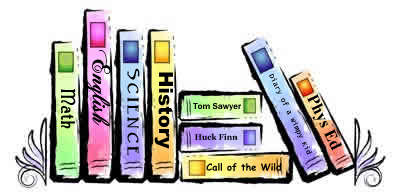
**Bunker Hill Middle School**

**7th grade English**

**August 30, 2017**

**Dear BHMS Class of 2019,**

**My name is Mrs. Martelli, and I’m looking forward to getting to know you this year. It is my hope that as the year progresses, we can explore literature together as you become an enthusiastic young writer! This year we will be using many different types of activities to analyze literature and use what we learn to write several types of essays. I look forward to getting to know you this year! Your first activity is this letter-writing assignment that will help us to get to know each other.**

**First, let me tell you a little about myself. This school year is my eighteenth teaching at Bunker Hill. My husband and I live in Washington Township. In fact, I'm sure some of you have been past my house at some point because I live in the Birches. My daughter Ally is a 2007 Washington Township High School graduate, and she spent her middle school years right here at BHMS! She loved this school and has fond memories of her time here. She actually is still close to the friends she made while she attended school here. As of now, Ally is living and working in Philadelphia, PA. I love it when she comes home to visit, and we try to see each other a few times a month. Just last week, in fact, Ally and I spent two days together in New York! We had lots of fun, even though the trip was exhausting!**

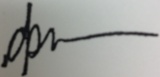
**Something that you probably don’t know about me is that I also graduated from Washington Township High School. Of course, when I was there, it was much smaller than it is now, and there were no computers, no cell phones, no Internet! I had to write all of my assignments by hand…with a pen or pencil…on paper. Gee, I’m old, huh?**

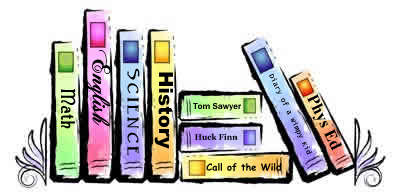
**Although I have many hobbies and interests, my favorites are reading and writing. I love spending my summer days on the beach with a good book. I have written several short stories and essays. I also love to watch movies, and I will watch just about anything. It doesn’t matter if it’s a good movie, a great movie, or a terrible movie. I enjoy watching how the characters develop and interact with each other. My husband and I love spending time “down the shore” in the summer, and we also love traveling to new places whenever we can. Some recent trips have taken me to Disneyland in California and Charleston, South Carolina. We are both baseball fans who love the Phillies and the NY Yankees. Additionally, I love to watch tennis matches. My all-time favorite player is Andre Agassi, and my favorite active tennis player is Novak Djokovic. This week, in fact, I am taping the U.S. Open tennis tournament and catching up on matches when I get home!**

**As I said earlier, I am looking forward to getting to know you this year; we have so much more to learn about each other and so many exciting writing projects to complete! I think we can have some fun along the way, too. At least I hope so! If you ever have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to come to me. If I can’t fix your problem, I might know someone who can. Let’s have a great seventh-grade year together!**

**I’d love to hear about you now. Please respond to my letter with a letter of your own. Tell me about yourself and your family. Include details about your hobbies, interests, favorite subjects, vacations, and goals for the year, and anything else you would like to mention. Your letters are very important to me and will not only help me to get to know you, but also give me ideas for future lessons and activities. I am looking forward to reading your letters.**

**Sincerely,**

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**dpmartelli**

**bhms ela teacher**

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