

# Cliffwood Family Connection



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**Important Links:** [District School Calendar](#), [School Hours](#), [Cliffwood Morning Music Requests](#)



**First Week-**The first two days of school have been fantastic! 😊 We loved seeing the kids come to school with big smiles and it was impressive to see how smoothly they navigated their way to their classrooms. They're having a great time meeting teachers, reconnecting with old friends, and making new ones. Lunchtimes have been a success too! Please read the important information and reminders below.

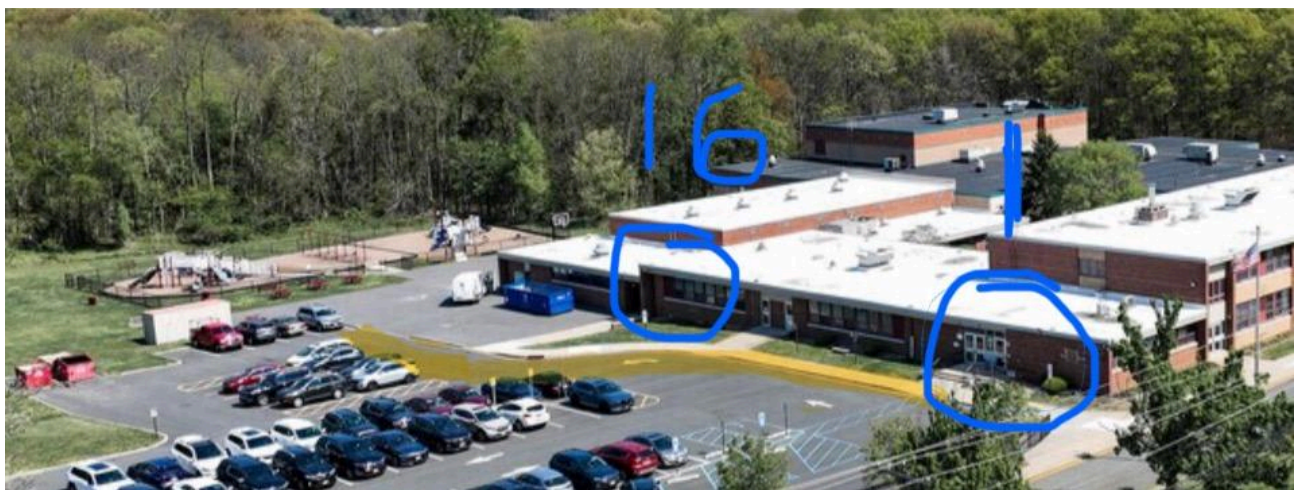
This week we're back to our full-day schedule, with school starting at 9:10 AM and ending at 3:35 PM. Students will have recess this week, please make sure they have the appropriate shoes. Also, mark your calendars for Back to School Night on Monday, September 16th at 6:30 PM.

We're sailing towards success with our excellent punctuality and attendance—let's keep up the great work!



**Arrival, Kiss & Go, Pick-Up Procedures-** Please do not park along the yellow curb. Please read the important letter link below and follow these simple steps to make sure that all students and adults stay safe during arrival/dismissal each day. Thank you! [Arrival/dismissal and parking letter](#)

**Kiss & Go Line-**





**Attendance and Arriving on time-** Good attendance in elementary school is crucial for academic, social, and personal development. It helps children build strong foundations, develop positive habits, and prepares them for future educational and life challenges.

Cliffwood Elementary's teachers, school counselor, and principal, look forward to working with you this year to support our students and reduce chronic absenteeism.



## Help Your Child Succeed in School: Build the Habit of Good Attendance Early

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

- Starting in preschool and kindergarten, too many absences can cause children to fall behind in school.
- Missing 10%, or about 2 days each month over the course of a school year, can make it harder to learn to read.
- Students can still fall behind if they miss just 1 or 2 days every few weeks.
- Being late to school may lead to poor attendance.
- Absences and tardiness can affect the whole classroom if the teacher has to slow down learning to help children catch up.

**Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school—and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Eventually good attendance will be a skill that will help them succeed in high school and college.**

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Set a regular bedtime and morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Keep your child healthy and make sure your child has the required shots.
- Introduce your children to their teachers and classmates before school starts.
- Develop backup plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbor or another parent.
- Try to schedule non-Covid-19 related medical appointments and extended trips when school isn't in session.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, school counselors and other parents for advice on how to make your child feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- If you are concerned that your child may have Covid-19, call your school for advice.
- If your child must stay home due to illness or quarantine, ask the teacher for resources and ideas to continue learning at home.

