

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA Mr. Michael A. Pisano

**ERIE HIGH SCHOOL** 

•3325 CHERRY STREET • ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA • 16508• •Phone (814) 874-6200 • Fax (814) 874-6207• •www.eriesd.org•

Principal

Ms. Pamela A. Mackowski **CTE** Director

September 19, 2018

Dear Parent or Guardian,

My name is Jen Salem, and I am your child's Landscaping and Horticulture teacher at Erie High School. I'm writing today to introduce myself and share an overview of projects and activities that your student will be working on this year.

Prior to joining the Erie High staff in January of this year, I worked in the Horticulture industry for over a decade. I started my career at a local, family-owned greenhouse, transitioned into the Garden Coordinator position at the Tom Ridge Environmental Center, and am still currently working (summers) on wetland restoration for Presque Isle State Park. Throughout this time, I worked with student and adult volunteers, non-profits and other organizations, and it is my pleasure to work with your child at Erie High.

The Landscaping and Horticulture Program focuses on teamwork, sharing, working toward a common goal, communication skills, physical activity and respect for others and the environment. Our class activities will include maintaining the EHS campus, science projects that focus on botany and other life-sciences, greenhouse production, property maintenance and land management.

Our program culminates with an annual Plant Sale in May. My students participate in the entire process, including washing pots and trays, filling pots with soil, planting seeds, watering and general plant care, transplanting seedlings, marketing our plants, customer service and sales. All proceeds from this sale stay with our program and provide us with supplies and materials, field trip expenses and other incidentals not included in our budget.

I'm looking forward to a positive and productive school year. I value your input and questions; please feel free to email me at jsalem@eriesd.org or call me (814)874-6000 and, if I haven't already, I look forward to meeting you in person.

Sincerely,

Jen Salem

Landscaping and Horticulture Program, Erie High School

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