

# OUR MISSION

The Mountainside Public School District is committed to academic excellence and providing an equitable, whole-child education for all K-8 students to ensure they are well-prepared for high school, and empowered with the knowledge, literacy, and social and emotional skills needed to be lifelong learners and shape the world around them. The District promotes a collaborative and supportive learning environment, infusing a comprehensive curriculum with 21st century skills that encourage communication and innovative, creative and critical thinking. It is our goal that all our students become informed, empathetic and productive citizens who are responsible on a personal, community and global level. The Board of Education, administration, and staff, working together with students, parents and the community, are accountable for achieving this vision.

# OUR DISTRICT GOALS

1. To develop a system to continuously collect and monitor a variety of student achievement data in order to better target student learning needs, so that every student is provided with the support necessary to be challenged and succeed at his/her appropriate level.
2. To improve and sustain a plan for regular articulation between both Beechwood and Deerfield Schools, and the Mountainside and Berkeley Heights School District to ensure that all students are prepared to perform at their full potential when they enter Governor Livingston High School.
3. To facilitate the social and emotional well-being of all students, increase their capacity for learning and handling challenges by cultivating a school culture based on communication, respect, inclusion, and empathy.
4. To insure that the district has a qualified and knowledgeable administrative and faculty to support a comprehensive program that ensures that students needs are met and to facilitate long-range success.
5. To provide students and faculty with a dynamic, state-of-the-art multi-media learning environment through continuous assessment and improvement of district technology infrastructure, equipment and systems.

## **WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE:**

- that children are society's most valuable asset and every decision should be in their best interest.
- that schools should give all students opportunities to achieve and succeed to the best of their abilities.
- that schools should provide a safe, positive and welcoming environment that emphasizes integrity, pride, acceptance and mutual respect and will allow students to become responsible and caring adults.
- that students must understand the value of education and the opportunities it provides.
- that schools must address the needs of the whole child in areas such as: social, emotional, physical, intellectual, and civic preparation.
- that schools should create a comprehensive curriculum incorporating 21<sup>st</sup> century creative and critical thinking, technology, communication, entrepreneurial, and problem-solving skills imperative to succeeding in a global society.
- that well-rounded academic and extracurricular experiences (athletics, fine arts, clubs) should be available and encouraged for all students.
- that parents are essential to the success of the educational process.
- that faculty and staff members should be knowledgeable in their subject areas, with a vigorous emphasis on professional development and creative, innovative instructional methods to ensure all students achieve at their highest levels.
- that facing budgetary and economic issues, the district will find the best funding resources available to support its mission and to provide efficient, effective and safe school facilities and infrastructure.
- that an excellent school system is crucial to the economic development and vitality of the community
- that community involvement is critical in the educational process
- that we must commit to continually improving communication and maintaining a strong relationship between the schools, residents and Mountainside community at large.