

Millstone Township Primary School

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Dear Millstone Primary School families and friends,

I will be honest, I enjoy the relaxed and slower-pace schedule that the summer months allow. It is a time to “recharge the batteries,” reflect on our work from the previous year, set goals for the upcoming year, and prepare the building so that our teachers and students can learn in optimal conditions. And, yes, there is the added advantage of more time to get lost in a book, take a road trip, and enjoy time with family and friends. *However*, there is nothing like the excitement of the opening of a new school year and all the amazing opportunities that lie ahead! Just think of all the new friends you are going to meet and the teachers you are going to work with that will help you become the best young person and student you could be possibly be!

At Millstone Primary School we assume the awesome responsibility of ensuring a learning environment that allows each student to feel safe, respected, accepted, and unique. From the first day of preschool to the last day of second grade, I want everyone to feel like Millstone Primary School is your “home” and will support you in every which way. It is for these reasons that I love leading an amazing group of teachers and staff who are dedicated to student growth and well-being.

This year brings exciting new changes to staffing and our school program. Learning spaces are continuing to be transformed and reimagined! Our preschool friends will enjoy their own cafeteria to allow for greater opportunities for peer socialization and school-readiness development. Walls have literally been knocked down in our Math Lab to allow for more student collaboration and exploration! Also, our instrumental music room will begin transformation to our “Collaboratorium” which will feature multi-functional areas for student learning and collaborative technologies throughout the room. I am excited to have you all tour the room on Back to School Night to see the room begin to take shape! Instructionally, the administrative teams across the district have taken a deep dive into the way we support students at all ability levels. It is our responsibility to ensure that each student receives the proper levels of support to ensure a personalized learning experience that meets students at their readiness level. I look forward to sharing more about how this will impact teaching and learning as the school year progresses. Finally, we have migrated our student information system (SIS) to Genesis which will allow for a much more user-friendly experience for staff and parents.

I am excited to welcome new staff members to our Millstone Primary School family this year (and familiar faces in new positions). Please help us in extending a warm welcome to:

- Mrs. Eileen Bergen – Preschool
- Mrs. Samantha Glinski - Grade 1
- Mrs. Gina Morrone – Grade 2
- Miss Cassidy Alia – Grade 2, maternity leave for Mrs. Bachmann
- Miss Jillian Behan – Special Education
- Miss Alana Lant – Art
- Mrs. Colleen Henkin- Literacy Coach, K-5
- Mrs. Jen Garzone- Reading Specialist, K-2

We look forward to sharing more information with you throughout the first weeks of school and at our Back to School Night on **Tuesday, September 10th**. In addition, our parent-student handbook provides important information about our school's philosophy, procedures, and policies and is accessible on our website. I encourage you to follow us on Twitter (@MillstonePS and @p_baker114) for information and exciting happenings in our school! Thank you for your support and partnership in our efforts to educate our students.

I cannot wait to see all the smiling faces that will fill our hallways on Thursday, September 5th!

See you soon,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Baker".

Paul Baker