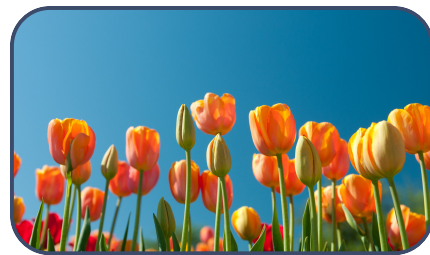


MIDDLETOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE



District Spring Recess:
March 29 – April 5
Students and staff
return Monday, April 8



VOLUME 7
MARCH 2024

Important Information: Solar Eclipse April 8

On the day we return to school following spring recess, there will be an awesome astronomical event: a total solar eclipse. While this is an awe-inspiring event, our number one priority is the safety of our students and staff. The event is set to take place between 2:10 and 4:36 pm with the peak set for 3:25 pm. We have put some proactive plans in place as it is a safety risk to look directly into the sun during this time. Here are the measures the district is taking:

- No outdoor recesses or PE classes
- No emergency/fire drills
- Elementary students escorted to the buses at dismissal time (for reminders to not look at sun)
- Suggestion for schools to hold a spirit "hat day" so students can wear a hat with a bill to help shield the sun during dismissal
- For athletics, coaches will remind students of sun risk and not conduct activities which would have students looking into the sky (i.e. no fly balls in baseball); games may have modified schedules dependent upon opponents, weather, etc.

If you wish to learn more about the solar eclipse, here are a couple of great resources:

<https://science.nasa.gov/eclipses/future-eclipses/eclipse-2024/>

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/graphics/2024/03/19/what-time-is-solar-eclipse-interactive-map/727478270>

NJSLA Testing Information

Along with the spring season comes our NJSLA standardized testing. The testing for students in grades 3 – 11 will take place in late April and May. Below please find further information regarding each level's testing dates, times, and grades. For further information, please reach out to the administrator in your building.

- [High School Testing Information](#)
- [Middle School Testing Information](#)
- [Elementary School Testing Information](#)

Staff Members of the Month: February

Congratulations to our February Staff Members of the Month. Their dedication to the district and to the school community has been recognized. We celebrate their contributions this month!



School Climate Surveys

School climate surveys will be conducted with students in grades 3-12 in April. Communication was sent home from building administration. The dates for the survey are:

- **Elementary:** April 9
- **Secondary:** April 16

School Calendar/Graduation Dates

At the April 30 Board of Education meeting, we will be approving an amended school calendar to compensate for the two weather-related school closures. We plan to also inform middle and high school parents of graduation dates/times by the middle of April as we understand the importance of advance notice for planning purposes.

Tentative Budget Presentation 2024-25

At the March 18 Board of Education, the BOE voted to pass the tentative budget for the 2024-2025 school year. An overview of the tentative budget was presented outlining the financial and programmatic features of the proposal. On April 30, at the next BOE meeting, the budget will be reviewed again and the BOE will vote on the finalized 2024 - 2025 budget. Here is the presentation from this month's BOE meeting:



Mental Health Resources can be found on our district website linked here.



CONGRATULATIONS

2023 - 2024

Teachers of the Year

Click on each photo to view video

Brett Laskowitz-High School North



Ashley Galli-High School South



Scott Capro-Bayshore Middle School



Kimberly MacKenzie-Thorne Middle School



Michael Carlo-Thompson Middle School



Theresa Alvarez-Bayview Elementary School



Vanessa Eckert-Harmony Elementary School



Julia Jetter-Leonardo Grade School



Danielle Seibert-Lincroft Elementary School



Wendy Potter-Levens-Fairview Elementary School





**Meghan Johnson-New Monmouth
Elementary School**



**Kathleen MacLellan-Nut Swamp
Elementary School**



**Jamie Corso-Ocean Avenue
Elementary School**



**Amanda Agresti-River Plaza Elementary
School**



**Katy Hawalka-Middletown Village
Elementary School**



Hunter Zink-Navesink Elementary School



CONGRATULATIONS

2023 - 2024

Educational Service Professionals of the Year

Click on each photo to view video

Fran Taylor-High School North (nurse)



Marian Enny-Thompson Middle School (LDTC)



Laurie Brooks-Harmony Elementary School (RDT)

