



Torrington Middle School

200 Middle School Drive

Torrington, CT 06790

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Bryan Olkowski
Principal

Charlie McSpirtt
Assistant Principal

Leanne Maguire
Assistant Principal

Dear Parents, Students, Teachers, and Community Members,

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year! I am very excited to be serving as the Principal of Torrington Middle School. Over the summer months, I have had the opportunity to meet with community members, parents, teachers, and many students. The Torrington Middle School community is very strong and will achieve new heights by continuing to work together with all families. I recognize that as your new Principal, I have a tremendous responsibility to the school community to help all Torrington children gain access and opportunities to achieve the American dream. It is a role that I do not take lightly. I am very thankful to be working with a great staff and Administrative team who has been working to transition me into my new role. I am extremely honored to be selected to serve as the next Principal of Torrington Middle School.

First, I would like to inform you about a change to our Administrative Team. Dr. Mary Ann Buchanan has been appointed Interim Principal of Southwest Elementary School. We wish her the best as she takes the next step in her very promising career. Additionally, it is my pleasure to introduce Ms. Leanne Maguire as our newly appointed Assistant Principal at Torrington Middle School. Ms. Maguire is a very accomplished teacher who has spent her entire career in the Torrington Public Schools as both an exemplary Elementary and Middle School teacher. We are happy to have Ms. Maguire on our team.

Second, I would like to take the opportunity to tell you a little about myself. First, I am a lifelong public school educator who has worked as a High School Social Studies Teacher, a Central Office Administrator, an Assistant Principal, a Middle School Principal, and a High School Principal over the last eighteen years. I believe that public education is one of our country's greatest contributions to the world and is essential to help develop an educated citizenry, which is necessary to uphold American democratic ideals of freedom and social justice. Second, I believe that every child can learn under the right circumstances. Education is the great equalizer in our society and opens the doors to countless opportunities. Receiving an excellent education, which prepares students for college, will help our children achieve their future dreams. As a graduate of the University of Delaware, Rutgers University, and the University of Connecticut, I am living my dream serving as your Principal and am committed to helping our students receive the best education possible. Finally, I am a proponent of the "Turning Points" Philosophy of schooling, which operates on the assumption that every adolescent child regardless of age, race, gender, and/or socioeconomic status is at a "turning point" in his/her life while attending middle school. Parents, teachers, community members, and all adults who work with children must collaborate and work together to make each and every child's "turning point" a successful one, which prepares them for college and future careers. I truly look forward to working with all of you to ensure that our children's "turning points" are ones that will ultimately lead to college and career success while simultaneously providing them with access to the American dream.

Finally, over the next 60 days, I will be focusing my efforts to learning about the internal workings of Torrington Middle School. I plan on also becoming acquainted with our teachers, students, parents, and school community. I intend to regularly communicate with our school community to provide updates regarding our school and your child. I welcome your input and our future collaboration as we will continue to build upon Torrington Middle School's past successes together. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to drop me a note at bolkowski@torrington.org or stop by the Main Office to make an appointment. My door is always open.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bryan Olkowski". The signature is written in a cursive style with a loop at the end of the last name.

Mr. Bryan Olkowski

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