



The Widener Memorial School

1450 West Olney Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19141
215-400-3710

Harris R. Gaffin, Principal
Teresa M. Guess, Assistant Principal
Theresa Harrington, Assistant Principal



August 19, 2024

Dear Widener Memorial Families:

Welcome back! Or, if you are new to our Widener family, Welcome and Thank you for choosing our amazing school for your child's education. I hope you are enjoying a wonderful summer and are ready to start a new school year on August 26th 2024!

Last school year was filled with lots of fun learning experiences and student successes. Here are a few of our favorite memories:

Our annual Red Carpet Welcome sponsored by The Goldenberg Group, Fantastic Fall and Winter themed Festivals, Widener's celebration of The 100 Days of School, Monthly special multicultural programs for our students, Widener Day and many fabulous senior events for our high school students.

We are already gearing up for an incredible new school year. Our teachers have attended training sessions to better help all students learn and grow. Our front office team is updating student files and ordering new materials. Our hard-working custodians have spent the summer cleaning our school. And, our cafeteria workers are preparing to serve your children delicious, healthy and free breakfast and lunch each school day.

We're also delighted to welcome our new staff to Widener for the 2024-25 school year .

Theresa Harrington, Assistant Principal

Kelsey Bittel, Physical Education (Pool)

Christopher Riley, MDS

Jennifer Disque, PS- HS Science

Anju John, LSS

Stephanie Gehret, LSS

Aili Harmon, MDS

Elizabeth Mahon, MDS

Candace Sharper, MDS

Jillian Strauch, MDS

Nicolas Priest, PS-LS

Carolyn Moore, SCS-7 hr

Keith Howe, SCS-3hr

Edith Shields, SpEd Assistant

Najai Rowe, SpEd Assistant

Be sure to visit www.philasd.org/widener for important back-to-school information and important updates from The School District of Philadelphia and Widener Memorial. I also want to invite you to attend our ***Back-to-School Night on Thursday, September 12, 2024 from 5 - 7 p.m.*** This will be a great time to meet teachers and other families, and learn more about the new school year.

All of us at The Widener Memorial School look forward to welcoming students back to school on ***Monday, August 26, 2024*** and working with our families and community to support high-level learning. As always, please feel free to reach out to me at 215 400-3710 with questions or concerns. Together, we can make this school year our best one yet!

Mr. Harris R. Gaffin
Principal