



November 22, 2023

Dear Ridgewood Public Schools Community -

This time of year is dedicated to reflection and being thankful for what we have, what we have overcome, and what we have to look forward to. I want to take a moment to share some of what I am grateful for this year and to wish all of you a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.

I am thankful for our teachers, coaches, and advisors for your tireless efforts and creativity in providing excellent teaching and learning. Your dedication to our students is inspiring.

I am thankful to our paraprofessionals and classroom support staff for providing individualized support for our students.

I am thankful to our administrative support staff for all of the important roles you play, helping to keep us well-informed, organized, and engaged.

I am thankful to our guidance counselors, child study team members, and other student support staff who advocate for our students receive the best education possible in a safe and welcoming environment.

I am thankful for our nurses and your dedication to the health, safety, and well-being of both our students and our staff.

I am thankful to our facilities staff and food service staff for keeping our schools healthy and inviting.

I am thankful to our Board of Education and administrators for the work that you do to keep our schools running smoothly and your ability to balance competing demands.

I am thankful for our Ed Center staff for your behind-the-scenes support of our schools and your role in ensuring that we accomplish the great things we do every day.

I am thankful to the Village of Ridgewood and our team of crossing guards for recognizing the important role that our public schools play in strengthening and uniting our community.

I am thankful for our families and community groups for your unwavering support of our students and teachers, your inventive fundraising efforts, encouragement of our staff, and support for our district and its goals.

And, of course, I am thankful for our students, for your hard work, dedication, and passion for learning. We are grateful for the chance to support you in your educational journey.

Wishing you a wonderful Thanksgiving weekend filled with gratitude and rich time spent with loved ones.

Regards,

Mark Schwarz
Superintendent