



Mr. Thomas J. Colabufo
Superintendent

October 15, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The US Department of Education approved New York's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) plan in January 2018. In developing the plan, the New York State Education Department engaged diverse groups of stakeholders to solicit recommendations on how to craft an ESSA plan that best meets the needs of the students, schools, and communities in New York State. The plan emphasizes fostering equity in education for all students and expands measures for school accountability and student success. If you would like to learn more about Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), visit <http://www.nysed.gov/essa>.

As part of this accountability process, our District is one of many school districts that have been recently designated as a Targeted District (TD) under ESSA. Specifically, the Central Square Middle School has been identified as a Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school. The reason for that designation is related to lack of overall student growth and performance of some specific subgroups of students.

As part of these designations, we are part of a review process with the New York State Education Department to help identify strengths and weaknesses of our current programs. This is a continuous improvement process that will continue until the appropriate levels of growth are achieved. The Central Square Middle School and the District administration will be actively working with the NYS Education Department to create a strategic plan to address the academic performance of our students. In the next few weeks, you will be asked to participate in a survey that will assist us in creating our plan, which is not only a requirement for our School District, but it will also provide us with meaningful feedback that will be very valuable in our efforts for continuous progress.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the accountability of the District, please contact our Assistant Superintendent for Instruction & Personnel, Concetta Galvan at cgalvan@cssdapps.org. If you have questions or concerns regarding the accountability of the Central Square Middle School, please contact our Middle School Principal, Mathew Penrod, at mpenrod@cssdapps.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas J. Colabufo".

Thomas J. Colabufo
Superintendent