



*Serving With Pride The  
Township of Manalapan  
and the  
Borough of Englishtown*

**John J. Marciante, Jr., Ph.D.**  
*Superintendent of Schools*

Peter M. Friedman Building  
54 Main Street  
Englishtown, NJ 07726-1529  
(732) 786-2500  
(732)786-2542 FAX

jmarciante@mersnj.us

---

MESSAGE TO PARENTS

August 1, 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to the 2019-2020 school year! While the start of another school year always brings exciting new developments that will positively impact your child's learning experience, last year's budget agreement will continue to have a significant impact on the Manalapan Englishtown Regional Schools. The 1.5 million dollars reduction in state aid last year had a significant impact on the district. Administrative and support staff positions were cut in central office, several employee units accepted reductions in health insurance, fees were increased for building and field usage and if your child is involved in an extracurricular activity you will be required to pay a fee. The budget reduction for next year is currently estimated at 2.3 million dollars. I will be scheduling a parent meeting in the fall to continue the discussion on how the district will address this expected reduction in state aid.

On a more positive note, we have extended our successful implementation of the Envision 2.0 Mathematics program into the sixth grade and will be piloting it in both the seventh and eighth grade. We have also expanded Writer's Workshop into the fifth grade and will continue to update curriculum.

For updates on district events, Board of Education minutes, all district curricula, and PTA happenings, please check our new website: [www.mersnj.us](http://www.mersnj.us). For daily updates on all the great things happening in the district please check the district Facebook page! I also strongly encourage you to download the district app which is used for all emergency announcements. Instructions for downloading the app can be found of the main page of our website.

Please note that district staff members can easily be emailed through the "Staff Directory" which can be found on each school's web page. For example, my email address is [jmarciante@mersnj.us](mailto:jmarciante@mersnj.us) (email addresses will contain either the first initial or the full first name). While you can still leave a voice mail for your child's teacher or principal by calling the school, I recommend email as the most efficient way to contact staff members.

The Parent Portal for Pine Brook and MEMS to fill out forms and obtain schedules will be open on August 20, 2019. The Portal for the elementary schools and the ELC to fill out forms will also be on August 20, 2019. However, the schedules for these schools will be available on August 22, 2019. Your password from last year will continue to work and if you are new to the district you should have received a letter with a password for the Parent Portal. At that time you will have the opportunity to sign-off on all the required district forms after which you will have access to your child's homeroom placement and the name of your child's teacher. Bus passes will be available on the afternoon of August 20, 2019 for Pine Brook and MEMS and August 22, 2019 for the elementary schools and the ELC.

You can be assured that we will do everything we can to maintain our long tradition of excellence. Working together with you, we will provide your child with a positive educational experience. I look forward to September and to sharing another great year with you.

Sincerely,

John J. Marciante, Jr., Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools