



# *Chesterfield Township School District*

## *Office of the Superintendent*

### **Scott Heino**

October 2024

## 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR UPDATE

### **PRESCHOOL EXPANSION FUNDING**

Are you the parent of a preschool aged child and want a full-day, high-quality, preschool experience at no cost? Look no further because the Chesterfield Township School District is proud to announce we will begin full-day, high-quality, tuition free preschool for eligible students. In August, the Chesterfield Township School District submitted an application to the New Jersey Department of Education for special funding to support a tuition free, full-day preschool program. We are happy to report our application was approved and we plan to start the new preschool program during the 2024-2025 School Year.

The State funding is not a one-time award; it is funding that will continue to be provided by the State as long as we continue to have preschool students who attend. Not only will we be able to provide this opportunity here at Chesterfield Elementary School, the funding allows us to work with local preschools in the area for satellite classes so we are partnering with the iGo STEM Academy, our neighbor on Saddle Way. Please know that providing this free preschool program to all preschool-aged students is a process that will take several years to build. However, we plan to start the program this year with five (5) preschool classes - three (3) classes here at CES and two (2) classes at iGo STEM Academy. As per state law, the classrooms cannot exceed 15 students. Currently, we have close to 80 families who are interested in this opportunity, but we only have spots for 75 students. As a result, we will hold a lottery at our November Board of Education meeting.

### **SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY**

Hopefully everyone has had the opportunity to see our new security pass-thru box and window that were installed to the right of our front doors. The pass-thru box and window were part of a minor construction project this summer and further secure our building while providing visitors with meaningful interaction with our main office staff. When visiting the school, continue to approach the front doors and ring our doorbell. Depending on your need, you may be directed to the pass-thru box or window. Thank you in advance for working with us as we implement these new safety and security procedures.

As you know, the Chesterfield Township School District contracts with Tri-Shield Security for the services of security guards. The school always has one guard on duty, but that coverage is provided by two different guards. Security Guard David Walls worked with us last year and is the security guard in the district the majority of time. Our new security guard this year is Security Guard Mel Dixon. He will fill in on the days when Security Guard Walls is not here. We welcome Security Guard Dixon to our Chesterfield Elementary School Team.

## STAFF NEWS

Welcome to the newest members of the Chesterfield Elementary School Team!

**Lindsey Bogdan** – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Donna Field** – Assistant to Superintendent

**Melody Lloyd** – Lunch/Recess Aide

**Bailey Nielsen** – Main Office

**Christine Perasso** – Lunch/Recess Aide

**Mikayla Santana** – School Psychologist

**Emely Valdez** – Main Office

**Juliana Valesi** – Speech/Language Specialist

## STUDENT TEACHERS

Chesterfield Elementary School has been helping to develop new generations of educators by hosting student teachers every year and pairing them with teacher mentors.

This semester, we welcome the following student teachers to Chesterfield:

- **Morgan Whitley Flanders** (6 Ancelo/Cronin)
- **Joe Gourley** (Desch HPE)
- **Maura Kilfeather** (1 Berger)
- **Adrianna Neblett** (3 Forsyth/Chou)
- **Callianne Shaw** (Shauer/Weisgarber)
- **Jessica Smink** (5 Prince)
- **Erica McDaniels Richardson**  
(2 Lawrence/Tiedemann)

## ANNUAL FINANCIAL LETTER TO THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Each year the Chesterfield Township Board of Education publishes a letter to the school community about finances. Did you know that the CTBOE has not been responsible for raising taxes through our school budget for the past seven years? Please use this link to access the financial letter from the Board of Education published last week. Click here for [2024-2025 Financial Letter](#).



## HOMEWORK

At the September Board of Education meeting, the Board approved our revised homework policy and a new regulation. A BOE regulation outlines how a BOE policy is implemented. Although the BOE approved the revised policy and new regulation, homework will be handled as it was last year.

The Chesterfield Township School District believes homework is a valuable practice to develop study habits, time management skills, practice concepts, and provide an opportunity for school and home to intersect in positive conversations. Homework should be a positive experience for both students and families.

If your child is struggling with homework or exceeds the time allotted for homework on a regular basis, please speak with your child's teacher to address the concern and develop a plan to improve the situation.



## CURRICULUM CORNER

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We have been busy in the area of curriculum this summer. We will be entering the second year of the implementation of our new math curriculum. We were very pleased with the first year and we look forward to continuing our journey this year.

