



MATAWAN-ABERDEEN CONNECTIONS

RAVINE DRIVE NEWSLETTER

December 2024

Dear Ravine Drive Community,

Good Afternoon Ravine Drive Families,

We hope everyone is enjoying the start of the Holiday Season and that you were able to connect with our faculty members who work with your children during conferences earlier this week.

We will be holding our Annual Holiday Shop on December 17 & 18.

Also, as a district we will begin sharing additional information on student attendance, the importance of being in school, and the potential impact of chronic absenteeism, which is defined as being absent 10% or more of the school year (at least 18 days). I have spoken with many of you regarding the difficult balance of our children who being ages three through nine being are often absent due to illness as they build their immune system, Nurse Moore's monthly update should help in determining if your child is able to attend school.

Please take a few minutes to complete our attendance survey.

Following this month's survey and district attendance policy that are found below, resources will be shared regarding student attendance with each newsletter. When thinking about student attendance please know, students who are chronically absent are less likely to read at grade level by third grade. In addition to the entire class suffering from when their peers are absent through a decrease in the teacher's ability to plan and conduct highly engaging, active learning experiences for all students.

Thank you for taking the time to complete our survey.

If you ever have any suggestions or concerns, please reach out to me!

Have a great day,

Sean

Sean D. Cronin, Ed. D.

Principal

Ravine Drive Elementary School

T: 732-705-5800

SCronin@marsd.org

MARSD Attendance Survey

Please take a few minutes to complete the survey below. This survey closes 12/13

Student Attendance Survey for Parents/Guardians

MARSD Parents/Guardians: Please take a few minutes to complete the following survey about student attendance. We greatly appreciate your input. Your feedback is valuable as we continue to improve the educational experience for all students in Matawan-Aberdeen.

[Sign in to Google](#) to save your progress. [Learn more](#)

POLICY AWARENESS: Are you aware of the district's student attendance policy for the current school year?

Yes

Encuesta sobre asistencia de estudiantes para padres/tutores

MARSD Padres/tutores: Tómese unos minutos para completar la siguiente encuesta sobre la asistencia de los estudiantes. Agradecemos enormemente su aporte. Sus comentarios son valiosos a medida que continuamos mejorando la experiencia educativa para todos los estudiantes en Matawan-Aberdeen.

[Sign in to Google](#) to save your progress. [Learn more](#)

Conocimiento de la política:

¿Conoce la política de asistencia de los estudiantes del distrito para el año escolar actual?Untitled Question

MARSD District Attendance Policy

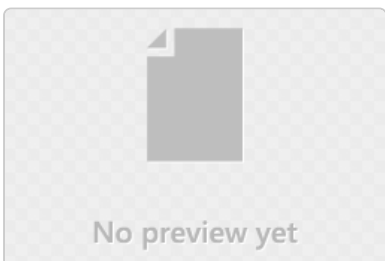


ELANOnline District Policies

Notwithstanding the requirement of reporting student absences in the school register for State and Federal reporting purposes, "excused" and "unexcused" student absences, for the purpose of expectations and consequences regarding truancy, student conduct, promotion, retention, and the award of course credit is a Board decision outlined in N.J.A.C.

[straussesmay.com](https://www.straussesmay.com)

Counselor's Corner



December 2024 - RD Counselor's Corner

Counselor's Corner December 2024 Ravine Drive Elementary School
Emotion of the Month ..Monthly Character Trait Ennui (Boredom)
..... Helping Others This month, we are focus...

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Speech Update and Practice Calendars

Updates from Mrs. Roche

Every month Mrs. Roche provides an update on Speech and Language and practice exercises that can benefit all of our students! Please see below.

Speech and Language December

gingerbread man



Word of the Month

Books

- Snowball Soup, written by Mercer Mayer
- The Snowy Day, written by Ezra Jack Keats
- The First Day of Snow, written by Denise Fleming
- The Gingerbread Man, written by Jim Aylesworth
- How the Grinch Stole Christmas, written by Dr. Seuss

Practice using Parallel Talk while playing in the snow with your child.

Language at Home

Parallel Talk is a technique that can be used to support language development in any activity or environment. It involves narrating your child's actions. That means talking about what your child is doing, seeing, hearing, touching, eating, or may be thinking when your child is present. Your child is not required to imitate what you are saying. Parallel Talk simply gives your child exposure to language to help them realize that talking is fun and functional.

Parallel Talk Examples:

- 'You are playing with a yellow truck. Your truck is honking. Beep, beep.'
- 'You're petting Shadow. She feels soft.'
- 'You are jumping. Up, down, up, down.'
- 'Uh, oh. Your tower fell down.'
- 'You are getting dressed. Your shirt is red. Your pants have stripes.'
- 'You are eating dinner. Your plate is empty. All done.'