## When Do Absences Become a Problem?



Note: These numbers assume a 180-day school year.

**Healthy Bedtime Routine & Wait Until 8th Pledge-** As we dive into the school year, I wanted to share a quick tip for supporting your child's success: a healthy bedtime routine and smartphone free!

For kids ages 5-12, it's crucial to get 9-12 hours of sleep each night. To help achieve this, try to set a bedtime routine that includes no electronics at least one hour before bed. Instead, consider winding down with a bedtime story. Reading together not only helps relax your child but also boosts their literacy skills and strengthens your bond.

Smartphones can be distracting and potentially harmful for children. They are becoming widespread in elementary and middle schools due to unrealistic social pressures, changing how kids spend their time. Activities like playing outdoors, spending time with friends, and reading are often replaced by hours on social media and video platforms.

Parents may feel overwhelmed by this shift, but community support can make a difference. Consider joining the Wait Until 8th Pledge, which encourages delaying smartphone use until at least the end of 8th grade. By signing this online pledge, you commit to holding off on giving your child a smartphone until then, provided at least 10 families from your child's grade and school also pledge. Once the pledge is active, you'll receive a list of other participating families, helping you connect with like-minded parents.

To help establish a consistent bedtime routine, I've included an example of a bedtime routine chart that you're welcome to use. Let's work together to ensure our kids are well-rested and free from unnecessary distractions. Your support can make a significant impact!



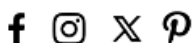
**You can make a difference. You can say yes to waiting.**

#### TAKE THE PLEDGE

By signing the pledge at [waituntil8th.org](https://waituntil8th.org), you promise not to give your child a smartphone until at least the end of 8th grade as long as at least 10 families total from your child's grade and school take the pledge.



Scan here to take the pledge today!



Wait Until 8th started with a few parents in Texas and a simple idea. If they rallied together, they could reverse the power of peer pressure as smartphone ownership invaded their elementary schools.

Brooke Shannon led the charge to start a nationwide campaign asking parents to wait until their kids finished 8th grade to grant smartphone privileges, citing concerns over social and relational impairment, as well as addiction, distraction, depression, and exposure to mature content.

**WAITUNTIL8TH.ORG**

# BEDTIME ROUTINE



	BRUSH YOUR TEETH	USE THE TOILET	WASH HANDS OR TAKE A BATH	READ A BOOK	LIGHTS OUT	STAY IN BED UNTIL MORNING
SUNDAY						
MONDAY						
TUESDAY						
WEDNESDAY						
THURSDAY						
FRIDAY						
SATURDAY						

**PTO NEWS-** Come join the Cliffwood PTO for the 2024-2025 School Year! The PTO is behind so many great things: field trips, school store, book fair, supply nights, family events, student prizes, teacher breakfasts and lunches, landscaping and much more! Your involvement helps make all this happen and supports our students and teachers in amazing ways.

Being part of the PTO is also a fantastic way to show how proud we are to be part of the Cliffwood community. Let's come together to make our school the best it can be and keep that Cliffwood pride shining bright!

We'd love to see more of you join and help out. Let's work together to make Cliffwood School even better!





# Cliffwood Elementary School

## PTO Membership Form

**Come JOIN the PTO for the 2024-2025 School year!**

### **Membership Cost: \$10 per family**

Membership dues are considered a donation to the organization and are utilized as a fundraising tool. Annual dues and our fundraising dollars provide the following (and more!): Class trips and busing, classroom supplies, fun day t-shirts, staff appreciation days, assemblies, programs, and family events.

### **Why join? Joining the PTO can benefit you, your child, your school, and the community.**

The PTO needs YOU! Your opinion matters and your presence and support are appreciated. The amount of involvement you have in the PTO is completely up to you!

As a member, you have the privilege to potentially hold office, introduce motions, debate, and vote in the decision-making process at monthly meetings. There is no obligation to attend meetings, but we hope you do!

We are Cliffwood Proud and are ready to get the school year started!



