



**Stanhope Public School District**  
OFFICE OF THE GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT  
24 Valley Road  
Stanhope, NJ 07874

973-347-0008  
[www.stanhopeschools.org](http://www.stanhopeschools.org)

**Alicia Finklea-DiCataldo**  
*Principal*

**Steven T. Hagemann**  
*Superintendent*

**Dr. Steven E. McHugh, Sr.**  
*Business Administrator/Board Secretary*

August 14, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome back to another outstanding school year at Valley Road School! I am excited to begin my sixth year as School Counselor at VRS.

As the school counselor, I want to encourage you to contact me with any concerns you may have for your child. The School Counseling Program is such an integral part of our school community. I believe it is important to merge academics and character development for healthy developmental growth of the children here at Valley Road School. Students will cover Character Education throughout the 2019-2020 school year; Trustworthiness, Respect, Values, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring and Citizenship. I am excited to engage your children in more classroom lessons, small groups, and individual activities that foster respect, character education, and healthy social, emotional, and academic functioning in and outside of the classroom. Through collaboration with teachers, parents, and administration, I strive to support and nurture the "whole" child by addressing all concerns.

I am also the district's Anti-Bullying Specialist, which means that in addition to working with students to minimize incidents of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying (HIB), I conduct any necessary investigations throughout the school year. If you have any concerns about your or any other child, please contact me as soon as possible so they can be addressed. At our school, we strive to not only help students understand the importance of being kind and respectful to one another, but also to help students learn from their mistakes.

Working together, we can provide a respectful and encouraging environment that helps our students meet present and future challenges in an ever changing society. I look forward to continual communication with you, and invite you to contact me anytime with any questions or concerns about your child or the Valley Road School Counseling Program. You are also welcome to visit our website at [www.stanhopeschools.org](http://www.stanhopeschools.org) for additional information.

Sincerely,  
Assunta Jardine  
School Counselor  
[ajardine@stanhopeschools.org](mailto:ajardine@stanhopeschools.org)  
973-347-0008 Ext:4108