



COLUMBIA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

COLUMBIA HIGH SCHOOL

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"Dedicated to Excellence..."

www.columbia.k12.pa.us

November 2, 2016

Dear Columbia High School Parents and Students,

I am excited and honored to be the new principal at Columbia High School. I spent three days transitioning last week with the former principal, Mrs. Hobson, and had an opportunity to meet many of the teachers. Over the coming weeks, I will continue to learn about the school and community by meeting with district leadership, staff, parents, and students.

I received my Bachelor of Science in Earth Science from Pennsylvania State University. After managing a restaurant and coaching swimming for a few years, I decided to return to school and received my teaching certificate from Millersville University. My first teaching position was in Santa Clarita, California where I taught middle school science for one year. I then moved to Maryland for the next five years where I taught middle school and high school science. I received my Masters of Education Degree in Administration and Supervision from Loyola College in Maryland and moved into administration as an assistant principal. The last eleven years I was with the Warwick School District as a high school assistant principal, the middle school assistant principal and the middle school principal. During this time, I also completed my Doctorate of Educational Leadership and received my Superintendent Letter of Eligibility from Immaculata University.

I have several goals that I hope to accomplish over the next few months including establishing positive and productive relationships with students, staff, parents, and the community; understanding the history, norms, and values of Columbia High School to elevate student learning and to collect; and review data and information to establish priorities for Columbia High School based on our strengths and areas for growth.

The Columbia School District Mission states, "The Columbia Borough School District provides a learning environment for each student to fulfill his/her highest academic potential. The District, in partnership with the community, will prepare each student to become an independent, life-long learner and a responsible, caring citizen." It is with a strong commitment that I am joining Columbia High School. I look forward to working closely with students, teachers, parents and the community to create lasting partnerships that prepare our students for their future.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael Smith