



## MATAWAN-ABERDEEN CONNECTIONS

### CLIFFWOOD NEWSLETTER

January 26, 2025

#### Important Links

[District School Calendar](#), [School Hours](#), [Cliffwood Morning Music Requests](#)

Cliffwood Family Connections [8/25](#), [9/2](#), [9/8](#), [9/15](#), [9/22](#), [9/29](#), [10/6](#), [10/13](#), [10/20](#), [10/27](#), [11/3](#), [11/10](#), [11/17](#), [11/24](#), [12/1](#), [12/8](#), [12/15](#), [12/30](#), [1/5](#), [1/12](#), [1/19](#)

#### Message from Mrs. Cherence, Principal

A big thank you to all the Cliffwood families who came out to the Board of Education meeting on Thursday, January 23rd, to support our students and help us recognize outstanding community members and businesses. Your incredible support truly shows how dedicated and passionate the Cliffwood community is about our students. We are so thankful to have such dedicated and generous supporters within our community. Your involvement makes a world of difference for our school and our students. Together, we continue to embody the true meaning of "Cliffwood Proud." Thank you for everything you do to make Cliffwood School a special place for all.

A special shout-out to Aubrey, who opened the Board meeting by saying the Pledge of Allegiance loud and proud! And a huge thank you to our first graders, who sang a heartfelt ["Thank You" song](#) and stole the night away with their cuteness! Moments like these are what it's all about, our students truly make us Cliffwood Proud every day.

#### Exciting News!

Mr. Wyman, a first grade teacher at Cliffwood School, is doing something *"BALD"* for a great cause! On **Friday, February 7th**, Mr. Wyman will be shaving his head to raise money for our new sponge floor playground and YOU can be a part of it!

Purchase raffle tickets for a chance to shave Mr. Wyman's head! Check out the flyer below for all the details.

Don't miss out on the fun and the chance to support our school's fundraiser!

**Update Harlem Wizards Game-** The Harlem Wizards Game is Thursday, May 15th. A flyer will be coming out soon with details on purchasing tickets!

Warm regards,  
Mrs. Cherence, Principal

**Mr. Wyman is doing something BALD for a Great Cause!**

## SHAVE FUNDRAISER

MR. WYMAN IS DOING SOMETHING BALD FOR A GREAT CAUSE!!

Friday, February 7th Mr. Wyman is shaving his head to raise money for our new sponge floor playground and YOU can be a part of it!

Here's how you can get involved:

- \$2 Donation – 1 ticket for a chance to shave a line of Mr. Wyman's hair.
- \$5 Donation – 8 tickets for a chance to shave a line of Mr. Wyman's hair.
- \$10 Donation – 20 tickets for a chance to shave a line of Mr. Wyman's hair.
- \$50 Donation – Guaranteed chance to shave a line of Mr. Wyman's hair!

You can Venmo or send in cash for a chance to shave Mr. Wyman's head.  
Don't miss your chance to be part of this fun event!

@cliffwoodelementarypto



venmo



**Honoring Community Members & Businesses**



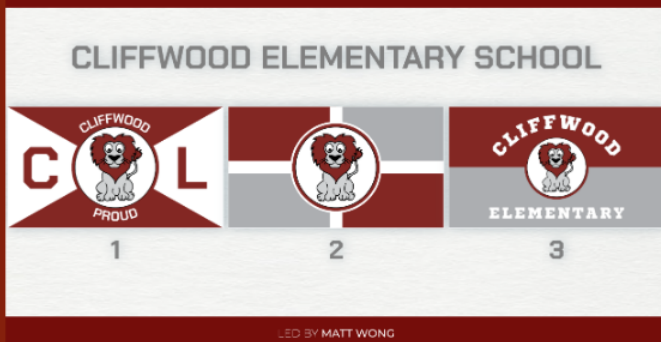
## *We Are Cliffwood Proud!*

### **Pledge of Allegiance- Aubrey Elmendorf (3rd grader)**



## *Community Recognition*

### **Matthew Wong-MRHS Student**







## Community Recognition

Miss Honey & Mr. Hay  
Mr. & Mrs. Wagner  
Mike Wagner Jr.  
Tom Wagner



## Community Recognition







## *Community Recognition*

Mr. Jose & Mrs. Kristina Acosta

Mr. Frank Ocasio

Mr. & Mrs. Gonzalez

Cliffwood Volunteer Fire Dept.

