



Little Falls Township Public Schools



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Dear Little Falls School District Family and Friends,

“Life is like a camera...*focus* on what’s important, *capture* the good times, *develop* from the negatives, and if things don’t work out, *take another shot.*” I’d like to begin this letter by *focusing* on what we’ve been able to accomplish all together over the past seven years. [Click here](#) to see my six previous holiday letters. You will see not only the evolution of our letterhead, but the progress our District has made through the years. Next, I would like to *capture* our good times and most recent accomplishments:

- NJSPRA Number one school website in New Jersey
- NJSPRA Number one school newsletter in New Jersey
- US News and World Report School No. 3 Top Elementary School in the country (72 out of 1,370)
- US News and World Report School No. 1 Top Middle School in the country (56 out of 715)
- Selected by NJDOE to serve as panelists for successful pandemic practices
- Completed brick repointing at School No. 3
- Roof repair project at School No. 3
- Completed bathroom renovations at School No. 2
- Purchased new cafeteria warming stations at Schools No. 1 & 2
- Purchased a new telephone system
- Mrs. Strippoli won a “reimagine your classroom contest” which provided a \$50,000 classroom renovation at School No. 1
- Little Falls named as an official Choose Kindness District through the hard work of Ms. Davis and Ms. Budd
- LFEF provided over \$8,000 in teacher grants
- School 2/3 PTA purchased 3D printers
- The District developed a Before and After Care Program
- Students benefitted by our first Thrive In The Hive Program
- A district-wide ionization and air filtration project was completed
- We were identified as an AASA Learning 2025 Demonstration District
- We successfully implemented a new middle school drop/rotation schedule
- Our Gifted and Talented students have participated in and won the following competitions:
 1. Grade 6 placed 2nd & 3rd and Grade 7 placed 1st & 2nd in the Passaic County Quiz Bowl
 2. Grade 7 won 1st place in the Passaic County Kahoot Bowl
 3. Grade 8 won 2nd place in the Passaic County Logic Problem Solving Competition

I would be remiss if I did not take a moment to acknowledge the resilience, dedication, and hard work of our staff, students, and families. Changing guidelines, stringent health policies, and COVID fatigue have tried, unsuccessfully, to get the best of us because all together we rose above. Through the good times and from the negatives, we must continue to *develop*. We have been living for quite some time in uncertainty. This unpredictability increases stress and anxiety levels, which makes it easy to forget to work all together and lose kindness. Let us start 2022 in *focus*.

While my hope was that this letter would also be announcing a passed referendum, that is not the case. But that is okay, since things didn’t work out we will *take another shot*. All together we will reconvene to move Little Falls forward. As we enter into our winter vacation, I want to remind you to laugh hard, smile big, and give more than you receive. Remember to gather with friends and family safely. Our guidelines for quarantine have recently changed. Please be sure to check with your school nurse if you have any questions. In closing, as I look back on these seven holiday letters my heart is full with pride and joy as I visit Little Falls past, Little Falls present, and Little Falls future. This holiday season I wish you all the things that bring you peace and joy. May all your dreams come true and may the spirit of the season be yours today and always. I’ll see you on January 3, 2022.

Warm regards,

Tracey Marinelli
TM/am



One District... One Team... One Vision...
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