



TOMS RIVER REGIONAL SCHOOLS

MICHAEL CITTA

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

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May 2, 2022

To our Toms River Regional Schools staff members:

It's appropriate that my first week in this role aligns perfectly with Teacher Appreciation Week because YOU— our teachers and staff members— are the people I rely on, admire, and appreciate more than I could adequately put into words.

I could, however, attempt to delve deep into “what it means to be a teacher” or try and find something inspiring to say to keep you going, but all I can really say is *thank you*. I believe those are the words that teachers want to hear the most and certainly don't hear enough. Thank you.

Thank you for being there, each and every day, for your students and for each other (and me!). Thank you for the hours spent going the extra mile to write unit plans, respond to emails, communicate with families, host before- and after-school activities, and provide additional support to help students stay on track and succeed. Thank you for staying on top of trends and teaching tools, and using everything at your disposal to make education fun and fulfilling.

Thank you for taking the time to make your classroom an extension of yourself, your interests and your personality, and for inspiring your students to also be themselves. Thank you for embracing the countless challenges that have come your way, especially these past couple of years, and turning them into something positive. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of countless others.

It is a special profession you have chosen, and it takes a special person to do what you do. I hope you receive all the recognition you deserve this week, and that opportunities to indulge in that gratitude are many. Let me end by saying again the one thing I cannot say quite enough: Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael Citta
Superintendent of Schools