The New Jersey Department of Education recently revised the English Language Arts and Math standards, so our committees have worked over the summer to assure that our curriculum is well aligned to the new standards. These changes are not major changes in our curriculum, but a refinement of what we do. English Language Arts and Math standards are found in most of our other curriculum as well, so we have worked to update the standards in those documents as well.

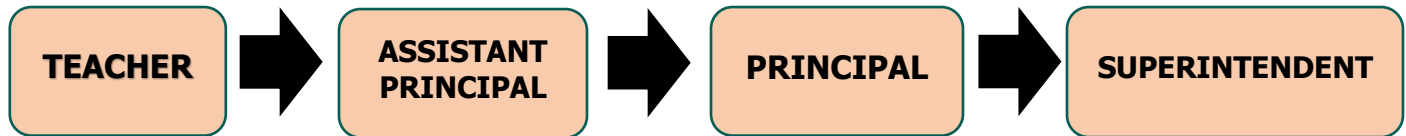
Additionally, we have had teams working on revising our English as a Second Language, Enrichment, and Media Arts curricula. As a staff, we will continue to dive more deeply into these new standards and reflect on our instructional practice throughout this year. We are looking forward to a great year!

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S ADVISORY COUNCIL**

For the last two years, I have worked with a small group of stakeholders to discuss various topics that are important for our school district. This group meets 3-4 times a year and provides an opportunity to have open dialogue on these topics. It is a chance for parents to better understand a topic and provide a parents' perspective and give valuable feedback that we consider when making decisions. If you are interested in participating, please email Donna Field, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, at [dfield@chesterfieldschool.com](mailto:dfield@chesterfieldschool.com).

## SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

Parents are encouraged to reach out to our school with your questions and concerns. Our teachers are well informed and should always be your first contact at Chesterfield. In most cases, the classroom teacher can address the majority of your questions. If you need to contact an administrator, please follow this chain of command:



If at any time in the process it is determined that one of our supervisors needs to get involved, we will gladly do so. For your reference, contact information for all administrators is listed below:

- **Superintendent:** Scott Heino, [sheino@chesterfieldschool.com](mailto:sheino@chesterfieldschool.com), ext. 1230
- **Business Administrator:** Dr. Scott Hogan, [shogan@chesterfieldschool.com](mailto:shogan@chesterfieldschool.com), ext. 1228
- **Principal:** Coletta Graham, [cgraham@chesterfieldschool.com](mailto:cgraham@chesterfieldschool.com), ext. 1225
- **Assistant Principal:** Stephanie DiCarlo, [sdicarlo@chesterfieldschool.com](mailto:sdicarlo@chesterfieldschool.com), ext. 2252
- **Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction:** Jeanine May-Sivieri, [jmay@chesterfieldschool.com](mailto:jmay@chesterfieldschool.com), ext. 1254
- **Supervisor of Special Services:** Dr. Melissa Carlton, [mcarlton@chesterfieldschool.com](mailto:mcarlton@chesterfieldschool.com), ext. 1231

As we start the 2024-2025 school year, I want to thank two groups that are integral parts of our school system and major supporters of our school -- our Chesterfield Public Education Foundation (CPEF) and our Parent Teacher Association (PTA). Below is the leadership and contact information for both groups.

### CPEF

**President** - Amanda Schmalbach  
**Vice President** - Brianna Piontek  
**Treasurer** - James Murray  
**Secretary** - Amy Emanski

[thecpef@gmail.com](mailto:thecpef@gmail.com)

### PTA

**President** - Megan Bate  
**VP Communications** - Casey Schmidt  
**VP Events** - Stephanie Hope  
**VP Fundraising** - Kristina McCoy  
**Corresponding Secretary** - Amanda Layendecker  
**Recording Secretary** - Christine Cartwright  
**Treasurer** - Stephanie DeClerico

[chesterfieldptaboard@gmail.com](mailto:chesterfieldptaboard@gmail.com)

# OCTOBER BOARD AGENDA FEATURED ARTWORK

The Chesterfield Township School District's Board of Education started an initiative to highlight student artwork on the cover of each month's Board of Education meeting agenda. We are appreciative of our art teacher, Ms. Gaby Lestino, and her work with the students and for participating in this initiative.

Chesterfield's *Rainbow Connection 2024-2025 (K-6<sup>th</sup> Grade)* artwork was featured on the cover of the October 16, 2024, Board of Education Monthly Meeting agenda.

Chesterfield Township Board of Education  
Regular Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM  
Wednesday, October 16, 2024  
AGENDA



Chesterfield's Rainbow Connection 2024-2025  
K-6th Grade