



**PORT WASHINGTON UFSD**  
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Dear Port Washington Students, Parents, and Families,

It is with honor and tremendous excitement that I introduce myself to you as the new K-12 Director of Guidance for the Port Washington Schools. My passion for education began on the college level as an Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admissions during which time I worked with students and parents on all aspects of the college admissions process. After earning my Master of Science in School Counseling, I served as a School Counselor for seven years both on the elementary and secondary levels. Prior to my arrival here in Port Washington, I earned my Master of Science in Education in Educational Leadership and served as an assistant principal.

Throughout my 13 years in education I have had the great fortune and opportunity to counsel, coach, and mentor countless amazing young adults. Working side-by-side with remarkable support staff, faculty, and administrators has allowed for my own personal and professional growth. I look forward to continuing this journey as we learn, collaborate, and achieve even greater successes together.

The Port Washington School Counseling programs are supported by talented and dedicated school counselors, offering outstanding professional resources to students in grades Pre-K through 12. I invite you to take advantage of all that we have to provide. Building administrators in each of our seven schools collaborate closely on a daily basis with our counseling staff through a shared commitment to our students. I encourage our students and parents to maintain open lines of communications with building administration and to seek their leadership for building questions and concerns that may arise.

One of this year's priority goals for the Guidance Department will be to complete an updated SED mandated K-12 Comprehensive School Counseling Program for implementation in the 2019-2020 school year. This plan will be designed to meet the academic, career, and personal/social needs of every Port Washington student through an extensive program model. Additional information regarding the development process for the plan will be forthcoming as well as how you will be able to participate if interested.

I have enjoyed meeting and speaking with some amazing students, parents, and staff over the summer months. The enthusiasm and pride shown for the schools and the District has been quite impressive. I look forward to becoming an integral part of the community, continuing the great accomplishments of the Port Washington School District, and most importantly, getting to know you and your children. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Have a great rest of the summer!

In partnership with you,

Andrew M. Akapnitis  
Director of Guidance K-12