



Waterbury Public Schools

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Dr. Verna D. Ruffin
Superintendent of Schools

Message from the Superintendent

Thank you for the warm welcome to Waterbury Public Schools. I am honored to serve as your superintendent and look forward to the great work we will do together on behalf of all children in our school system.

The mission of the Waterbury School System is to establish itself as the leader in Connecticut for urban education reform in partnership with the State Department of Education and the entire Waterbury community. The school system will provide opportunities for all students to maximize their skills and talents in an atmosphere where teaching and learning flourish under the never-wavering belief that all students can be exemplary students, while becoming respectful, responsible, productive citizens vital to our community. To accomplish that mission, we need to hear your voices, opinions, ideas and collective input. I look forward to meeting you and sharing in your school and community participation in Waterbury.

As Superintendent, I wish to engage in a thoughtful, productive and inclusive beginning in leading Waterbury Public Schools. Through listening and learning from you and multiple internal and external stakeholders, I expect to gain a thorough understanding of the school district. It's important to learn about strengths and challenges, opportunities for students to expand learning, creative and innovative projects, the district's culture, and its partnerships with the community. The purpose in beginning this work is to best serve all students through the collective work of employees, parents, community and all stakeholders as we move the district forward.

In the upcoming weeks, you will hear from principals, teachers, committees and me about the development of a plan for all of us in Waterbury Public Schools. We will ask questions such as:

- What should a graduate from Waterbury Public Schools know?
- What should a graduate be able to do?
- What qualities of mind and character should a graduate from Waterbury Public schools possess?
- What experiences do you think our schools should provide for students to enable them to develop the desired knowledge, skills and dispositions indicative of a Waterbury Public Schools student?

Your input into these conversations is important as we develop a path for all students in Pre-K-12 leading to outstanding college and/or career bound graduates.

Welcome to the 2018-19 school year. I look forward to meeting you as we work together to make this an exciting productive year.

Sincerely,

Verna D. Ruffin, Ed. D., Superintendent
Waterbury Public Schools