

August 14th, 2023

Dear Team Catonsville,

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! After another successful school year, we return to new possibilities and growth. Our first staff day will be on **Monday, August 21st, at 8:30 am at:**

The Pathways School - Catonsville (CV)
405 Frederick Road, Suite 110
Catonsville, MD 21228

We will work to build upon last year's successes and look to improve in areas that are of need. We will continue to work to build a safe, creative, and collaborative work environment. A team approach and mindset are essential to creating this type of environment. We will be there for each other and mindful of our impact on team morale. Let us work to lift each other and be supportive when challenges arise. Positive relationships, healthy professional boundaries, reliability, opportunities for growth, and kindness are critical in making Pathways - Catonsville, a school that is a safe, nurturing, and healthy environment for our students.

We will start the new school year with some new faces in the CSS role and hope to add a therapist to join Amber Banks as our two School Therapists. Karen Callen, who has been at Pathways for many years, has stepped down and is not returning. Wade Shifflett and Gina Hales will return as our Special Educators this year. Julianna Randazzo, who always plays a vital role in our day-to-day operations as the Community Program Assistant, will also be returning and leading staff during our Staff Orientation Week to allow me to have paternity leave until my child can attend daycare, which will coincide with the first day for students. Until I return, I will look forward to seeing you all and working with you this upcoming school year.

Please take a moment to review the 2023-2024 school year calendar, making a special note for Professional Days and ensuring no conflicts. Here are a few points to keep in mind as you review the **Orientation Week Schedule:**

- **Monday, August 21st** - a light breakfast will be provided at the Catonsville site 😊 and we will start at 8:30 so that we have a little bit of grace in the morning.
- On **August 22nd**, we will meet Virtually in an All-Staff Meeting in the morning, and the afternoon will be in-person at Catonsville.
- **August 23rd** - In-person All Staff Meeting at the Meeting House in Columbia – Shauna King and Benefits Overview.

- **August 24th and August 25th** will be in-person at the Catonsville site and sign up for benefits.
- Please think about supplies wishlists, preferred committees for the year, and activities you would like to do.
- Please enjoy the remainder of your time this summer and thank you for being a part of this school this coming school year.

Sincerely,
Forrest R. Flanders
Principal