



A Letter From Superintendent Coxe...

Welcome to a new and exciting year here in York School District One. I trust you have had a relaxing and rejuvenating summer break and are ready for a great school year!

In York, our motto is *Connected As One*. As a District, we believe that by staying connected to our students, their families, our colleagues, and the core business of our work (teaching and learning), we can create incredible opportunities for our students and staff members. These opportunities are where the magic occurs when we make a lasting and meaningful IMPACT on our students' lives. So, this school year, let's commit to being *Connected for Impact*.

Since you all left in early June, things have been busy as we prepared for our teachers' and students' return. There have been a few administrative personnel changes. Please join me in welcoming the following:

- Dr. Latoya Dixon, Assistant Superintendent for Academic Innovation and Professional Learning
- Mr. Mark Sanders, Director of Human Resources
- Ms. April Aulmer, Director of Elementary Programs
- Dr. John Tharp, YCHS Principal
- Mr. Charles Drakeford, YCHS Assistant Principal
- Mr. Rob Farris, YOA Administrative Assistant
- Ms. Brandi Jackson, PowerSchool Coordinator

Including these administrative changes, we welcomed 73 new employees (56 certified and 17 classifieds) to our three-day new employee orientation on August 2 – 4, 2022. We are happy to have you as part of Cougar Nation!

Operationally, Mr. Wallace and the Technology Department have been in full swing. They have refreshed all mobile devices, replaced 1250 ChromeBooks, completed a computer refresh at YIS and YMS, and installed new panels at YMS. The Maintenance Department, under the direction of Mr. Charlie Westbrook, has painted and completed a landscaping refresh across the District. They also performed HVAC repairs and upgrades at YIS.

Mrs. Hagner and I have continued monitoring the residential growth that is coming both within and outside the City of York. When we last presented to you in mid-May 2022, the count of approved and potential homes was just over two thousand. On August 2, 2022, we had an opportunity to present an update to York City Council. As of this presentation, the number of approved and potential homes is now up to approximately 3100. [Here is a link to the Growth Presentation](#). In addition, we have been told that we may be on the September 12 York Planning Commission Agenda to present our Impact Fee Study.

Instructionally, we continue to pursue our goal of becoming a learning organization. To support this goal, we've made five commitments to our daily behaviors and actions that align with and support our belief system. Those commitments are:

1. We will foster and maintain a **safe** learning environment for students and staff.
2. We will establish and nurture trusting and caring **relationships** with students, families, community members, and colleagues.
3. We will provide **quality learning** experiences to meet the **individual needs** of students.
4. We will embrace a commitment to **continuous learning** for students and staff.
5. We will **partner** and **collaborate** with students, families, and the community to enhance educational experiences.

These commitments should serve as a guide for each interaction you have with district stakeholders. We can accomplish amazing things when we embrace establishing and maintaining positive and productive relationships!

Each of you has chosen to remain in or to join our York One family! And we are excited to have you! The impact of an excellent teacher cannot be overstated. Each day, you will have an opportunity to impact the lives of many children positively. Our words and actions, along with our example, can have a tremendous impact on the future of our students. I hope you will embrace building caring and supportive relationships with your students and work to hold them to high expectations. Our mission is to cultivate a service-oriented community of learners who strive for personal growth and excellence as communicators, collaborators, creators, and critical thinkers.

Our Strategic Change Agenda outlines three bold goals as we work to become a true learning organization. I hope you will familiarize yourself with them:

1. Create a challenging and supportive educational environment that ensures **readiness** for all students.
2. Create **quality** opportunities for ongoing learning for students and staff to promote **innovation** and **flexibility**.
3. **Build capacity** at every level of the organization.

Our children are an investment in the future of our community, and the 2022-2027 Strategic Change Agenda we've adopted in York School District One reflects that belief. By working to become a true learning organization, our focus can center on the system's clear purpose: to ensure our children have the opportunity to reach their highest potential by finding the intersection of what they are passionate about and what they do well. When we commit to the actionable practices in our Strategic Change Agenda, we can ensure that our efforts are focused on ensuring our students graduate from our system and enter our society ready for college, career, or whatever path they choose.

Thank you for choosing us. Let's get to work!

Kelly Coxe
Superintendent

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