(Field trips, Santa Visit, Breakfast, Jerseys)



## *Community Recognition*



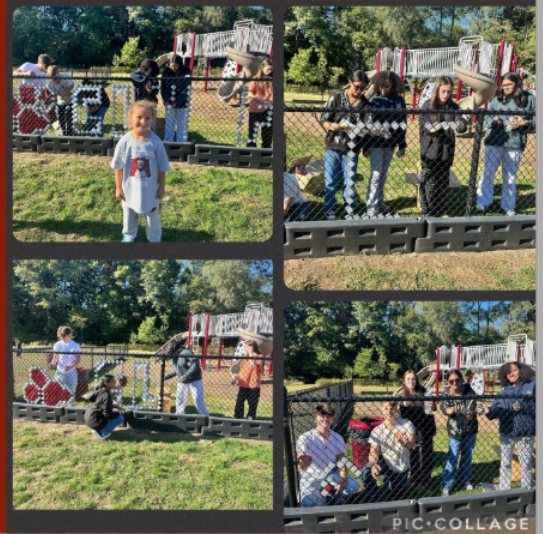
**Mrs. Brittany Shea**  
**Director of Recreation**







## Community Recognition



## Community Recognition

### Cliffwood PTO Board & Members

President  
Jennifer Elmendorf

Treasurer  
Melissa Martinez

Secretary Communications  
Kimberly Michelson Cerruti

Secretary / SEPAG Liaison  
Suzie Lopez

Facility Request Coordinator  
Theresa Richardson

Teacher Liaison  
Christina Oczkowski

Social Media Manager  
Corey Souza

Holiday Festival / Tricky Tray Coordinator  
Barbara Elmendorf



## Cosmic Math Title 1 Family Night

Save the date, Thursday 2/13 at 6 PM! Click [here](#) to register! Join us for pizza, cookies, raffles, fun math activities and math giveaways! Please be prompt for pizza. Write your child's first and last name and grade level. If you have more than one child attending, please fill that child's name on the next line. Respond no later than Feb 7th



Cliffwood PAWS Winners!





## American Heart Challenge



American Heart Association.  
**KIDS HEART CHALLENGE** | **AMERICAN HEART CHALLENGE**

Hello Families,

We're excited to announce our school's American Heart Association's Kids Heart Challenge will be kicking off the end of this month. Our students will be learning about staying strong in body and mind. **Register today under our school at [heart.org/schools](https://heart.org/schools).** Check this off your list in less than one minute.

This year, we have an important goal: 100% of our families learning the lifesaving skill of Hands-Only CPR! It only takes a few minutes to learn, and it can make all the difference in an emergency.

- **Register:** [heart.org/schools](https://heart.org/schools) or scan the QR code above and download the free "AHA Schools" app.
- **Complete Finn's Mission:** Complete all 7 steps, learn Hands-Only CPR, and you'll earn Finn's Lifesaver Cape and you'll also be entered to win two tickets to Super Bowl LX in 2026!
- **Share with Family & Friends:** Send messages via social media, text messages and/or email.

Let's work together to create a community of lifesavers. Thank you for your support in helping us achieve this incredible goal!



## Save Lives. Win Big.

Students and staff that complete Finn's Mission will earn an entry for two tickets to **Super Bowl LX** in 2026 and our school will be entered to receive a **\$10,000 fitness equipment makeover** for every 18 students and staff who complete Finn's Mission.

