

# SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CHATHAMS

## Note from the Superintendent

November 2016

Dear Parent,

In this season of expressing thanks, I extend my sincerest gratitude to you for your support of our school district. I am grateful to work in a community that values education in all of its forms—academic, social-emotional, civic, and more. I write this brief letter to highlight a couple of events and initiatives that relate to thankfulness.

### November 30 Special Speaker Event: MAGGIE DOYNE

What better way to mark the spirit of the season than to come out to Chatham High School on Wednesday, November 30, to listen to Maggie Doyne, the **2015 CNN Hero of the Year**!?! Ms. Doyne is a Mendham native who moved to Nepal after high school in order to provide schooling and shelter to impoverished orphans. She has become an internationally renowned philanthropist and has positively impacted hundreds of children through her commitment to ground-up community building. Please join us at 7:00 pm for this special event, sponsored by the [Chatham Education Foundation](#).



### Infrastructure Improvements

On behalf of the Board of Education and the district as a whole, I would like to again express our sincerest thanks for the recent referendum approval and the capital improvements we are now executing. Since the vote on September 27, we have held a number of meetings with our district architects, members of our staff, and key stakeholders. There are four projects that are advancing immediately: Cougar Field improvements, CHS auditorium improvements, the CMS STEM addition, and the MAS classroom addition. The roof replacements will take place in the summers of 2017 and 2018, depending on the location, and the CMS auditorium improvements will commence once the CHS auditorium work is completed. We will soon create a district webpage where we will update progress on these projects and provide an ongoing timeline of milestones.



In addition to the upcoming construction resultant from the referendum, the district also entered into an Energy Savings Improvement Program last school year. This program allows the district to finance energy-related improvements that a third party has determined will be cost-neutral due to the savings they will generate. Among other projects, the district has replaced old boiler systems, installed LED lighting, and upgraded HVAC systems.

Apart from this, the district has also taken advantage of a county program to reduce electricity costs via the installation of solar panels on the high school roof.

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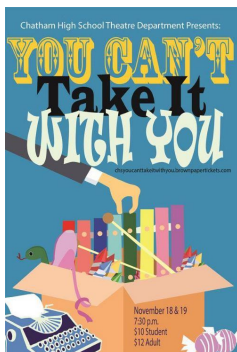
### Teacher Tearing It Up!

One of our high school teachers, [Julianna Ryan](#), has had quite a run! Ms. Ryan joined the district in September 2014 as a Teacher of Technology. She currently teaches animation and movement, robotics, advanced robotics, website design, and computer-aided drawing. To decompress this summer from her light teaching load, she decided to apply to the United States Air Force FIRST Leadership Program. Ms. Ryan was one of 24 teachers in the United States, out of thousands of applicants, selected to participate in this exciting program. Participants received training from senior Air Force leaders on how their training relates to STEM, in terms of both character development and career opportunities. I am thankful to work with talented and motivated staff members on a daily basis. Wow!



### Come on out this weekend!

And what better way to ring in the upcoming Thanksgiving Week than to take in a fine theatrical production right here in Chatham!?! The cast and crew of the Chatham High School theatre program invites you to the Friday or Saturday evening performance of *You Can't Take It With You*. Tickets may be purchased at the door or by following the instructions on [this webpage](#). We hope they break a leg!



**Happy Thanksgiving!**

November 2016