



400 Spartan Drive, Salem, VA 24153

Principal Kelly Linkenhoker

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**Dear Salem High School Families, Students, and Community Members,**

As we embark on a new academic year at Salem High School, I am filled with immense pride and excitement to continue our journey together as your principal. Now in my second year, I have had the pleasure of witnessing firsthand the dedication, spirit, and resilience that define our remarkable community.

At Salem High School, we believe that excellence is not merely a goal but a daily practice. **If we want to be great it's up to all of us to Make it great!** Excellence comes from the culmination of countless small actions and commitments that collectively shape our students' experiences and outcomes. This year, I want to emphasize the importance of these "little things" – the details that may seem minor but are essential to maintaining a spirit of excellence, high academic expectations, rigor, and responsibility.

Every greeting in the hallway, every classroom interaction, every piece of homework turned in on time, and every act of kindness contributes to the vibrant, nurturing environment that prepares our students for college, careers, and life. We aim to instill a sense of responsibility and accountability in our students, encouraging them to take ownership of their learning and personal growth.

Our faculty and staff are committed to fostering an environment where academic rigor is balanced with support and encouragement. We are dedicated to challenging our students while providing them with the resources they need to succeed. This means offering rigorous coursework, encouraging critical thinking, and promoting a culture of inquiry and innovation.

To our students: Your journey at Salem High School is a significant chapter in your life. Embrace the challenges and opportunities that come your way. Remember that every small effort you make, whether in the classroom, on the sports field, or in your community, contributes to your overall growth and readiness for the future.

To our families: Your support and involvement are invaluable. Together, we create a partnership that strengthens our students' educational experience. We encourage you to stay engaged, communicate with teachers, and be active participants in the school community.

To our community members: Your continued support and engagement are critical to our success. We value the partnerships we have with local organizations and businesses and look forward to further collaboration to enhance our students' educational experiences.

As we move forward, let us all commit to focusing on the little things that make a big difference. By doing so, we will uphold the high standards of Salem High School and ensure that our students are well-prepared for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

Thank you for your unwavering support and dedication to our school. Together, we will continue to strive for excellence and make Salem High School a place where every student can thrive.

Warm regards,

*Dr. Kelly Linkenhoker, Principal*

**Love, Engage and Inspire  
#SpartanStrong**