



WHITEHALL-COPLAY SCHOOL DISTRICT
HOME OF THE ZEPHYRS
Robert J. Steckel, Jr., Superintendent of Schools
District Administration Office
2940 MacArthur Road, Whitehall, PA 18052
Phone: 610-439-1431 Email: steckelr@whitehallcoplay.org

Dear Whitehall-Coplay School District Families,

It is my pleasure to officially introduce myself to the greater Whitehall-Coplay School District community. I consider it a true privilege to have been appointed your new Superintendent of Schools and to serve this great School District starting today.

Most recently, I served as the assistant superintendent of the Northampton Area School District. I have been a public educator since 2003, serving as a teacher in the Parkland School District and then as a teacher, building administrator, and central office administrator in the Northampton Area School District. Additionally, I was involved as a coach and activity advisor for many years. My educational background includes a Bachelor of Education from Kutztown University of Pennsylvania, followed by two Masters of Education from Wilkes University. In 2020, I earned my Doctor of Education from Lehigh University.

As a lifelong Lehigh Valley resident, I know that the Whitehall-Coplay School District possesses a proud reputation for academic excellence and boundless opportunities offered beyond the classroom setting. The District provides enriching learning experiences for students at all levels and from diverse backgrounds. As an educator for nearly 20 years, I wholeheartedly value the programs and services in place, and I am committed to building upon past practices to ensure that current and future students have opportunities to explore their interests and find their true passions.

In addition to the robust educational program, it was the level of community involvement that drew me to this School District. I regularly witness this sense of pride throughout the Greater Lehigh Valley and over the past few weeks as I have met numerous administrators, teachers, and staff members who were extremely welcoming and helpful. Not only did I meet with these individuals, I toured each school, researched information, collected data, and reviewed several documents from various areas of District operations.

As I begin my time in the District, I intend to focus on several areas including, but not limited to:

- Developing a comprehensive pandemic recovery plan that focuses on the social-emotional and academic needs of our students, staff, and families.
- Continuing to expand equity initiatives that support the needs of students, staff members, and families from a variety of backgrounds and experiences.
- Evaluating the efficiency of all District operations to ensure that all resources are used effectively.
- Identifying opportunities to ensure that our staff and students have access to excellent educational and extra-curricular facilities.

This is an exciting time for the Whitehall-Coplay School District, and I am looking forward to the years ahead. I hope to meet as many members of the community as possible in the coming months. Best wishes to you and your family for a wonderful end of the 2020/2021 school year.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Steckel, Jr.