

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

October 8, 2021

Dear ETSD Families.

<u>Highlights</u>: Close Contact Quarantine information; Supply Chain Disruptions & Meal Pattern Flexibility; Phone Service Back to Normal; American Education Week, Nov. 15-19; New Free COVID testing site in Medford; Evesham Education Foundation Fall Dinner, Oct. 21; Lenape Regional High School District Bond Referendum; Friends of the Black Run Preserve (FBRP) Photo and Art Exhibition and Reception; Community Activities; Friendly reminders of Vaccination Walk-In Opportunities.

Close Contact Quarantine information

Since we reopened for full days of in-person learning in September, 2020, our district has used the 14 day close contact quarantine recommended by the CDC, NJ Dept of Health, and our county health department. This 14 day recommendation is stated at the bottom of page 12 of the NJ Dept. of Education Road Forward document linked in our covid notification letters and is stated at the bottom of page 10 of the most recent NJ Dept. of Health Recommendations for K12 Schools. We continued to use this quarantine recommendation this year due to the delta variant and as covid activity levels increased through the start of the year. Also, we anticipated that our region's covid activity level would reach "orange" status, which requires a 14 day quarantine, which indeed occurred in the Sept. 18 COVID-19 Activity Level Report.

At the same time, our district is re-examining its use of the 14 day quarantine and is considering switching to the shorter 10 day option when our region is in yellow or green per the state's covid activity level reports. Regional covid activity levels have been decreasing for several weeks now. Our district understands how important it is for students to be in school. That is why we used full days of in-person learning starting in September, 2020, when many districts used partial in-person days or full remote learning. While there are far fewer close contacts this year due to the updated health guidance, we are sorry every time there is a close contact and quarantine resulting in a student missing in-person learning. Given available spacing and the number of students in classes and on buses, it is not possible to prevent any possibility of there being close contacts. Quarantines also result via close contact beyond our district (through families, community activities, etc.). Any change would be communicated and implemented later this month, taking into consideration such factors as continuing decline in regional covid activity.



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Supply Chain Disruptions & Meal Pattern Flexibility

You may have seen on the news that school cafeterias across the country are experiencing food and paper shortages. Our district too is feeling an impact. Please be advised that we are doing our best to serve the meals listed on the daily menu, even as items are being delivered in insufficient quantities. These shortages may cause changes to the menu. We will make sure the students are made aware of any changes during their morning announcements. We will continue to offer alternate choices daily. We apologize for this inconvenience and appreciate your understanding. For detailed information, please see this <u>Supply Chain Disruptions & Meal Pattern Flexibility State of NJ memoposted on our website under Departments>Food Service>Lunch Menu.</u>

Phone Service Back to Normal

Normal phone service has been restored. This update is a follow up to the notification yesterday afternoon.

American Education Week, Nov. 15-19

This year like last year, due to covid precautions, we will not be hosting parents for visits into our classrooms for American Education Week. Thank you for your understanding, and we look forward to next year when we anticipate the return of this opportunity.

New Free COVID testing site in Medford

I would like to share this flyer about a new Free COVID testing site in Medford located in the parking lot of the old Indian Chief Tavern on Route 70. This site is open to anyone and everyone, including families, students, and community members. At no cost to our districts, the Lenape Region districts, including ETSD, collaborated with Ridgewood Diagnostics in order to help any staff not fully vaccinated by Oct. 18 to complete the weekly covid testing required by Executive Order 253. This arrangement provides a free option. Our district encourages and recommends all school personnel to be fully vaccinated. A district with more fully vaccinated individuals is a safer, healthier district.



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Evesham Education Foundation Fall Dinner, Oct. 21

For more information including to purchase tickets for this great event, please visit <u>2021 Annual Fall Dinner Tickets</u>, <u>Thu</u>, <u>Oct 21</u>, <u>2021 at 6:00 PM</u>. I hope to see you there! The non-profit Evesham Education Foundation works to support the students of our district, to support the children of our town. Thank you EEF!

Lenape Regional High School District Bond Referendum

As fall voting nears, I would like to share this <u>LRHSD Bond Referendum Handout</u>, to make sure all our parents of all grades have this information. The improvements targeted by it will benefit ETSD students of all grades, as they become LRHSD students.

Friends of the Black Run Preserve (FBRP) Photo and Art Exhibition and Reception

FBRP supports our district and our students in numerous ways. The works of the 2021 Black Run Preserve Juried Photography and Art Exhibition, inspired by the beauty of Evesham Township's open space oasis of native Pine Barrens flora and fauna, are now on display at the Center for the Arts in Southern New Jersey, 123 S. Elmwood Road, Marlton.

The public is invited to help celebrate the beauty of the Black Run Preserve, and the artists who have successfully captured it, at the Opening Reception and Awards Presentation, Friday, October 15, 7-9 pm. For more information, please see this

Friends of the Black Run Preserve Photo Art Reception Press Release 10.15.21

Community Activities

Amazing community events and opportunities afoot ...

https://www.evesham.k12.nj.us/community/community activities

- Ongoing:
 - Grades K-3 Poster Contest Honoring First Responders till Oct. 15
 - Gnoming Around Town till Oct. 31
- Upcoming:
 - Oct. 9: Marlton Day on Main Street (tomorrow!!)
 - o Oct. 10: Halloween Pet Parade
 - o Oct. 15: Friends of the Black Run Preserve Photo Art Reception
 - o Oct. 17: <u>Evesham Cultural Day</u>
 - Oct. 21: Evesham Education Foundation Fall Dinner
 - Oct. 29: Evesham Police Trunk or Treat



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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