

September 2017

Dear Members of the Cherry Hill Community,

Cherry Hill High School East and Beck Middle School are proud to begin our fourth year of *The Bridge* later this month. The Bridge is an after school resource designed to assist middle school students in their academic studies and serve as support. Peer tutors from the high school will be on-hand at Beck Middle School on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m., available to guide students through homework assignments in all subject areas. Our hope is to build trusting and long-lasting relationships between tutors and students and therefore will aim to maintain one-on-one matches.

In addition, tutors will offer study skills and the tools necessary for success at the high school level. Each afternoon, we will conduct a discussion session during which students and tutors will discuss pertinent topics associated with making the switch from the middle school to the high school.

The Bridge will work to make connections between our schools, our parents, and our larger community. A series of guest visits will be conducted so that our middle school students and their parents have several opportunities, throughout the year, to learn the expectations and requirements of high school and beyond. The benefits of this program are far reaching. Students obtaining help will be better prepared for their current classes, more in tune with future undertakings and able to make a connection with a mentor. Tutors will gain confidence in the subjects they teach, fulfill the important charge of community service and feel the sense of accomplishment that comes with assisting a fellow student. Teachers will now have another means of support for the work they do in their classrooms. They will be encouraged to recommend strong tutors and refer students who are struggling in their classes to *The Bridge*. Parents will have an additional opportunity to bolster the success of their children. There is no charge for the tutoring offered by *The Bridge*, yet students will receive many of the same rewards they do in private, often costly, programs.

Students who wish to be tutored will sign up **at least 2 days in advance** in the Beck Guidance Office.

We are determined to make *The Bridge* a success and hope that you will support us as we continue this exciting venture.

Thank you,

Louis Tortu
Advisor for *The Bridge*