

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

June 3, 2022

Dear ETSD Staff and Families,

Upcoming events: Marlton Day on Main Street

Juneteenth Celebration in Evesham

Opportunity for students to participate in Juneteenth Celebration

<u>Highlights</u>: NJ Comprehensive Health & PE Learning Standards Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ); Superintendent Comments from May 31 BOE meeting; Evesham Township July 4th Parade; SEPAG next meeting June 6 & contact info form; Upcoming Opportunities.

NJ Comprehensive Health & PE Learning Standards Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Our district has added this FAQ regarding NJ Comprehensive Health & PE Learning Standards to our

Curriculum Areas homepage on our website.

Superintendent Comments from May 31 BOE meeting

Resharing my comments here as a Schools Update recap:

"I'd like to start off by reminding us about important things that happen every day, every classroom, every school. Students smile. They raise their hands and offer ideas. They learn as they talk with each other and their teachers. I saw a kindergarten lesson the other day with students sitting across from each other in pairs, talking about similarities and differences between baby ducks and baby chicks, and they were sorting those similarities and differences into a Venn diagram, and then explained the Venn diagram to each other and to me. Brilliant.

Our students are eager to learn, preschool through grade 8, and have been helped to be that way by their amazing teachers, and families at home. Venn diagrams are, in part, about finding common ground, even among what appears different.

At the same time, our minds and hearts are understandably focused on what happened just a week ago in Texas, focused on the town of Uvalde's community, and Robb Elementary School. Among the safety measures here in Evesham Township School District that I explained in my Message to Staff & Families last week, one very strong deterrent is that we have a School Resource Officer assigned at each of our school buildings. Nationally, 19 percent of elementary school students, 45 percent of middle schoolers and 67 percent of high school students attend a school with a school resource officer. Here in Evesham, 100% of students attend a school resource officer.

And, in the middle of ongoing losses of state aid totaling nearly \$8 million dollars over 7 years, this safety measure is assured for the next three years at least, and perhaps beyond, through a shared services agreement with our Township to split the cost of our SROs. I'd like to say thank you again to Mayor Veasy, Deputy Mayor Cooper, our Town Council, Evesham Police and Chief Miller for our collaboration in this way and many others towards the safety of our students.



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Lastly, in terms of schools, I would like to recognize that this month is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. Here in Evesham Township School District, we recognize and value and lift up all students, all persons, with respect and appreciation of our different cultures, our differences and commonalities, our Venn Diagrams, and take actions directed against any person, including on the basis of race or ethnicity, very seriously. The recently released state report that includes all school and district grades in harassment, intimidation, and bullying is linked on the bottom of our district website homepage.

I would like to highlight as well that Board member Aneesh Kanthan is our first Asian American Board member in our district's history, and perhaps, first Asian American elected official in our town's history. I highlighted that last year as well. Something that significant behooves another shout out, in part as it positively reflects the gradually increasing diversity of our town, which enriches us all."

Evesham Township July 4th Parade

Our Township would love to have our students and families join in the July 4th Celebration Parade. Colorful clothes along with fun and appropriate music are encouraged. The parade will be held on Monday, July 4th at 11 am. Anyone interested will meet in the parking lot of Marlton Greene Shopping Center around 10:30 am where there will be volunteers to guide and direct students and families to waiting spaces by school. School groups (teams, clubs, etc.) are welcome too. For more info or to register to walk in the parade, please contact Ken D'Andrea at kpd1@verizon.net.

SEPAG next meeting June 6 & contact info form

The next Evesham Township School District Special Education Parent Advisory Group (SEPAG) General Membership meeting is June 6 at 7 pm in the DeMasi cafeteria. All are welcome to attend. Also, please see this <u>Google Form</u> to collect contact info from anyone interested in being a member of SEPAG. Consider attending our upcoming June 9 parent presentation on Anxiety. Click <u>here</u> for more information.

Upcoming Opportunities

- Community Activities Evesham Township School District: new postings!
- June 6 EEF Golf Classic Fundraiser June 6, 2022 at Little Mill Country Club
- June 6 ETSD SEPAG meeting, 7 pm at DMS cafeteria
- June 7 NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS (Staff In-service)
- June 12 Marlton Day on Main Street
- June 18 <u>Juneteenth Celebration in Evesham</u>, 11 am 3 pm, Savich Field
 - Opportunity for students to participate in Juneteenth Celebration
- 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>
- Family Resource: NJ Catastrophic Illness in Children Relief Fund



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Sincerely,

Dr. Justin Smith

Superintendent of Schools