



Casey K. Ngo-Miller, MA, EdM.
Assistant Superintendent for Student Services

August 29, 2022

Dear Newton Families and Community Members,

Welcome to the new school year! I am thrilled to be joining Newton Public Schools as the new Assistant Superintendent for Student Services and very much looking forward to working with you. NPS has a long and rich history of providing an excellent education to all of its learners. The district's longstanding commitment to inclusive education, specifically, drew me to Newton. Since starting the job on July 1st, it has quickly become evident that the district's commitment is built by its strong educators and leaders. I am looking forward to working with the entire NPS team to ensure the conditions are in place for all students to learn and grow.

Focusing on the social-emotional needs of our students and developing a sense of belonging for all students in our schools continues to be a critical priority, especially in light of the impact of the past few years. Such efforts are essential foundations for student well-being and academic success. We need to ensure every student feels emotionally and physically safe and supported in order to engage in learning. For our students with disabilities, it is imperative that we fully understand their learning styles and have concrete plans that meet student needs with the goal of providing meaningful and authentic learning experiences.

In the coming months, I hope to meet as many of you as possible. I plan to join meetings and forums to learn more about the district and the experiences of our students and families. I look forward to deepening my understanding of this large and complex organization and learning from the community how best to build upon its strengths and address challenges.

In the meantime, a great way to become involved in your student's education is to join the Newton Special Education parent Advisory Council (SEPAC). SEPAC is made up of parents and caregivers of students in special education who work together to share information and resources, work collaboratively and directly with district leadership, and advise decision-makers on policy and practice for our students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) or 504 plans.

Join the *Newton Special Education Parent Advisory Council* (SEPAC) listserv [HERE](#). You can also help plan for this year by filling out [a quick survey](#). And all are welcome to join monthly Open Board Meetings; details can be found [HERE](#).

I wish you all a wonderful school year.

Best,

Casey Ngo-Miller, MA, EdM.
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