



## HILLSIDE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*"Ready, Set, Excel"*

*Antoine L. Gayles, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools*

March 16, 2017

To the Hillside School Family,

I want to extend my heartfelt appreciation to everyone who made the opening of school possible on March 15th. Your efforts were extraordinary, and allowed us to provide a day of quality instruction for our students. As I travelled through the town on Tuesday, I saw our Buildings and Grounds team hard at work clearing snow and ice. On Wednesday morning everyone contributed to turn a rocky start into a meaningful day, ensuring that students were warmly received into the buildings. As I toured the district throughout the day, I saw vibrant students, active classrooms, administrators and staff members all pulling together. To have such a dedicated team of professionals throughout our organization makes me proud and truly thankful.

We were not alone, however, in creating a successful day. Our parents and guardians played a critical role in getting students to school under very trying conditions. That is a testament to the value that we, as a community, place on education.

The decision to have a regular school day was not without controversy. Constructive feedback from members of the community provides me/us with important information to make well-informed decisions. I appreciate the parents who called to share your concerns. Open communication is critical to our success and I thank you for sharing your perspective, which helps me gain better insight into the Heart of Hillside.

In closing, I want to thank you for your continued support as we move our school district from Good to Great!

Best wishes for a great day,  
Antoine L. Gayles, Ed.D.  
Superintendent  
Hillside Public Schools

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