

May 10, 2017

Greetings East Orange School District Teachers,

Happy National Teacher Appreciation Week! It is with great ebullience that I take this opportunity not only to wish you a Happy National Teacher Appreciation Week, but to also thank those of you who go beyond the call of duty each day for the sake of our students. I truly appreciate and applaud all of the caring, dedicated, committed, competent, and hard working teachers of the East Orange School District.

In the midst of all of the numerous state mandates currently being placed on teachers relative to common core, PARCC, formative assessments, analyzing data, SGO's, SGP's, etc., we cannot lose focus that you are the individuals who positively transform lives through your words, deeds, actions and the knowledge that you instill in our students. You work to open students' minds to ideas, knowledge and dreams. You fill many roles as listeners, explorers, role models, motivators, and mentors. You keep American democracy alive by laying the foundation for good citizenship, and you continue to positively influence lives long after school days and years are only memories. Few other professions touch as many people as teachers do.

With that being said, thank you for being important in the lives of the East Orange Public School District students and their families. Remember that Great Teachers Make Great Public Schools. I'm fortunate to have some of the best educators in New Jersey on the EOSD Team.

On behalf of The East Orange Board of Education, Central Office Staff, and me, **Happy National Teacher Appreciation Week!** We all extend our sincere thanks, appreciation and commendations to you as we continually strive towards that "Vision of Excellence" both for our schools and students.

Enjoy your week. You certainly deserve it!

Your Partner in Education,

Dr. Kevin R. West
Superintendent

