



# Linwood Public Schools

Excellence in Teaching and Learning

Seaview Elementary School  
Belhaven Middle School

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September 2019

Dear Linwood Schools' Community:

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year! This certainly is going to be an exciting year in the Linwood Public Schools. As a school District, we have a staff that continues our mission to provide the children of this community opportunities to thrive and succeed in the classroom, on the fields of competition, on the stage, and beyond. Thank you for continuing to share your children with us as our excitement grows for the start of a new school year. Once again this year, we have plans to enhance our District programs and services while always improving the experience that we provide the children in our buildings. Below I have highlighted some of our major initiatives and goals for the 2019-2020 school year. I look forward to working alongside all of our staff, and in conjunction with our school community, as we move along this path of excellence together.

**STRATEGIC PLAN:** Throughout the spring and summer, we have developed and designed our new Strategic Plan 2019-2024. As you know, this process gathered input from a variety of our stakeholders including staff, administration, BOE, community groups, and the community at large. The plan has identified seven strategic goals that are foundationally built upon the data and feedback from all groups. The plan received Board of Education approval at our August 28th BOE meeting and will be available on our District website. Our District staff is excited about the opportunities embedded within this new plan for the future!

**SUMMER CURRICULUM AND WELLNESS:** Once again this summer, we continued our work on specific curriculums to further enhance and refine our instructional and support programs. Staff worked on a number of areas including ELA, specifically on our writing activities, Expanded Day Kindergarten, and Gifted and Talented programming at Seaview and Belhaven. We also had Belhaven staff attend a Financial Literacy workshop offered by Ocean First through Southern Regional Institute and Educational Technology Training Center through Stockton University. Additionally, as we expand our support for whole child education and overall climate and culture, Seaview teachers began the process of implementing a Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) model in the elementary school, and our Belhaven Street Team members met this summer to review our Renaissance activities for the upcoming year. Student and staff wellness remain our focus this year - a very important focus. More to come on this!

**STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM:** As many of you may know, we are switching to OnCourse for our student information system. This includes all student and family demographics, gradebook, mobile app, lesson planner, and staff website capabilities. Other bells and whistles are included as well. Training is scheduled for staff throughout the first few days of school and follow-up throughout the year. We will also be providing further information about OnCourse to parents, students, and families throughout the school year.

**FACILITIES AND SECURITY:** Large amounts of painting occurred in both buildings that gave a fresh new look to both buildings - including some wonderful work on the main hall soffits at Seaview (with a special thanks to Kim Petrella for her work and design)! The Seaview Playground project is completed, HVAC work was completed, the Purple Lab and Room 405 at Belhaven were refurbished, projectors mounted in certain classrooms, furniture replacements, and more. As we continue to focus on student and staff safety, and through the generosity of our PTO, we will be implementing a Visitor Management System at both schools' main entrances. Raptor VMS will assist in managing

our visitors throughout the schools and enhance the safety and security of our students and staff. Raptor VMS will scan licences and government issued IDs and run a check against specific registries. Once scanned, the information is stored in the system for quick access at any other time throughout the year. Therefore, we ask that all visitors have ID available when coming to the buildings. The link below describes how the product works and more information will follow. We understand this may add a few moments during visitor check-in at the schools; however, we believe it is an important step in our security plan for the future. <https://raptortech.com/about-us/history/>

As I stated, our school staff is thrilled to be entering into this new school year. There are many new aspects of our schools in 2019-2020 - new staff, new technology, a new Strategic Plan, new security features, and more. But most importantly, there are new opportunities ahead, and we are excited to embark on this journey together!

#FinsUpWingsUp,

Brian M. Pruitt, Superintendent of Schools