The National Football League (NFL) is a proud national supporter of the American Heart Association's Nation of Lifesavers.



## Mental Health & Wellness Symposium

The Monmouth County Symposium on Mental Health & Wellness at Brookdale Community College aims to raise awareness about mental health and its effects on our youth. The event will take place on February 6, 2025, at 5:30 PM. Our keynote speaker, Jon Barressi, will address "The Anxious Generation," highlighting the influence of social media. This event is free to attend, and all participants will receive complimentary giveaways. For more details and to register, please refer to the attached flyer.



Monmouth County Schools  
Partnership for Wellness Presents a

APPROVED FOR DISTRIBUTION  
1-18- Aberdeen Regional School District  
*[Signature]*  
Principal

# Symposium on Mental Health & Wellness **What is Social Media Doing to Our Kids?**

Featuring a keynote by  
Jon Barresi on  
"The Anxious Generation"

Brookdale Community College  
Student Life Center  
February 6th, 2025  
5:30 PM

Resource Fair!  
Prizes!

Visit the link below or scan the  
QR code to register:

<https://tinyurl.com/2025MCSPW>



**#BeYouBeWell**



Monmouth County Schools  
Partnership for Wellness Presents a  
**Simposio sobre salud mental y  
bienestar**

**¿Qué están haciendo las redes  
sociales con nuestros niños?**

Con una conferencia magistral  
de Jon Barresi sobre “La  
generación ansiosa”

Brookdale Community College  
Student Life Center  
February 6th, 2025  
5:30 PM

¡Feria de recursos!

¡Premios!

Visita el siguiente enlace o escanea el código  
QR para registrarte:  
<https://tinyurl.com/2025MCSPW>



**#BeYouBeWell**

## Message from Mrs. Caldwell, School Nurse

Please make sure your contacts in Genesis Parent Portal are up to date. It's also helpful to have a local backup contact who can pick up your child in case of illness or an emergency.

## Preschool and Kindergarten Registration



# PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 2025/2026



## OUR PROGRAM

### Locations



Preschool classrooms are offered at Cambridge Park, Cliffwood Elementary, Lightbridge Academy, Ravine Park Elementary, and Strathmore Elementary.

### Classes



Classes are mixed aged with 3 and 4 year olds. All classrooms use Tools of the Mind curriculum.



### Eligibility

Students must be 2 years old on or before October 1, 2025 to enter preschool.



Preschool is free to all eligible residents of the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District.



Busing is available for eligible students.



scan here!

For additional information about registration, please visit  
<https://www.marsd.org/parents-students/central-registration>

☎ For questions or additional information, please call (732) 705-4079.



INSCRIPCIÓN  
 PARA PREESCOLAR  
 Y KINDER  
 2025/2026



### NUESTRO PROGRAMA



**Ubicaciones**  
Se ofrecen aulas de preescolar en Cambridge Park, Cliffwood Elementary, Lightbridge Academy, Ravine Ridge Elementary y Stratmore Elementary.



**Clases**  
Las clases son mixtas con niños de 3 y 4 años. Todas las aulas utilizan el plan de estudios Herramientas de la Mente.



**Elegibilidad**  
Los estudiantes deben tener 3 años el 1 de octubre de 2025 o antes para ingresar al preescolar.



El preescolar es gratuito para todos los residentes elegibles del Distrito Escolar Regional de Matawan-Aberdeen.



El transporte en autobús está disponible para los estudiantes elegibles.



escanea aquí!

For additional information about registration, please visit <https://www.marsd.org/parents-students/central-registration>

☎ Para preguntas o información adicional, llame al (732) 705-4079.

## Information about Excused/Unexcused Absences



# Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.

The New Jersey Department of Education recognizes only six allowable reasons for an "excused" absence; these reasons are listed below.





