

Clark Mills School

34 Gordons Corner Road Manalapan, NJ 07726-4004 (732) 786-2720 Fax (732) 786-2730 Nicole Santora, Ed.D. Superintendent nicolesantora@mersnj.us

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

In an effort to promote better nutrition, the federal government has passed a law setting standards regarding food items sold or distributed to students during school hours. School procedures are to be in accordance with the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, and any food and beverage sold or distributed to students at schools during the school day need to meet Smart Snack Standards.

The Smart Snacks Standards for food can be accessed via the <u>U.S. Department of Agriculture</u> website. They have also made a user-friendly guide available at "A Guide to Smart Snacks in School."

Additionally, we request that the following items not be distributed in school:

- Soda
- Chewing gum
- All forms of candy (hard candies, jellies, and gums, marshmallows, fondants, licorice, spun candy, and candy-coated popcorn)

Honoring birthdays is a very special tradition to our students. As in the past, the school will continue to recognize student birthdays. However, please refrain from providing your child's classmates with treats or favors for birthdays or for classroom/grade level celebrations as food is not to be distributed by students or staff. Teachers are allowed to plan up to three classroom parties per school year where students can bring in their own personal snack.

Providing healthy eating experiences for children in school presents a unique opportunity to model good nutrition. We also encourage families to take advantage of this opportunity by sending in a healthy snack each day. Please note that our school food service is in compliance with the USDA regulations and the Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010 (HHFKA).

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jayme Orlando

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Principal