

Millstone Township School District

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is with a great deal of excitement that I write to you as the newly appointed Principal of Millstone Township Middle School. Having worked in the field of public education for the last 21 years, I bring with me a unique combination of experience and skills that I feel will be of benefit to the district in the continuous pursuit of its mission and goals.

By way of introduction, I began my educational career as an 8th grade Social Studies teacher for the Demarest Public Schools. During my 13-year tenure in this district, I was at the forefront of using new technology in the classroom and consistently challenged my students to exercise their higher-order thinking skills through the infusion of engaging activities, in-depth group discussions and analytical writing assignments into my lessons. Beyond this, though, I volunteered to take on a number of leadership positions within the district as well, including that of teacher mentor, team leader, curriculum writer and instructional coach. In addition, I also spent a great deal of time over the years working with my students in an extracurricular capacity via my role as an advisor to the Student Council and a coach for the Demarest Middle School Track & Field Team. Altogether, it was an incredible experience and one that provided me with a solid foundation for the work that lay ahead of me.

After earning a Master of Arts Degree in Education Leadership, Management and Policy from Seton Hall University, I then made the transition to the administrative world. Most recently, I served as an Assistant Principal at Chatham Middle School (CMS), where I had the opportunity to broaden my administrative background and experience. More specifically, it was my responsibility to oversee the safety and security of the building, as well as to chair a number of committees that were designed to ensure that the unique learning needs of every child were being met. Furthermore, through my role as School Test Coordinator, I was also tasked with supervising the implementation of the NJSLA for Grades 6 - 8 at CMS. Looking back, though, perhaps one of my most extensive assignments involved the effort to develop a more positive school culture in Chatham. As lead disciplinarian and Anti-Bullying Specialist, I worked hand-in-hand with parents, students and a variety of staff to create a safer, more comfortable learning experience for all students through the remediation of behavioral issues. Likewise, I also collaborated with members of my school climate teams and professional learning communities to develop initiatives aimed at fostering a more positive educational environment within the building. Overall, I am confident that the lessons I have learned here and the skills I have acquired will go a long way in helping me to meet the needs of the students at MTMS.

In closing, I would just like to say how grateful I am for having been given this opportunity and that I intend to work very hard to fulfill the trust that has been placed in me. Moving forward, it is my goal to form a lasting partnership with you and the larger community as we seek to prepare our students for the challenges that await them in the future.

Sincerely,
Anthony Giaconia