



Fort Lee Public Schools

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Welcome to Fort Lee Public Schools!

I hope this letter finds you well and enjoying the many pleasures that summer brings. I write today to remind you that as a newly hired staff member, you are expected to participate in our New Teacher Orientation Program that will run on Monday, August 31; Tuesday, September 1; and Wednesday, September 2. I do believe that you will find our exploration of teaching as both an art and a science not only informative but also very practical.

Our first day will begin at 8:00 AM with a light breakfast at the Fort Lee High School Library Media Center. You can find directions to the school on our district website: www.fortlee-boe.net. Please contact my assistant, Ms. Adrienne Lynn at (201) 585-4613 if you have any questions or concerns regarding the orientation.

In the meantime, I'll leave you with an important message. You have come to the noblest of professions, and in case no one has told you, your work shapes everyone's work. Your work shapes lives. And for these reasons, it is so important that you do your work well. In support of my statements, I offer you the two text pieces. The first is an introduction to an ASCD book, titled *The Art and Science of Teaching: A Comprehensive Framework for Effective Instruction* by Robert J. Marzano. The second compliments the first with a simple poem by Margaret O'Rourke, titled "Molders of the Future." Please take the time to read them, they will add to your NTO experience.

As the aforementioned pieces suggest, we will balance our time together. On the one hand, we will explore the use of effective instructional strategies, the use of effective classroom management strategies, and the design of effective classroom curricula and lessons, but we will also get to know each other and know the District.

So, rest up and get set for a challenging yet rewarding experience. I do look forward to seeing you soon and wish you only the best as you enter what should prove to be an exciting first year. Know that I am dedicated to your success and that my door is open if you need me!

Professionally yours,

Frank Romano, III, Ed.D.