

DESTINATION

3-1-1

Dear District Three Family:

As we move forward in achieving our goal of becoming a **District of Choice**, we must match the continuously changing educational needs of our students with 21st Century educational spaces. These environments foster safe, positive, and advanced learning opportunities. I am confident the [Destination 3-1-1](#) model will move us forward in achieving this goal.

In the **Destination 3-1-1** model, we are transitioning from a '4-2-1' model of four elementary schools, two middle schools, and one high school to three elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school. The '4-2-1' model was designed in the late 1970s to serve more than 3,400 students. Reducing the number of buildings required to serve our current 2,680 students will save the district in operating costs. These savings allow our district to increase the programs our students need to thrive and remain competitive with other area graduates.

Based on the results of an intense and thorough [Educational Space Review](#), our two 65-year-old middle schools must be the district's top priority. As we shared during the many **Future Ready Schools** meetings, keeping the middle schools open was not an option, regardless of the referendum's outcome. That result positioned the District to repurpose and transition Clifdale Elementary School into a vibrant 21st Century middle school.

Repurposing Clifdale Elementary School was a last resort, but a necessary move. As shared with the Clifdale families, the only reason it was chosen for the new middle school was **location**. Since we no longer had the option of a new middle school after the referendum failed, we had to place our middle school students in a location that is as centrally located as possible - Clifdale met this requirement. It is centrally located and allows for a smooth student transition due to its close proximity to Broome High School. Clifdale is currently under construction as it is being repurposed into our middle school.

We will be sharing additional information concerning the **Destination 3-1-1** model over the next several weeks. I am very proud to be part of an innovative District and Board that places the needs and safety of its students first and foremost.

All In,

Kenny Blackwood