

Evesham Township School District

Meland Administration Building, 25 South Maple Avenue, Marlton, NJ 08053 www.evesham.k12.nj.us · (856) 983-1800 · Fax # (856) 983-2939

Dr. Justin Smith, Superintendent Mr. John Recchinti, School Business Administrator Ms. Danielle T. Magulick, Director of Curriculum & Instruction Mr. Richard G. Dantinne, Jr., Director of Personnel

September 2, 2021

Dear ETSD Families.

<u>Highlights</u>: Quick Community Survey; Employment Opportunities, join our team!; Opening Message; Busing--Masks Required and Seats Assigned; Communication when/if a positive case is identified; School Bus Advertising Historic First; Community Activities; Friendly reminders of Vaccination Walk-In Opportunities.

First Day of School is a week away! We are excited and eager to welcome our students back. All our staff are working to provide the best possible experience for your children. Patience and understanding, always vital, are especially important in the early days of the year. Our teachers, our students, all our staff, will benefit from every ounce of support. It is going to be a great year!

Quick Community Survey

Got a couple minutes to help our town?? Thank you, then please take this super quick survey linked below. It took me under 2 minutes. Our town was *one of only two in our state* to receive a NJ Dept. of Health grant to make our community more inclusive for those with disabilities. 100 responses so far, and we really need 500!

People with disabilities and family members of people with disabilities:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Evesham-PWDFamily

Everyone else: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Evesham-NondisabledCommunity

Employment Opportunities, join our team!

Available positions include Lunch Aides, Bus Drivers, Bus Aides, Classroom Aides, ECC Counselors, Clerk Typist, Teddy Bear Academy Classroom Aide, Bus Mechanic, certified Family and Consumer Science Teacher, certified substitute Music Teacher, Substitute Teachers, Substitute Custodians, and more. Please visit Evesham Township School District - Frontline Recruitment for more information.



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Opening Message

My Opening Message yesterday for our staff is linked above. Its themes relate to our whole district community as the success that any district achieves for students depends on teamwork among schools and families.

Busing--Masks Required and Seats Assigned

Masks are required on all our school buses, including again on our non air-conditioned buses. If you recall, due to Gov. Murphy's extreme heat exception to masking, in June we made masks optional on non-air conditioned buses. The forecast for Sept. 9 and 10 is a high of 79, below the extreme heat index. Thus, for consistency moving forward as summer temperatures recede, masks are required on all ETSD buses.

To facilitate contact tracing if needed, we are starting the year with bus seating already assigned by grade front to back, with kindergarten in front to grade 5 in back for elementary, and with grade 6 in front to grade 8 in back for middle. Our drivers and schools will work with students over the first days to help this be successful and to finalize seating.

Communication when/if a positive case is identified

We will follow our notification process from last year, with an email to all school staff and parents when/if an individual has been identified as a positive case, along with additional communication via email/phone with parents of all close contacts as well as any staff close contacts. Also, we are adding a middle step of notification. At elementary school, we will email all families in the class of a positive case, even if there are no close contacts. At middle school, we will email all families in the Team (House/Grade) of a positive case, even if there are no close contacts.

We identify close contacts per state and county guidance and through collaboration with our county health department. That process accounts for many factors, e.g. whether masks were worn throughout or were removed for lunch, gym, etc. Through our communication with the health department, last year at different times and depending on circumstances we used a broader close contacts definition to include students beyond the minimum threshold (3-6 feet this year per NJDOE's Guidance). We may use a broader definition at times again this year. Guidance updates and changes are expected.



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School Bus Advertising Historic First

Congratulations to Cub Scouts of America, our district's first school bus advertiser! We thank the Cub Scouts of America for its support. Ads are available now in various sizes and quantities. For more information, visit SchoolBusAds.org and contact Jack Calkins at SchoolBusAdvertising@gmail.com or 856-237-4002. Our Evesham businesses are part of the strength of our communities! Photos below:

- <u>Cub Scouts of America, our first bus advertiser!</u> (pictured left to right: ETSD
 Business Administrator John Recchinti, SchoolBusAds CEO Jack Calkins, ETSD
 Transportation Coordinator Barbara Olt).
- Alternate Revenue on a roll! (keep an eye out for this ad!)

Community Activities

This <u>Autumn with the Animals</u> event on Sept. 19 at Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge looks awesome! Cedar Run is a hidden gem just around the corner.

Friendly reminders of Vaccination Walk-In Opportunities

- Mondays, from 2 PM to 6 PM, at the Burlington County Emergency Services Training Center, 53 Academy Drive, Westampton (drive-thru clinic);
- Tuesdays, from 9 AM to 1 PM at the Palmyra Community Center, 30 West Broad, Palmyra;
- Wednesdays from noon to 4 PM at the Weimann Building, 400 Delanco Road, Edgewater Park;
- Thursdays from 3 PM to 7 PM at the Bordentown Township Senior Center, 3 Municipal Drive, Bordentown.

Sincerely,

Dr. Justin Smith

Superintendent of Schools