

June 24, 2020

Dear Arlington Community,

I am looking forward to returning as your Interim Superintendent of Schools effective July 1, 2020. Having served in this role from 2011 to 2013, I have the fondest memories of working with parents, students, teachers, staff, and our administrative leaders. I have had the privilege of learning what it means to be an Arlington "Admiral." I feel fortunate that working at the Arlington Central School District has been a part of my 50-year professional career.

As a member of the 2012 Strategic Planning Team, I served with a team of people committed to our schools, our children, and the communities that comprise our school district. I recall how we labored over each word in the Arlington Mission statement until we reached 100% consensus: ***OUR MISSION, is to empower all students to be self-directed, lifelong learners, who willingly contribute to their community, and lead passionate, purposeful lives.*** Today, I continue to have the same passion and belief in the hopes and aspirations that are embedded in this mission.

As we wait for guidance from New York State, it behooves us to work collaboratively with our community regarding the opening of schools in September. As you are aware, Dr. Lyons has already established the District Reentry Team so that we can begin that planning as soon as I arrive in the district. While the best situation is having all of us return to school this fall, we must be prepared for a variety of possibilities in case the State expects something different from us. We are counting on our reentry team, with help from parents and staff, to propose plans and ideas that align with our Mission. This is indeed an unprecedented time in our history which demand the best from us all.

As an Interim Superintendent, my goals include maintaining the leadership and administration of the district so that the Board and all of those involved in the search for a new Superintendent can proceed with that critically important responsibility. With that said, I want to congratulate Dr. Lyons as he moves on to his next chapter of service. I thank him for his leadership and for his innovation and dedication to programs that are consistent with Arlington's Mission and Strategic Plan.

In closing, I am pleased to be returning to Arlington, putting on my Admiral "stripes", and beginning the good work in serving the community. Please feel free to email me at [llicopoli@acsdny.org](mailto:llicopoli@acsdny.org), and I hope to see you soon.

Sincerely,

Lorenzo Licopoli, Ph.D.