

BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

June 22, 2009

Dear BPS Family:

As we approach the end of the 2008-2009 school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the entire Boston Public Schools family for all you have done this school year to educate and support our students. The many graduation and retirement celebrations, full of both joy and tears, remind us of the many hours and days of dedicated service and tireless efforts made by our staff on behalf of our students. We are fortunate to work and serve in an enterprise where we know that what we do truly makes a difference and where every single day, we are challenged to do more, do better and go further than the day before.

This school year has also been filled with budget challenges, staff and resource reductions, school closings, mergers and expansions, and health-related concerns. None of this has been easy, and we recognize the impact it has had on staff, students, and families. We are continuing to work to rehire as many staff into newly-identified vacancies as possible. We appreciate and thank you for joining in our efforts to advocate for more resources and for your patience as we continue to identify and seek additional local, state and federal resources to restore staff positions. We are grateful to Mayor Menino, the School Committee, and the City Council for their leadership on giving support of our work and efforts to assist us in this endeavor. Success always requires a team effort, and working together, we can.

Over the summer, some of you will be involved in professional development and planning activities for the upcoming school year, and others will help us provide educational experiences through our many summer programs for students. We thank you.

To those of you who are retiring or moving on to new adventures, we wish you the best and thank you for being a part of the BPS community. For those of you who will continue, we hope that during the summer months, you take time to enjoy your family, read a book, or find ways to be re-energized so that in the 2009-2010 school year, we will be even better.

Gratefully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol R. Johnson".

Carol R. Johnson
Superintendent