Activities

- Make snowballs out of white, crumpled paper. Take turns throwing the snowballs around the room with your child. Have your child tell you where they will throw the snowball or where it lands such as 'in the basket,' 'on the chair,' 'under the table,' or 'between the bed and the dresser.'
- While playing in the snow with your child, discuss the props you use to make each body part of a snowman. Talk about the size of each person's snow angel.
- Make hot chocolate with your child. Label the ingredients as you gather them. Give your child 1-2 step directions throughout the process. Count the marshmallows as you add them one at a time.
- Practice Parallel Talk during pretend play such as playing house, racing cars, or playing dress up.

theartlanguage.com

Update from Nurse Moore

NOTES FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

WHEN SHOULD CHILDREN STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL

Cold and flu season has arrived. Parents often ask, when do I keep my child home from school? Here are some guidelines for keeping sick children at home. As always, please consult your doctor with any concerns.

- A child with heavy cold symptoms, such as deep or uncontrollable coughing or significant lack of energy, belongs at home even without a fever. They should return when they can comfortably participate in school activities.
- If your child has a fever, keep them home for at least 24 hours after the fever is gone without the use of fever-reducing medicines, such as acetaminophen. This will help ensure that the fever is truly gone and that your child is past the point of being contagious.

- If your child has pain in their ears, throat, head or chest and can not comfortably participate in school activities.
- If your child is vomiting or has diarrhea, they must have neither for 24 hours before they can return to school.

Why is this important?

- Children need rest to recover from illness. Without enough rest, it can take your child longer to feel better. Staying home is also important because your child can spread the illness up to 24 hours after symptoms are gone.
- People with weakened immune systems often need even more time to recover and to stop being contagious.

[When Should Children Stay Home From School/NJDOH](#)
[Help Your Child's School Prevent the Spread of Infections/CDC](#)

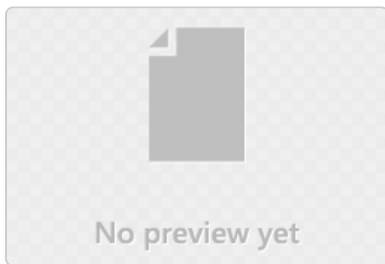
MOST Program

We are excited to announce the return of [The MOST Program](#) for the 2024-2025 school year. Students in Grades 2-12 within the MARSD will have the opportunity to work with certified staff members and dedicated community members as we work to **Mentor Our Students Together**.

M.O.S.T. will be held on Tuesday & Wednesday afternoons from 3:00pm to 6:00pm in the Matawan Aberdeen Middle School Cafeteria

[Click Here to Register](#) online

For additional information please call the **MRHS Information Desk** at 732-705-5200 or via email at mrhsinfo@marsd.org or Daphne Ramcheran @ 732-567-0036



24-25 MOST Program

M.O.S.T. Mentoring Our Students Together The Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District is proud to announce the return of the M.O.S.T. program to the Matawan-Aberdeen Middle School. Students in Grades 2-12 within the MARSD will have the opportunity to work with certified staff members and de...

[docs.google.com](#)

Positive Behavior Support Program—Ravine Runs on Great Choices

Ravine Runs on Great Choices-Overview

[PBIS Overview - Ravine Drive](#)

Special Education Parent Advisory Group (SEPAG)

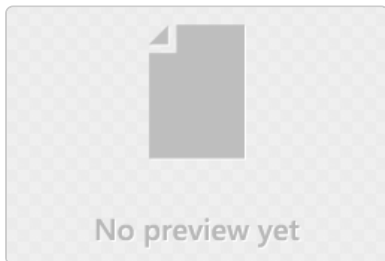
The MARSD Special Education Parent Advisory Group (SEPAG)'s mission is to empower parents of students with special needs to communicate effectively with the MARSD Director of Special Services and Programs for the purpose of supporting and improving the quality of district-wide special education policies, programs and practices. The MARSD SEPAG strives to provide a supportive, informative and encouraging forum in which parents can raise questions, voice concerns and provide constructive input in a spirit of mutual respect for one another.

Please join us for our first meeting of the 2024-2025 school year on Wednesday, October 16th at 6:30pm at the Cliffwood Elementary School Library. The topic of this meeting is understanding the IEP process and your rights as a parent.

Link to Facebook Page: "Matawan Aberdeen Regional School District SEPAG"

[Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District SEPAG](#)
[facebook.com](#)

PTO Events & Registration



2024 2025 PTO Membership.docx

RAVINE DRIVE SCHOOL PTO 2024-2025 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE!
SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS! Dear Families, Your participation in fundraising events, such as this membership drive, is key to our success in funding activities and events for the students of Ravine Drive School. We are asking for a donation o...

[docs.google.com](#)

Support the Ravine Drive PTO!



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11



4:00 to
9:00pm

THE BURGER SHOP

231 Main Street, Matawan

The Burger Shop will be donating a portion of all dine-in and take-out orders to the Ravine Drive PTO!

Must show this flyer or mention upon ordering.

DECEMBER 17-18

RAVINE DRIVE

DURING
SCHOOL
HOURS

HOLIDAY SHOP



STUDENTS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHOP DURING THEIR CLASS TIME SLOT. PARENTS CAN SEND IN CASH OR CHECKS WITH THEIR SHOPPING LISTS. **PARENTS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO SHOP WITH THEIR STUDENTS**

PLEASE CONSIDER
VOLUNTEERING



CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES



Matawan-Aberdeen Regional
School District

