

## **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

January 18, 2021

Dear ETSD Families,

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that."

-- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

<u>Highlights</u>: Friendly reminder, RSVP via Parent Module link below for Community Panel Discussion about Hate, 7 pm today; Updated CDC mask information; 2021-22 Calendar Update to make next snow make up day June 7, not April 22, if needed; Evesham Education Foundation Fundraiser: "Double Down on Evesham Education" Feb. 25; Friendly reminders from prior Updates

Friendly reminder: RSVP via Parent Module link below for Community Panel Discussion about Hate, 7 pm today (<a href="https://parents.evesham.k12.nj.us/genesis/parents">https://parents.evesham.k12.nj.us/genesis/parents</a>)
Registration closes at 5 pm today.

To attend, please click the link above, go to the "Forms" tab in Parent Module, and click the check box in the RSVP form. All ETSD staff and families are invited, as are the communities of the panel participants. The panel discussion link will be emailed to registrants after 5 pm today.

This discussion among key members of our larger community will take place around the topics of hate, love, understanding, our responsibility to each other, and how hate directed at any one group affects all people. Panel participants are Congressman Andy Kim, Mayor Jacky Veasy, Rabbi Jerry David of Temple Emanuel, Missionary Wakas Khurshed of Al-Nasr Mosque, Father Joe Wallace of Christ the Redeemer Parish, and Priest Sudhir Jha of India Temple Association. It is my honor to be the panel moderator. Many thanks to the Jewish Community Relations Council of Southern New Jersey and Helen Kirschbaum, the Director of their Raab/Goodwin Holocaust Education Center, for their work to make this discussion possible. This discussion is part of work in our district, focused in middle school and beyond, to strengthen our capacity to see, hear, and value one another, in all our enriching differences.

Our conversation this evening, conversations that gather together different faiths to help educate us all, are timely and relevant. The importance of this discussion was horribly underscored this weekend when a gunman took hostages at a synagogue in Texas. The FBI is investigating this as a terrorism-related matter, in which the Jewish community was targeted.



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#### **Updated CDC mask information**

Thank you for your cooperation in helping our students be well-masked. On January 14, the CDC updated its mask guidance clarifying that certain types of masks and respirators offer more protection from the coronavirus than others and offering tips on what consumers should look for when shopping for them. The link below is a resource related to this guidance:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/effective-masks.html

Two key ways to make sure the mask works the best it can, per this guidance:

- Make sure the mask fits snugly against the face. Gaps can let air with respiratory droplets leak
  in and out around the edges of the mask
- Pick a mask with layers. A mask with layers stops more respiratory droplets getting inside the mask or escaping from it.

Masks are required for students and staff in all NJ schools. NJ's mask mandate in schools was extended last week likely for at least 45 days through Governor Murphy's reinstatement of the public health emergency.

https://www.northjersey.com/story/news/new-jersey/2022/01/11/nj-public-health-emergency-gov-murp hy-school-mask-mandate/9168834002/

### 2021-22 Calendar Update to make next snow make up day June 7, not April 22, if needed

This <u>2021-22 ETSD District Calendar for Jan 2022 approval.pdf</u> is being recommended for Board approval later this month. The change highlighted in fuchsia would make our next snow make up day (if needed) be Tuesday, June 7, 2022. Per our current 2021-22 calendar, Friday, April 22 is our next snow make-up day. With this change, making up the next snow day (if needed) will not impact Spring Break. Thank you to ETEA for this suggestion.

Evesham Education Foundation Fundraiser: "Double Down on Evesham Education" Feb. 25

Evesham Education Foundation is a vital, non-profit organization run by dedicated community and business leaders that raises money for the students and schools of Evesham, funding programs including the Coordinated Arts Program for Primary Students (CAPPS), the Genesis Counseling Program, the Metamorphosis Program, Literacy Support Program for Primary Grade Students, Tier III Enrichment Extensions, Art Goes to School, Smart Boards, and Sports Uniforms. This February 25, join a night of fun at The Mansion in Voorhees featuring casino-style games, food, DJ, baskets, auctions, a limited-seating Poker Tournament, and more. Please visit the Evesham Education Foundation website to purchase tickets and for more details including sponsorships available: https://eveshameducationfoundation.org



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### Friendly reminders from prior Updates

- Community Activities: <a href="https://www.evesham.k12.nj.us/community/community/activities">https://www.evesham.k12.nj.us/community/community/activities</a>
- Weather-Related Information for ETSD Parents, 2021-22
- Free Dental Services for Ages 13 & Under, 2.4.22

Sincerely,

Dr. Justin Smith

Superintendent of Schools