

## **A FEW WORDS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT 359**

The 2021-2022 school year is off to a great start! All of us in the District 23 community are thrilled to be back in the schools full time. There are exciting things going on in all four buildings, as you'll read in this newsletter – the fall 2021 edition of the District 23 Community Connection. Whether you have children in our schools or not, I hope you'll take a few minutes to review it, so you can get up to date on our curriculum, finances, accomplishments and the work that goes on at MacArthur, Anne Sullivan, Betsy Ross and Eisenhower Schools every day.

I am proud of our staff, students and families for persevering through the uncertainty and changes last year. We made the most of things, and students continued to learn and make great progress. This year is much different. We're back with a "new normal," thanks to mitigations that are keeping us safe and in school. (Read more on Page 5.)

I've enjoyed being able to spend more time with students and staff in the schools this fall. There's nothing better than seeing their enthusiasm firsthand. This includes attending MacArthur cross country meets (pictured on this page), serving as a guest reader, participating in book talks, taking part in staff professional development, meeting families at Parent Nights – even being a substitute teacher in a middle school English Language Arts class. (Don't worry, I promised the kids I'll keep my day job!)

I'm also glad that my administrative team and I have been able to get back to the traditional work of running the District, which includes ensuring that we are acting on our strategic plan and vision for the future. This summer, we completed necessary roofing and HVAC work at the schools. We are now planning the next enhancements to our facilities and programs, including the potential expansion of Early Childhood and kindergarten programs. We are also determining how we will spend our federal ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief) money to upgrade outdoor learning spaces, audio visual technology and libraries.

I hope you enjoy our fall newsletter. The stories here are just a few of the many reasons we are **PROUD TO BE D23!**

**Don Angelaccio, Ed.D.**

**Superintendent of Schools, Prospect Heights School District 23**

### **Pullout Quote:**

"I am proud of our staff, students and families for persevering through the uncertainty and changes last year."