



August 15th, 2022

Dear Team Catonsville,

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year! After a successful first year, we return to new possibilities and challenges that we will meet together. Our first day will be on Monday, **August 22nd, 8:00 am at:**

**The Pathways Schools – Catonsville (CV)  
405 Frederick Road, Suite 110  
Catonsville, MD 21228**

We will work to build upon our successes from last year and grow our small school. We will also work together to build a safe, fun, and positive work environment. A team approach and mindset are essential to achieve this type of environment. We will work to be there for each other and be mindful of the impact that our actions have on others and our team morale. Let us work to lift each other up and be a support when challenges arise. We did a wonderful job of this last year, and I hope we can build upon this for the upcoming year.

Collaboration and communication were an essential component in bringing the best of our shared experiences to the fore and will be even more important in the coming year. Learning from each other about best practices and implementing them creates our students' collective experience. Our students have individualized supports and services to meet their unique needs, but all require a safe, nurturing, and healthy school environment. Positive relationships, healthy professional boundaries, reliability & availability of mentors, opportunities for growth, and kindness in action are critical in making Catonsville a school that is a safe, nurturing, and healthy environment for our students.

We will be starting the new school year with some new faces that we will be eager to greet and many returning faces from multiple Pathways' sites, which we welcome back warmly. Wade Shifflett will return as a special educator, Karen Callen will continue to work with her caseload at Anne Arundel and Catonsville. Amber Banks will also continue as our school therapist and Julianna Randazzo continue as our Community Program Assistant.

I am very much looking forward to seeing all of you in person again.

Please take a moment to review the 2022-2023 school year calendar, making special note of the Professional Days, so that you can make every effort to be here on those days. I look forward to seeing you on the 22nd! A few points to keep in mind as you review the **Orientation Week Schedule:**

- A light breakfast will be provided on Monday, August 22nd. ☺
- We will start at 8:00 am daily, to maximize our time together. We will use much of the Orientation week for planning and site beautification.
- Tuesday, August 23rd, we will meet at the Columbia Meeting House for an All-Staff Meeting.
- Wednesday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, we will meet at 8:00 am via Zoom for an All-Staff review of the handbook.
- Think about what committees you will serve on this year (e.g. site beautification, fundraising, yearbook, Sunshine fund, Thanksgiving, Spring Retreat, field trips, Green committee, etc.).
- Please take the remainder of the summer to get some R 'n R. See you soon!

Sincerely,

*Forrest Flanders*

Forrest Flanders  
Principal

*Empowering Resilience*