## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Students, parents, guardians and community members, please know we are committed to the success of your child in a climate that promotes safety, equity and inclusiveness. Our team of highly trained professionals continues to seek out best practices in their respective fields to best service your child's needs and challenge their minds. Our vision of a School of Excellence is at the forefront of all that we do.

We are full on into the Common Core Curriculum for math, English and social studies. Although the state's rollout of these programs was heaped in criticism, our teachers are persevering to work through the glitches and offer a solid curriculum to your child.

All teachers should have their Homework Hotlines set up. You and your child can find out homework information by dialing 687-2400 and then your child's teacher's extension. The extension was mailed home in September. If you have not received one please call extension 4705. Also, please do not forget to sign up to Parent Portal by calling the same extension. Parent Portal allows you to see into your child's teachers' grade books to view their current grade, see if they have missing assignments and to view when upcoming assignments are due. This is a great tool and gives you the most up to date information, per class, on your child's progress.

The iPads are excellent learning tools. Your child's teachers have been in workshops learning to improve their skills so that they can make your child's education engaging and stimulating, while learning 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills they will need for both the workforce and higher education.

We ask that you continue to inquire from your child about their homework, their reading logs and how they are spending their free time. Please stay in contact with your child's teachers and school counselor. We encourage you to have a set time and quiet location for your child to do their homework, as well as setting a time when your child turns in all electronic devices to YOU. Research shows that not much good is going on after 9 PM in cyberspace. Ipads, cell phones, laptops and other electronic devices are better left in your room for the night. We need your child well rested for the academic rigors of junior high school.

Students, teachers, parents, guardians, counselors, administrators and other support staff working in partnership, is the single most important factor in your child's success. Please do not hesitate to call me if there is anything you feel needs my attention. I am honored to be working with your child.

Go Ganders!

Charles Tadduni
Principal
Rondout Valley Junior High School