



Dr. Christina Van Woert
Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Peter Frascella
Business Administrator

Dear Members of the Chester Community,

The Chester Board of Education would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our esteemed Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Christina Van Woert, following the announcement of her upcoming retirement at our October 15th Board of Education meeting. Her decision comes after twenty (20) years of dedicated service to our District and its students and thirty-five (35) years as an educator overall.

During Dr. Van Woert's tenure in our District, she has made significant contributions to our thriving school community. Dr. Van Woert previously served as Bragg School Principal before ultimately assuming her role as Superintendent of Schools in 2008. Amongst her many achievements during her time as Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Van Woert was named the prestigious title of NJASA Morris County Superintendent of the Year in 2021. Shortly after, in 2022, she achieved the Morris County Education Association Friend of Education Award. Her colleagues highly regard her as an educator who is committed to the students, families, and community she serves.

In a letter to the Board of Education, Dr. Van Woert shared this sentiment: "In my heart, I have always been a teacher, with a little more responsibility than the others. It is through this lens that I have always sought to teach others how to do our very best for the children of Chester. I will miss them and the joy that they have brought to my life the most. I hope that over the past twenty years I have been able to enrich their lives as well and have pointed them towards a path of lifelong happiness and fulfillment. That was always my only purpose"

Dr. Van Woert has been a steadfast leader, guiding the District through numerous challenges and helping to implement initiatives that have made a lasting impact on our schools. Her vision has advanced academic excellence and fostered a strong sense of community within our schools. She led Black River Middle School through successful applications for "Schools to Watch" designations for four (4) consecutive terms from 2010-2022. Her talents were a true gift to Chester. While we will miss Dr. Van Woert's dedication and commitment, we are excited for her as she begins this well-earned new chapter in her life.

As we look ahead, the Chester Board of Education is committed to ensuring a seamless transition. Dr. Van Woert's last day will be March 31st, 2025. The timing of this announcement will allow the Board of Education to conduct a thorough search for our next Superintendent of Schools. Our goal is to build on the strong foundation that Dr. Van Woert has helped to establish- and continue to prioritize the success and well-being of our students and staff. We will work closely with our Administrative team to maintain continuity in our programs and to support our educators and students throughout this period of change. Together, we will navigate this transition and continue our mission to provide the best educational opportunities for every student.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools and community as we move forward together.

Sincerely,

The Chester Board of Education