

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

Feb. 10, 2023

Dear ETSD Staff and Families,

<u>Highlights</u>: Regular Full Day of School Monday (no schedule change); Opportunities and Resources.

"Prepare the child for the road, not the road for the child."

Unknown

Evesham Education Foundation's "Double Down on Evesham Education", 7 pm today

SAVE THE DATE: 8th Grade Graduation, Thurs., June 15, DMS 5:30 pm, MMS 7:30 pm in the Cherokee Performing Arts Center

Regular Full Day of School Monday (no schedule change)

ETSD is staying with a full regular day of school on Monday, no schedule change (I am wearing an Eagles jersey as I type). Some thoughts and context for this decision, as I have been asked a bit about the possibility of a delayed opening due to the Superbowl, understandable request, not just because a few districts in South Jersey have announced that for Monday. Excitement for the game is building. There even appear to be more and more exterior house lights in town lately that are green (not just in Beeler and Rice sending zones...our 2 schools with green as their school color...not just in Jaggard sending zones...our school with Eagles as its mascot).

I have an old-fashioned two-armed scale in my office, partly as a reminder...putting pros and cons on the figurative scale, till it tips. And, acknowledging the reasons for a delayed opening, what weighs heavily here, beyond the value of consistency and providing as much school as we can for kids (still fresh from that effort during the pandemic), are the costs that a delayed opening would bring for many families, in visceral ways, financially, adding stress, disrupting work and lives, and more.



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Shout out to Ms. Shea's 5th grade class at Beeler, with whom I met today. They wrote me letters asking for a delayed opening (two students asked for a regular full day). We talked about the power of making their voices heard, the challenges involved in making certain decisions, and the importance of striving for empathy, of trying to lean in and listen. Such a great group of young people, as are all our students!

Opportunities and Resources

- https://www.evesham.k12.nj.us/community/community_activities
 - New: ETPD Junior Police Academy
- Fri., Feb. 10 <u>Double Down on Evesham Education fundraiser</u>
- Feb. 27 Mar. 5 National Eating Disorders Awareness Week

Sincerely,

Dr. Justin Smith

Superintendent of Schools