- Being present and on-time to school each day is extremely important for students' success and well-being. School attendance is a powerful predictor of student outcomes; data shows that, when students are present daily, they learn better and are generally healthier. **Attendance matters and every school day counts!**

## January Menu


Link to the [Menu](#)

## January 2025


Cliffwood ES  
Breakfast

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		1	2	3
		 <p>Warm Wishes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sausage, Egg &amp; Cheese on a Bagel</li> <li>Confetti Pancakes</li> </ul>	
		Holiday Break		
6	7	8	9	10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mini Banana Loaf</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bacon, Egg and Cheese on a Bun</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assorted BeneFIT Bar</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sausage, Egg &amp; Cheese on a Bagel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mini Cinnis</li> </ul>
13	14	15	16	17
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mini Cornbread Loaf</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bacon, Egg and Cheese on a Bun</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>French Toast Bites</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sausage, Egg &amp; Cheese on a Bagel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whole Grain Donut Bites</li> </ul>
20	21	22	23	24
 <p>MLK DAY</p> <p>MLK Day</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bacon, Egg and Cheese on a Bun</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>French Toast Sticks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sausage, Egg &amp; Cheese on a Bagel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mini Maple Chip Waffles</li> </ul>
27	28	29	30	31
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mini Cinnamon Crumb Loaf</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bacon, Egg and Cheese on a Bun</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apple Frudel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sausage, Egg &amp; Cheese on a Bagel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confetti Pancakes</li> </ul>

**\*Menu is Subject to Change**






MASCHIO'S IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER.



**QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?**  
Please call us at (973) 598-0005 to speak to one of Maschio's Registered Dietitian Nutritionists.













**FOLLOW US:**  
@MASCHIOFOOD

Healthy meals grow

*healthy kids!*

**Swap Outs-Elementary Breakfast:** Assorted Cereal Bar with Graham Crackers , Assorted Pop Tarts with Graham Crackers , Bagel with Cream Cheese

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
		 Holiday Break	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fluffy French Toast Slices</li> <li>• Breakfast Sausages</li> <li>• Breakfast Potatoes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mini Mozzarella Cheese Calzones</li> <li>• Sautéed Green Beans</li> </ul>
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crispy Chicken Sandwich</li> <li>• Mashed Sweet Potatoes</li> </ul>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baked Sweet Potato</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grilled Cheese Sandwich</li> <li>• Basil Tomato Soup</li> <li>• Fresh Veggie Dippers</li> </ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cheese Manicotti Marinara</li> <li>• Roasted Parmesan Broccoli</li> </ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fluffy Buttermilk Pancakes</li> <li>• Breakfast Sausage</li> <li>• Crunchy Hash Browns</li> </ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NY Style Bella's Pizza</li> <li>• Freshly Prepared Maschio's House Salad</li> </ul>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creamy Mac and Cheese</li> <li>• Cornbread Poppers</li> <li>• Panko Crusted Green Beans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chicken Pita</li> <li>• Freshly Prepared Cucumber and Tomato Salad</li> </ul>	  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sausage, Egg &amp; Cheese on a Bagel</li> <li>• Crunchy Hash Browns</li> </ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spaghetti and Meatballs</li> <li>• Garlic Bread</li> <li>• Freshly Prepared Caesar Salad</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HALF DAY-NO SWAP OUTS AVAILABLE</li> <li>• Bella's Cheese Pizza</li> <li>• Chicken Nuggets</li> <li>• Muffin Bag Meal</li> </ul>
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
 MLK Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loaded Tot-Chos</li> <li>• Soft Pretzel Stick</li> <li>• Freshly Baked Apple Crisp</li> </ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Golden Crisp Waffles</li> <li>• Breakfast Sausages</li> <li>• Emoji Fries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Juicy Hamburger on a Bun OR</li> <li>• Juicy Cheeseburger on a Bun</li> <li>• Steamed Corn</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Twisted Cheesy Breadsticks with Marinara Sauce</li> <li>• Freshly Prepared Garden Salad</li> </ul>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bacon, Chicken &amp; Cheese Quesadilla</li> <li>• Fresh Pepper Dippers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Italian Sampler with Breaded Ravioli, Mozzarella Sticks and Marinara Sauce</li> <li>• Roasted Parmesan Broccoli</li> </ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Orange Popcorn Chicken</li> <li>• Vegetable Fried Rice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mozzarella Sticks</li> <li>• Dinner Roll</li> <li>• Italian Green Beans</li> </ul>	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stuffed Crust Pizza</li> <li>• Freshly Prepared Garden Salad</li> </ul>

\*Menu is Subject to Change



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Healthy meals grow  
*healthy kids!*

Swap Outs-Elementary: Muffin Bag Meal , Cereal Bag , Chicken Nuggets with Dinner Roll , Bella's Cheese Pizza

Swap Outs-Elementary: Muffin Bag Meal , Cereal Bag , Chicken Nuggets with Dinner Roll , Bella's Cheese Pizza

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## Cliffwood PTO NEWS

# LET'S GET WIZFIT



REGISTER NOW



JAN. 10 - JAN. 31



Register your child(ren) NOW so they can win FREE Harlem Wizard prizes:  
<https://cliffwood-elementary-1.harlemwizardsinabox.com/>

We are excited to announce that the students of **Cliffwood Elementary** are teaming up with the **World Famous Harlem Wizards** to help us raise funds for the **Cliffwood PTO** with their new **WizFit Challenge** fundraiser and kids experience. During a two-week period starting on **01-10-2025** our students will watch and participate in an exclusive series of six interactive video episodes led by **Harlem Wizard stars Swoop and Broadway**. They will get fit, learn tricks, have fun, earn prizes, and be coached on character by the **Wizards**.

We will then conclude this event on **01-24-2025** with a **Graduation Celebration** where every student will participate and win free prizes.

## What are we raising money for?

We are raising money to upgrade the school playground.



Our school goal is to raise **\$10,000**. Students can request donations from friends and family to support them participating in the **WizFit Challenge**. We're excited to see our school come together for this fundraising program.



Be sure to **REGISTER** your child(ren) using the link above or the QR CODE so they can win cool Wizard prizes like these! In order to complete the **WizFit Challenge** every student must **COMPLETE** video challenges and **SHARE** student page with at least 3 people. All children who are registered will win a prize, regardless of funds raised! And everyone can participate in the **WizFit** program!





# Spring Tricky Tray

Hosted by the Cliffwood PTO

*Saturday, April 5, 2025*  
*Cliffwood Elementary School*

**Doors Open 4 PM**




**Calling starts promptly at 5:30 PM**

Admission: Cash, Check (made out to Cliffwood PTO)  
or Venmo (@cliffwoodelementarypto)

\$20 pre-sale

\$25 at door



Admission includes 1 sheet of lower level raffle tickets,  
coffee/tea, and dessert

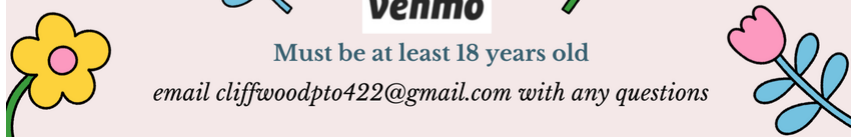
\*Please provide name and contact # with payment\*



**venmo**

Must be at least 18 years old

*email cliffwoodpto422@gmail.com with any questions*





# Spring Tricky Tray

Hosted by the Cliffwood PTO

*We are accepting donations to support our Tricky Tray fundraising event. Whether you are cleaning out those unwanted holiday gifts or buying new items, we are grateful for any and all donations. Donations can be dropped off at the main office.*



## Items we are accepting include:

Unopened bottles of liquor/wine




New ladies items

Housewares



Toys

Gift Cards

Lottery Tickets



Call or text Barbara Elmendorf at (646) 312-9997 with any questions.





