January 13, 2022

To the Byram Hills School Community,

I write to you this evening to share some leadership changes in our schools. As of July 1st, 2022 we will have a vacancy in Coman Hill as our interim Principal, Karen Eldon, will finish her year with us. I will be transferring Peggy McInerney to the position of Coman Hill Principal, effective July 1st. Peggy has been the principal of Coman Hill before, and is a strong leader who can implement the District’s vision. We will begin the interview process for a new Wampus principal next week and I am confident that a strong leader will emerge there as well.

District-wide, we recently conducted an interview process for the Assistant Director of Special Services. Karen Kushnir is retiring at the end of the school year. On Tuesday evening at the Board meeting I will be recommending Colleen O’Connor (our current BHHS assistant principal) as the new Assistant Director of Special Services. Colleen has an extensive background in special education and has been working closely with the department in her role as assistant principal.

Please join me in welcoming both administrators to their new positions for next year. I am excited about their respective leadership roles.

Sincerely,

Jen Lamia, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Regarding Lunch - a note from the Superintendent

The new guidance was silent about the lunch period. Currently, students seated six feet or more from an infected individual at lunch are not deemed a contact and do not have to quarantine. Students at Coman Hill, Wampus, and HCC are seated just over 6 feet apart from one another at lunch. The high school students have lunch spread throughout the building.

Since the surge of Omicron, we have tightened the lunch protocols in each building. Our school administrators and lunch monitors will ensure that all students adhere to the distancing while masks are off. If any additional guidance is provided (I have asked for it), I will share that information. We are sensitive about the lunch room and keeping all students safe.

Thank you for your attention to this new guidance. I expect to receive information soon about contact tracing as well - so stay tuned.

Sincerely,

Jen Lamia, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools