

DR. LISHA CABRAL
SUPERINTENDENT

CHRISTINE PRUITT
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

JOSEPH SPAGNA
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE



CRAIG DAVIDSON
DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL SERVICES

KRISTINA DENAPOLI
DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

ANTHONY KOPACZ
DIRECTOR OF FACILITIES & OPERATIONS

December 5, 2025

Dear EPS Community,

After 35 years in public education—and 13 deeply meaningful years in this district—I share the news of my upcoming retirement with a full heart and profound gratitude. It is impossible to capture the humility and pride I feel as I reflect on the work we have accomplished together. Serving this community has been the most fulfilling stage of my career, and I remain forever grateful for the trust and partnership you have given me.

As I move toward this transition, please know that I will continue to serve with the same energy and commitment on my last day in June as I did on my first. I am dedicated to supporting a seamless transition and ensuring that the next phases of leadership are executed thoughtfully, collaboratively, and with full input from all stakeholders—remaining true to the inclusive approach that has guided our work and our problem-solving for many years.

During my time here, we have built a stronger, safer, and more unified district—both literally and figuratively. Together, we completed capital projects that transformed our schools and grounds into clean, comfortable, and above all, safer environments for all who learn and work within them. We created one unified campus that is not only beautiful and functional, but welcoming and engaging for the entire community to use and enjoy for decades to come. We also developed a strong and focused Strategic Plan that elevates teaching and learning while centering equity, access, and a deep sense of belonging.

The residents of this town have shown extraordinary support for the school district and its children. This is a truly special community—rich with traditions, customs, and a deep sense of pride found in few places. Our students are fortunate to grow and learn in an environment that values them, their growth, their gifts, and their talents. This collective care has been a cornerstone of our success and a constant source of inspiration for me.

Over the past decade, our district has accomplished far more than can be captured in a single message. The list is simply too long. Yet among our proudest achievements are those that many once believed were impossible. Our partnerships have been central to this progress. Community organizations across Easton have joined us in developing meaningful programs and initiatives that enrich the education and daily lives of our students, their families, and our staff. Programs like Water Wise provide children with essential life-saving skills in and around water as part of their physical education program. The addition of staff daycare offers peace of mind to those who dedicate themselves to serving our students each day. Our early college and career pathways have opened invaluable—and free—opportunities for every high school student to explore their future goals in a structured and supportive program. The implementation of free, full-day kindergarten has strengthened equity and ensured that all children begin their educational journey with a strong foundation. And our robust in-district special education programs allow students to learn close to home, in the least restrictive environment, supported by educators who know and value them. While these highlights represent only a small portion of what has been achieved, they reflect the

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CHRISTINE PRUITT
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

ONDREA STARZHEVSKIY
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

ANTHONY KOPACZ
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS



CAROLS PEREZ
DIRECTOR OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY,
INCLUSION AND ACCESSIBILITY

CRAIG DAVIDSON
DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL SERVICES

KRISTINA DENAPOLI
DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

transformative impact made possible through collective commitment and shared belief in what our district can accomplish.

We have also navigated extraordinarily challenging times—COVID, economic recessions, and both global and local crises—and we did so by supporting one another, solving problems side by side, and always keeping our students at the center. I remain inspired by the collaborative and collegial relationships we built with town departments. In a world where such cooperation is far too rare, working with a town administrator, staff, and department heads of such professionalism and capacity has been a genuine gift and an immense benefit to this community.

I must also extend my deepest appreciation to our School Committees over the years. They have challenged us, supported us, and consistently demonstrated unwavering care for the children and staff they represent. Their steady governance has made all of our work possible.

I have long said that this is one of the finest school districts in the world—and I have never intended that as an exaggeration, nor have I ever meant it more sincerely than I do today. Excelling in the highest-ranked state in a highly ranked nation, we are fortunate to have the highest-quality team here in Easton. It is their skill, their sacrifices, and their unwavering dedication that set this district apart. Through challenges and triumphs alike, their extraordinary efforts have made all the difference. Their commitment does not simply shine—it illuminates the path forward for our students, our community, and our future.

Most of all, I want to thank our students. Their talent, curiosity, humor, resilience, and growth have given true meaning to my days (and nights!). They are the reason all of us do this work, and they remain my greatest source of pride.

Leading this district has been an honor beyond words. I will leave with immense gratitude for what we have built together and deep confidence in the bright future ahead. Thank you for inviting me into your community, for your partnership, and for the privilege of serving you.

With humility, pride, and heartfelt appreciation,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisha Cabral".

Dr. Lisha Cabral