

June 16, 2022

Dear Washington Central Community,

This is it—my last letter to you as your interim superintendent.

The year was something else. I don't think any of us could have predicted how challenging it would be. There were mornings when I looked in the mirror, told myself, "You can do hard things," nodded affirmatively, took a deep, hopeful breath, put one foot in front of the other, and simply tried to do my best. I am pretty sure that all of us had at least a few moments like those this year.

To put COVID in perspective, as Maria Melekos and I shared at the school board meeting last night, during the 2020-2021 school year we had 13 cases of COVID-19 in our schools. This year, as of today, we have had 676 reported cases. The guidance and testing protocols were ever-changing as we all did our best to respond to the pandemic and keep ourselves and each other safe. If you are interested in reading Maria's full report to the school board, you can access it [here](#).

It has been a privilege to serve you as your interim superintendent this year. I hope that in the midst of chaos and tumult I was able to bring some calm and stability to our school community. That is certainly what I was striving to do.

Thank you so much for your support. It is by working together that we will best support our students to thrive. Thank you, too, to those who reached out respectfully when they had questions and disagreements. Diverse viewpoints strengthen our community when they are grounded in kindness and curiosity.

Meagan Roy joins us as our new superintendent on July 1. I am so excited to welcome her to our school district, and I can't wait to continue to serve this community as the Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment.

Congratulations to all of our students for the completion of a successful year, and especially to our high school class of 2022! Yay!

I wish you all a wonderful, peaceful, and fun summer.

Warmly,
Jen Miller-Arsenault
Interim Superintendent