JANUARY 2025 EDITION

# BOX TOPS

Easy ways to make a difference for your school.



## BONUS OFFER BONANZA



**Buy 3, Earn 6**  
on Gushers, Fruit  
by the Foot and  
Fruit Roll-Ups\*†



**Buy 2, Earn 6**  
on Pillsbury  
Cinnamon Rolls\*†



**Buy 2, Earn 6**  
on Annie's  
snacks\*†



**Buy 2, Earn 5**  
on Cheerios\*†



**Buy 2, Earn 5**  
on Fiber One  
+ Protein One\*†



**Buy 2, Earn 5**  
on Cascadian  
Farms\*†



**Buy 2, Earn 5**  
on Muir Glen\*†



**Buy 2, Earn 5**  
on Nature Valley\*†



**Buy 1, Earn 5**  
on ratio\*†  
(excludes dairy  
products)



**Buy 4, Earn 20**  
on ALL participating  
Box Tops  
products\*\*†



### EARNINGS GOAL

Goal: \$500.00  
to help fund classroom  
art supplies

\$80.25



Get the Box Tops app  
& start earning today!

Use code **S83930OW**  
to join and earn  
**25** Bonus Box Tops.

### 3 EASY WAYS TO EARN FOR OUR SCHOOL



#### SCAN

Qualifying receipts  
in the app



#### SUBMIT

Qualifying digital  
receipts in the app



#### CONNECT

Your Walmart and  
Box Tops accounts

\*Offers are valid in a single transaction between 1/1/2025-1/31/2025.

\*\*Offers are valid in a single transaction between 1/1/2025-2/14/2025.

†Must submit your receipt within 14 days of purchase. Limit 5 claims per receipt.

**DON'T HAVE THE  
BOX TOPS APP YET?  
DOWNLOAD IT NOW:**







Parents of Special People, Inc.  
Pocketbook Raffle!  
Gucci GG Canvas and Leather Tote  
(retail \$2500)

Drawing Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 5pm

Tickets \$25 each  
only 250 tickets  
available

To purchase tickets, email  
[posptreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:posptreasurer@gmail.com)

LIC# 291-5-40357  
RL# 1310



## Spirit Wear Hoodie Sale

ALL Pullover Hoodies for \$20 each (reg. \$27)  
in limited styles, colors, and sizes

Gray Hoodie "C" in:

- Youth XL (9 available)
- Youth Large (7 available)
- Youth Medium (2 available)
- Youth Small (3 available)



We accept cash, check  
(made out to Cliffwood  
PTO), or Venmo  
@cliffwoodelementarypto



venmo

Maroon Hoodie "C" in:

- Adult Medium (4 available)
- Adult Large (1 available)
- Adult XL (5 available)



Maroon Hoodie "Cliffwood Lions" in:

- Youth Small (2 available)
- Youth Medium (2 available)
- Youth Large (6 available)
- Youth XL (9 available)



Gray Hoodie "Cliffwood Lions" in:

- Adult XL (2 available)

Gray Hoodie "Cliffwood Pride Lion" in:

- Adult S (1 available)



Gray Zip-up "Cliffwood Elementary Pride" in:

- Adult S (1 available)



Please email [cliffwoodpto422@gmail.com](mailto:cliffwoodpto422@gmail.com) or call/text Barbara at  
(646) 312-9997 with requests. Items are first come, first serve.  
Upon payment, items will be sent home with student.

## Dates to Keep in Mind

- 2/3- Early Dismissal for K-8 Students
- 2/7- Mr. Wyman Shaving Head Fundraiser
- 2/13- Cosmic Math Title 1 Family Night
- 2/14- Early Dismissal Day, Valentine's Day
- 2/17- Presidents' Day- School Closed
- 2/18- 100th Day of School



CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES



Matawan-Aberdeen Regional

