

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is a day designed for reflecting on the past and looking toward the future. As I look back, I am thankful for so many things that are a part of my memories and my life. I am thankful for YOU, yes, I am thankful for each and every one of you; those who do well and those who need a little help; those who behave well and those who need to be shown how to behave. I am thankful for your smiles when you see me in the halls and the way that some of you will go out of your way to come and say hello. I am thankful for the fine job you do as students in this school. You make me proud of you in so many ways.

I am thankful for your teachers. I love coming into your classrooms and being there as your teachers lead you in exercises designed to build up your minds. I am thankful that each one of your teachers is deeply interested in you and works toward teaching you all those things you need to know and want to know. I am thankful for the way they all get together to cooperate for your benefit and to make this place the very special place of learning and growth that it most certainly is.

I am thankful to your parents. I love the way in which they give so freely of their time, talents, and themselves for the good of this school district. I am thankful for the way they are always there when we need them – from a party in a classroom to our annual school fair -- they volunteer, they see the need, they meet the need. They give this school district the very best that they have to give, and I am more than thankful for it!

I am thankful for this District. Yes, I am thankful for the West Jefferson Hills School District. I love this place because it is a good place to be, a place where you, our students, can come to explore and wonder and learn and grow and, yes, be happy. Truly, this is a good place to be, and I am thankful for it.

Thanksgiving is also a time for looking toward the future. As we gather to give thanks for the blessings of the past, our minds and hearts cannot help but project to the year ahead of us. I am thankful that, over the next year, I will have the pleasure of watching over you and working with you and growing with you.

As I think of our teachers, staff, parents and school board members, I am most thankful that we will continue to have a relationship over this next year that will allow us to grow even closer together. I am thankful that not a problem will arise or a situation exist or a need present itself that cannot be handled – and handled effectively – through the cooperation of the school district and residents within.