Overbrook High School

5898 Lancaster Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19131

August 27, 2018

Dear Parent:

I am Jonathan R. Verlin and I welcome you and your child to my computer science and writing classes. I am delighted to be teaching your child either writing or computer science this term. It marks my third at Overbrook High School and my 17th year of teaching in the district. Teaching and technology are my passions and I am committed to building upon the work which you as a parent have done so diligently each day by raising him/her up to the next stage of their academic development.

I cannot overstate the importance the role which technology plays in the workplace. Writing and computing are critical business and academic skills and can be quite daunting at first blush. They need not be so. With the aid of computers, writing and programming tasks of all sorts can be completed easier, faster and better than ever before regardless of expertise and experience.

The primary focus of my computer science class will be upon creating web based apps of various kinds including a blog, computer-assisted instruction program, a video game and an iPhone application from HTML, CSS, JavaScript and Swift. As I will teach these languages at an introductory level, prior experience programming experience though helpful is not required.

The writing class will center upon college writing starting with the basics of careful reading, note taking and paragraphing. We will continue with college writing tasks of various sorts including the common application. Later in the term, we will shift to business writing.

As long as your child arrives to my classroom (room #300) on time and is prepared to become an active, discerning and productive consumer of his/her education, he/she will do well and duly prepared to succeed in college and set the example both in the workplace and in the world. Therefore, on-task behavior and appropriate use of technology at all times are essential. No indiscriminate web browsing should be engaged in nor cell phones be used unless otherwise directed.

I look forward to teaching your child. If any questions or issues arise, please feel free to contact me by phone at (215) 581-5507 or by e-mail at jrverlin@philasd.org at any time. I wish your child a happy and productive term and once again, welcome!

Yours in service,

Jonathan R. Verlin, M.A., M.Ed., M.S.I.S., M.S.

Teacher and Technology Leader, Overbrook High School