



September 1, 2022

[Watch Dr. Friedman's Video message](#)



Hello OCSD Families,

As Ocean City School District's new Superintendent of Schools, I am thrilled to kick off the new school year with all of you!

The first day of summer seems like it was just a few short days ago, yet here we are on the cusp of a new school year, my first with this exceptional school district. I know you and your children are preparing for the start of the 2022/2023 school year on September 6, 2022. Together, we will make it an exciting and memorable day, just the beginning of the next 180 challenging, rewarding, and fun days for our students.

The OCSD administrative team is planning a year grounded in the storied traditions and hallmarks of this proud district serving families who call "America's Greatest Family Resort" home. Our goal is to celebrate Ocean City School District as "America's Greatest Public School District."

With that in mind, we are in the process of launching a multi-year initiative, guided by Four Cornerstones – Academic Excellence, Health and Wellness, Communication and Collaboration, and Champions for Educator Excellence. Those four cornerstones will become the foundation of Ocean City School District's mission and vision and will be woven into the fabric of each of our schools.

Several highlights of what our Four Cornerstones will offer:

**Cornerstone 1: Academic Excellence** – the development of innovative learning spaces, the creation of comprehensive and engaging curriculum, a focus on college, career and workforce readiness, an emphasis on high quality instructional practices

**Cornerstone 2: Health and Wellness (for staff and students)** – improvements to the safety and security in our district buildings, a focus on social and emotional learning (SEL) for staff and students, the continued development of welcoming learning environments

**Cornerstone 3: Communication and Collaboration** – the creation of a culture of two-way communication, increased sharing of accessible and relevant information, the enhanced role of the district as a significant member and partner of the community we serve

**Cornerstone 4: Champions for Educator Excellence** – a focus on attracting, developing, and retaining highly qualified, talented and visionary staff members; ongoing support for mental, emotional and physical wellness opportunities and resources for all staff members; providing and supporting opportunities for increased professional growth

Growing up and starting my teaching career in Pittsburgh, PA, a city that shares similar core values, I never imagined I would have the opportunity to lead this storied school district on the Jersey Shore. Thank you for welcoming me to Ocean City and for entrusting us with educating your children.

See you on September 6th!

Respectfully,

Dr. Matthew B. Friedman  
Superintendent of Schools