

Dear Families,

Welcome back! I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to you and wish you the very best for a fantastic school year. My name is Patrick Klocek and I am the new principal of the Woodward Parkway Elementary School. I have spent the majority of my summer familiarizing myself with the school and I am very grateful to those of you who stopped in to share your thoughts with me. From my research and my interactions with you, I have found that there is so much to celebrate. I attribute this to our wonderful community and to your steadfast commitment to your children and their education.

To tell you a little about myself, I firmly believe that teaching is the most fun and rewarding profession that one can choose. I graduated from St. John's University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education and I hold a Masters Degree and a Professional Diploma from Long Island University in Reading and School District Administration. I began my career at P.S. 173 in Fresh Meadows where I taught third and fourth grade. I loved each and every one of my students and I treasure the years I spent at that school. In 2006, I accepted a position as the Assistant Principal at P.S. / I.S. 178, an elementary school in Jamaica Estates that was evolving into a Pre K – 8 school. During my four years there, I worked closely with the principal to enhance our students' educational experiences while supervising the instillation of the middle school grades. I am most proud of the new school we established and I cherish the relationships I cultivated with the students, parents and staff in my time there.

Both professionally and personally, I have been very blessed. I am married to the most wonderful woman in the world and I have a two year old son and three month old daughter at home. I love being a husband and father and consider myself truly fortunate that I can say that I love what I do for a living.

As September approaches, I am overcome with a feeling of excitement as a new member of the Farmingdale School District and a part of the Woodward Parkway school family. I am eagerly anticipating the start of the school year and to meeting each of you.

Sincerely,

Patrick Klocek
Principal