wonderful people who have a shared vision of success for its students. It is with great excitement that I look forward to working collectively with all members of our learning community for years to come as we advance Babylon Schools to unprecedented heights.

As I shared when I arrived in Babylon a year ago, I firmly believe that a strong school to home partnership is the foundation for student success. As we continue to cultivate our partnership, I would like to offer some insight into my professional and personal background. I began my educational career in 1999 as a Social Studies educator and taught students in grades 7-12. I then served as a high school assistant principal for 8 years at Seaford High School and Elwood-John H. Glenn High School (JGHS) and principal for 6 years at JGHS prior to my appointment to serve as the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction for the Babylon School District. Each of these roles afforded me the opportunity to serve students, staff and families and I am grateful for each experience. I am also a proud mother of two children: Julia and James, grades 7 and 5, respectively.

I love working in the field of education and am so grateful that I have found a profession that matches my personal and professional soul. I am in constant awe of the magic that happens in school communities and know from personal and professional experience that “it takes a village to raise a child.” I subscribe to this philosophy because I recognize the critical nature of entrusting our prized possessions in the care of other adults. As such, I have always endeavored to ensure that my work is laser focused on fostering a safe learning environment that affords each child the opportunity to engage in meaningful learning and explore diverse opportunities so that they can reach their true potential.

In closing, I am here to listen, learn the priorities of the Babylon community and serve as a resource. I look forward to a rich and rewarding school year working collaboratively with the members of the Babylon community and am confident that with our shared vision we will do great work together.

I would also like to invite you to join Mr. Haubrich and me for a “Meet and Greet” on August 9, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. in the Babylon Jr. Sr. High School library.

I will reach out later in the summer with pertinent Back to School information. Until then, I wish you all an enjoyable summer making fond memories with family and friends.

With Babylon Panther Pride,

Carisa A. Manza

Superintendent of Schools

Babylon School District

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