

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 Mr. Richard G. Dantinne, Jr., Director of Personnel

Ms. Danielle T. Magulick, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Dr. Jennifer Bland, Director of Special Services

May 13, 2022

Dear ETSD Staff and Families,

**Free District Movie Night today, dusk, Savich Field!

Sponsored by Evesham Education Foundation and our PTAs/PTO**

(any changes due to weather will be communicated)

Check out this great Township Wellness Expo 5.14.22 tomorrow!

Tickets for Cherokee's amazing "Mary Poppins" on sale now at https://www.cherokeedrama.org/, May 20, 21, 27, 28 at 7 pm!

<u>Highlights</u>: District Art Show "Under the Sea", May 16 - 27; ES State Testing Reminder; Busing Challenges; Health reminders; Upcoming/Ongoing Events and Opportunities.

District Art Show "Under the Sea", May 16 - 27

ETSD is excited to unveil our 28th annual District Art Show, opening Monday, May 16 through Friday, May 27 on the first floor of the Municipal Building from 9 am to 7 pm daily. We invite you to stop by to view the hundreds of wonderful artworks our students from all our schools created throughout the year. Each school will be "Celebrating the Arts" during this time in various special ways. Thank you to our talented students and staff, along with the art department for making this show possible annually for our community! And thank you to our Township for providing the space and support (our Municipal Building makes a stellar art gallery)!

ES Testing Reminder: NJ Student Learning Assessment state testing starts Monday, May 16 for grades 3, 4, and 5. Testing begins first thing each morning, so please be sure students get a good night rest and arrive at school on time. Thank you for your help!

Busing Challenges

Thank you to our parents and families for your understanding and patience with ongoing bus challenges, including delays and changes, this week in particular. These create burdens for families. Our district has had a driver shortage all year, and some days are especially difficult. Resolving the driver shortage will take time. Mid-year, we improved our bus driver hourly wage guide to bolster recruitment and retention. We advertise via multiple means and seek help from private bus companies and other school districts, but they can provide only limited assistance as they face the same shortage. Longer term, starting in 2022-23, we are freeing up some



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driver capacity by reducing courtesy busing through converting some busing areas to walker zones. Our 2022-23 Final Budget Presentation (slides 14-16) most recently communicated the new walker zones for next year: 2 Crown Royal (Rice), Doral/Whitemarsh/Links Way (Rice), and West of Greenbrook Dr. between Evesboro-Medford Rd. and Route 70 walking to DES instead of being bussed to Beeler. More walking zones in future years may be needed depending on bus driver availability. Thank you to our Transportation Department–drivers, mechanics, leadership–for their continuing efforts, so important to our district operations.

Health reminders

As the most recent <u>NJ COVID Activity Level Report</u> shows our region at high level (orange), friendly reminders please to keep your children home if they are sick and/or symptomatic, and to communicate with the school nurse about any household covid positives.

Upcoming/Ongoing Events and Opportunities

- Community Activities Evesham Township School District: new postings!
- April 25 May 21 <u>Ukrainian Relief Drive</u>, <u>April 25-May 21</u>. Supplies can be dropped off at our schools through May 20 and will go to the Ukrainian American Relief Committee. <u>Supplies Needed by Ukrainian American Relief Committee</u> include medical supplies, hygiene items, baby formula, linens, and more. Items can be dropped at the MMS parking lot, 9 am-11:30 am, Sat. May 21.
 - May 13 District Movie Night, 6:30 pm, Savich Field
 - May 16 27 District Art Show, 9 am to 7 pm, Evesham Twp Municipal Building
 - June 6 <u>EEF Golf Classic Fundraiser June 6, 2022</u> at Little Mill Country Club
 - June 24 8th Grade Graduation at the Cherokee football field, 5:30 pm DMS, 7:30 pm MMS
 - July ETPD <u>Junior Police Academy</u>

Sincerely,

Dr. Justin Smith

Superintendent of Schools