Students, Parents/Guardians, and Community Members,

It is with great excitement that I write this letter of introduction to you as the newly appointed Director of Special Education for NorthSTAR Educational Program. I am honored to have the opportunity to lead a school community with such great staff, students, families, and community support. I am thrilled to share that NorthSTAR has a new home at 54 Oakman Street dedicated solely for our Program with three floors including beautiful classrooms, a gymnasium, a cafeteria, a music room, an art room, a library, and much more with space to grow and spread out. I am eager for you to see it and for it to be “your school”!

I have been dedicated to the field of special education for more than sixteen years. I began my career as a Spanish teacher for Monroe 2 Orleans BOCES in a therapeutic special education program. I joined the Rochester City School District in August of 2019 as an Associate Director of Special Education. I am excited to continue to bring my skills as an educational leader as well as an advocate for students with disabilities to NorthSTAR Educational Program and to work with you as a partner in education to ensure every student meets their potential. Along with teachers and staff, I will work tirelessly to continue the success established at NorthSTAR, by building strong relationships with parents, students, and community partnerships.

To our students, I know the start of the school year will look very different from years past, however I cannot wait to get to know you all. I am committed to your success both academically and personally.

As your Director, it is important to me that everyone who is a part of the NorthSTAR team feel welcome, heard, and valued! In order to make the transition into the school year as smooth as possible, we will be offering virtual open house times via Zoom. The times are as follows:

- Thursday, September 10, 2020 9am-10am
- Thursday, September 10, 2020 2pm-3pm
- Friday, September 11, 2020 8am-9am
- Friday, September 11, 2020 12pm-1pm

Join by going to www.zoom.com and using the Meeting ID 449 374 2527 and Password 279914

I look forward to meeting all of you and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, concerns, or ideas you would like to share.

Warm Regards,

Michele Hewitt