

## NEW PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dear Members of the New Providence School Community,

Over the past twenty years, I have witnessed the evolution of technology in our community, in our homes, and in our schools. As a District, we have embraced technology from the perspective of digital citizenship, best classroom practices, and in an effort to prepare our students for their lives in post-secondary education and within their careers. We recognize that technology is a tool, and not a means to replace our human spirit, cognitive abilities, or values.

More so than ever before, we are endeavoring to balance the innovation of technology with our teaching practices, ethical decision-making, and modern efficiencies. As a community and society, we are all faced with these complexities in our daily lives. These advancements have provided wonderful opportunities, but also present new challenges and more questions.

As Artificial Intelligence (AI) continues to have an unlimited presence in our society, homes, and schools, I want to inform you that as a District, we have begun to gauge its value in our schools, and the implications for students and staff. As we are learning more about AI's development, purpose and utility, and how it is already influencing tools that we have in place, I want to assure you that we are developing a framework for best practices within our schools.

This will be an ongoing process, but we know that initial policies and guardrails need to be established so that we can effectively teach students and guide staff, Pre-K through grade 12, with the appropriate and effective utilization. A committee of teachers, technology staff, and administrators has already been formed to begin our analysis.

It is exciting to envision the endless possibilities as this in just the beginning of a new journey, but we will also be mindful and prudent as we take next steps. The District will continue to keep you abreast of our thoughts and ideas as we learn and grow with the next generation of tools available for our students and staff.

As always, thank you for your patience and understanding. I look forward to seeing you at the many upcoming events throughout our schools!

In Pioneer Spirit,

David Minhi, Ed.O.

David M. Miceli, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools