

Valley Stream UFSD Thirteen

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Constance D. Evelyn, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Gerard Antoine
Assistant Superintendent
for Business and Human Resources

May 16, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians:

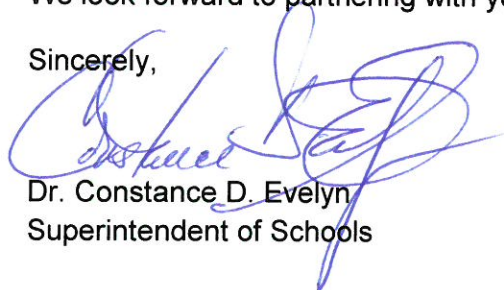
First, we would like to thank you for your feedback regarding the timing of the RFP Process for the provision of childcare services in our district. The Board and I offer our sincere apology for any misunderstanding about our motivation to engage in the RFP process for before and after care services and reiterate that our interest is to ensure the highest quality and most responsive provider to the current needs of our families. During our Committee Meeting last night, we had a robust conversation about this process, and in particular, parents expressed much concern regarding the lateness of engaging in an evaluation of other vendors that provide this service. We also pledged to provide a copy of the RFP, and that we would never contract with a company that did not improve the level of service provided.

Some of the questions raised last night included inquiries about why we included information in our last letter regarding the rising rate of poverty in our district as measured by the District's applications for free and reduced lunch. We felt it was important to highlight this information because part of the motivation for engaging in the RFP process was to ensure that we have the most competitive pricing offered to our parents. Other reasons included concerns submitted from parents over the years regarding available space in our current program and the fear of being waitlisted. We also hoped to achieve more flexibility and the enhancement of student learning activities beyond the school day. In fact, the survey results we used to generate our current Strategic Plan lists increasing student learning activities beyond the school day as an area that our community wants us to review.

In the interest of transparency and engaging the trust of the community in this process, the Board and District Administration have made the decision to revisit the RFP Process for a before and after care provider early next year. This means that SCOPE will provide the district with this service for the 2018-19 School Year.

Please find a copy of the RFP online as a first step in promoting our collaboration regarding this issue. We will create more timely opportunities for our parents to provide information about what other features for our before and aftercare service they may want the district to realize. We look forward to partnering with you in this work next year.

Sincerely,



Dr. Constance D. Evelyn
Superintendent of Schools