



# East Providence School Department

145 TAUNTON AVENUE  
EAST PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND 02914-4505



Kathryn M. Crowley  
Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Celeste Bowler, Asst. Supt.  
Dr. Sandra Forand, Asst. Supt.

April 8, 2019

Dear Families of the Oldham and Waddington Elementary Schools,

At the March 12<sup>th</sup> School Committee meeting, the Committee approved the Superintendent's recommendation to return Oldham Elementary School to an Early Learning Center. Beginning next school year, Oldham will house classrooms for special education and stated-funded pre-school programs and all Oldham students in grades K-5 will attend Waddington Elementary School.

The district is committed to ensuring a smooth transition for students, parents, and staff from Oldham Elementary School to Waddington Elementary School. Discussions about the changes are ongoing and, as promised, a Transition Team was formed to plan for the transition. The district intends to keep you informed of the transition process through your school's parent newsletters and information disseminated based on the work of the Transition Team.

The Transition Team met on April 1 to discuss issues raised at the district parent meetings and school-based parent and faculty meetings. Items discussed were:

- remaining Oldham PTA funds
- disseminating information about before/after school programs offered at Waddington
- planning now for bussing all Oldham students to Waddington next year
- developing the itinerant schedule
- beginning any needed construction at Waddington on June 1
- moving classroom materials and furniture
- working with the police department to develop safe and efficient traffic patterns at both schools
- parking at Waddington
- Oldham students visiting Waddington
- Oldham parents visiting Waddington
- Oldham teachers visiting Waddington

Since the April meeting, Donna Peluso, Principal of Oldham and Karen Goncalo, Principal of Waddington, met and selected the following dates for the visitations. Please mark your calendars and make sure your student is present on the day of the visit to Waddington and for the Parent Open House at Waddington.

May 10<sup>th</sup>: Oldham students will be bussed to Waddington for a visit:

- 9:15-9:45 a.m.            Grades 3 and 4
- 10:15-10:45 a.m.        Grades 1 and 2
- 12:15-12:45 p.m.        Kindergarten

Families of Oldham and Waddington Elementary Schools  
April 8, 2019  
Page 2

May 16<sup>th</sup>: Parents' Open House at Waddington from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Additionally, a Joint Faculty Meeting is scheduled for May 8<sup>th</sup> at 3:20 p.m. at Waddington.

The Transition Team will meet again on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. These are the members of the Transition Team. Please feel free to reach out to team members with questions or concerns.

Celeste Bowler, Assistant Superintendent, Chair, Transition Team

Karen Goncalo, Principal, Waddington Elementary School

Donna Peluso, Principal, Oldham Elementary School

Charles Tsonos, Chair, School Committee

Jessica Beauchaine, Vice Chair, School Committee

Mylissa Moon, Coordinator of the Early Learning Center

Anthony Feola, Director of Facilities

Julian MacDonnell, Director of Student Services

Stacey Hofstetter, President, Oldham Parents Association

Tabitha Martins, President, Waddington Parents Association