

August 27, 2024

Dear Maryland Educators,

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year!

I am beyond excited to join you in welcoming hundreds of thousands of Maryland students into our schoolhouse doors in the coming days.

This year is particularly special for me. My five-year-old grandson is among the kindergartners who are starting their educational journey in your classrooms. I feel tremendous pride, comfort, and joy knowing his education and the education of all Maryland children are in your capable hands.

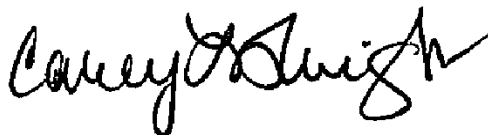


As a former teacher, I understand the level of commitment and hard work that it takes to do what you do each day for your students. I am incredibly grateful to you for answering the call to serve the children of our state. Teaching, without a doubt, is a calling. Next to parents and guardians, you have the greatest impact on the lives of the children in your classrooms. Your high expectations and support prepares them for future opportunities and helps them fulfill their dreams.

As we welcome students back to school, I hope you feel as energized and hopeful about the future as I do. Working in education in Maryland right now, we are all part of an incredible story as we restore our state's status as an education destination - a place where every child in every community has access to world-class learning opportunities. As we kick off a new school year, it is crucial that we remain laser-focused on our ultimate goal: *ensuring all of our students learn*. This work is not easy. To continue moving forward, it will take all of us working together and keeping students at the center. When I visit schools from Western Maryland to the Eastern Shore, I am inspired by the resilience and dedication I see in our educators. Thank you for what you do each day for Maryland children.

As I watch my grandson grow and flourish throughout this school year and beyond, I will have a constant personal reminder of your profound importance. From my family to yours, I hope you have a wonderful school year!

Sincerely,



Carey M. Wright, Ed.D.  
State Superintendent of Schools