**venmo**

To Join: Fill out form below with payment (\$10) and submit it to your child's teacher in an envelope labeled "PTO Membership"

We accept cash, check (made payable to cliffwood pto) or Venmo (@cliffwoodelementarypto)



Parent/Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact #: \_\_\_\_\_

Child #1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Child #2 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child #2's Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Child #3 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child #3's Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Child #4 Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child #4's Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Email us at [CliffwoodPTO422@gmail.com](mailto:CliffwoodPTO422@gmail.com)

## Cliffwood PTO'S Annual Mums Sale

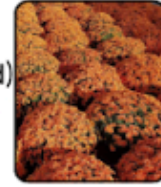
Single Mums: **\$7 each**

Color Options- Red, Orange, Purple, White, & Yellow



Bushels: **\$35 each** (photo on left; custom, assorted, potted)

10" Mum Hanging Basket: **\$9 each** (assorted)



**NEW!!** 9" Celosia Intenz or Celosia Twisted: **\$7 each** (pictured below)



All orders **MUST** be submitted by **Friday, September 13th**.

Pick-Up will be on **Thursday, September 26th** from 4-6 pm on Cliffwood School blacktop

Submit order form below and payment to teacher in envelope or ziplock labeled "PTO Mums"

Venmo : @cliffwoodelementarypto

Checks made payable to: Cliffwood School PTO



Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### Select Order Amounts:

Mums (\$7 each):

\_\_\_\_ Red

\_\_\_\_ Orange/Bronze

\_\_\_\_ Purple/Pink

\_\_\_\_ White

\_\_\_\_ Yellow

\_\_\_\_ Bushel Baskets (\$35 each)

\_\_\_\_ 10" Hanging Mums (\$9 each)

\_\_\_\_ 9" Celosia Twist (\$7 each)

\_\_\_\_ 9" Celosia Intenz (\$7 each)



**venmo**

Order Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Type (cash, check, or Venmo): \_\_\_\_\_

Email questions, comments, concerns to cliffwoodpto422@gmail.com



# Join Us this Month for Our 1st PTO Meeting



## **Who?:**

Parents/grandparents, teachers, administrators, support staff



## **When?:**

Wednesday, September 11th @ 6pm

## **Where?:**

Cliffwood Elementary School Cafeteria

Find ways to get involved with your child's school! There are many opportunities to volunteer and we are always welcome to hear your concerns, questions, ideas, and feedback.

You do not need to be a member to attend meetings!



Email questions to [cliffwoodpto422@gmail.com](mailto:cliffwoodpto422@gmail.com)



**CLIFFWOOD ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL PTO**

**BAKE SALE FUNDRAISER**

**Back to School Night**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH  
NEAR MAIN OFFICE  
6 :30 PM- 7:30 PM**

**WE WILL ALSO BE SELLING  
SPIRIT WEAR IN THE CAFETERIA**

**Bakers Needed!**

**Baked Good Donations Will Be Accepted in the  
Main Office on 9/16 during school hours  
(please no peanuts)**

**PLEASE EMAIL US ANY QUESTIONS  
CLIFFWOODPTO422@GMAIL.COM**

JOIN US FROM SEPT. 11<sup>TH</sup> TO SEPT. 15<sup>TH</sup> TO HELP

# MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN SOMEONE'S LIFE!

We are proud to support:

**CLIFFWOOD  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**



[jerseymikes.com/giving](http://jerseymikes.com/giving)

For each coupon redeemed, Jersey Mike's Subs will donate \$1.00 to:  
**CLIFFWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**311 Route 35 • Cliffwood, NJ • 732-497-4500**

Valid at participating location(s) only

**15% OFF**

**YOUR ENTIRE ORDER!**



VALID ONLY AT CLIFFWOOD, NJ LOCATION

Offer valid 9/11 - 9/15/24. For single use only. Not to be combined with other offers. No cash value. Coupon redeemable in person. Offers with promo codes may also be redeemed in our app. 4426



PROMO CODE  
C2126

**FREE COOKIE**

with any sub purchase



VALID ONLY AT CLIFFWOOD, NJ LOCATION

Offer valid 9/11 - 9/15/24. For single use only. Not to be combined with other offers. No cash value. Coupon redeemable in person. Offers with promo codes may also be redeemed in our app. 4461



PROMO CODE  
C2161

**\$2.00 OFF**

**ANY SUB**



VALID ONLY AT CLIFFWOOD, NJ LOCATION

Offer valid 9/11 - 9/15/24. For single use only. Not to be combined with other offers. No cash value. Coupon redeemable in person. Offers with promo codes may also be redeemed in our app. 44152



PROMO CODE  
C2152



**SCAN TO GET OUR APP!**





9/11- PTO Meeting at 6PM in the Cliffwood Cafeteria

9/11-9/15- Jersey Mike's Fundraiser

9/13- Mum Orders

9/16- Cliffwood Back to School Night 6:30-7:30 PM

[Cliffwood Family Connection](#)