



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

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am honored to welcome you and your children to the 2023-2024 school year! As much as I enjoy the summer, I am truly excited for the return of the school year. Every August is filled with the anticipation of what this year will bring!

Our administrative team and our staff have been actively preparing for your children to arrive in September! We have revised a number of curricula to align with updated practices, pacing, and integration of subjects across the content areas. We are excited to share that we will be implementing the Nurtured Heart Approach, a framework for school culture that benefits all children and the return of grade-level field trips. After much reflection and planning, we will be offering field trips to every class in first, fifth, sixth, and eighth grades in an equitable manner that aligns to our curriculum. Ms. Pepchinski will be presenting on these topics at our August Board of Education meeting. A link to the presentation will be placed on the board agenda, which can be accessed on our website.

The Parent Portal for the district's schools will open on August 18, 2023. If your child attended our schools last year, your password should be the same. If your child is new to our district, you will be receiving a letter with instructions on how to access the Parent Portal. All of the required start of the school year forms are located in the Portal. Once completed, you will have access to your child's schedule and/or teacher. Bus passes will also be available at that time.

Please be sure to check the district website, your individual school website, and/or our district app regularly for updates on district events, Board of Education information, curricula, and PTO/PTA happenings. I also encourage you to visit our Facebook page to see the great things happening everyday in our classrooms!

If you have any questions or concerns throughout the school year, please reach out to your child's teacher, building administration, or district administration. Although all MERS staff have voicemail, email is the most efficient way to reach us. Our email addresses can be found on the individual school websites under "Staff Directory."

Every year, our district has a theme that aligns to our district goals. This year, our theme is "Every Child Needs a Champion. Be that Champion." Please join us this year, in being a champion for all children. We look forward to September and continuing our long tradition of excellence!

Sincerely,

Nicole Santora, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools