



Dwight Elementary School

2012 National Blue Ribbon School

**1600 Redding Road
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Principal

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Dear Families,

Happy New Year! I hope all of you enjoyed a restful fun break with family and friends. Your children came back to school full of stories and ready to learn. I always feel that a new year brings many opportunities to continue to do what worked well, and to identify and improve what didn't. This year, my personal goal is to energize and empower the people I work and live with each day. It is an awesome and humbling responsibility to lead an elementary school and household. I hope you will join me in being an energizer in our Dwight community!

This month, we are inviting you in for a parent coffee on Friday, January 22, at 9:30 AM. The topic is on how to develop growth mindsets. MaryJo French, our Instructional Improvement and Gifted teacher created a presentation that integrates the work in which the elementary teams in Fairfield have been engaged for the last two years. We will send an article that you can read beforehand for background knowledge if you so choose. If you have read, *Opening Minds*, that too will give some prior knowledge.

January is also the month for Hoops for Heart. As you know, we were the number 1 fundraising school in CT again last year. Mr. Gelsi is enjoying teaching students about heart health during PE class. In addition, a healthy heart message or challenge is read each morning during announcements. Thank you for helping your children become "Heart Heroes" through their participation.

Finally, just a couple of reminders: If you leave an item on the Ooops table, please buzz the office so that the secretaries are aware that there is something that they need to retrieve. Also, if possible, consider carpooling for pick up afterschool. If you're not rushing to an afterschool activity, also consider coming to Dwight at 3:35 PM to lessen the traffic.

Thank you for your continued support of the hard work we do each day to maximize your children's learning experience. We appreciate your dedication and attention.

Respectfully,

Mimi Maniscalco