



## MATAWAN-ABERDEEN CONNECTIONS

RAVINE DRIVE NEWSLETTER

### August 2025

#### Principal's Message

Dear Ravine Drive Community,

My name is Lorena Carbajal and I am grateful for the opportunity to lead Ravine Drive Elementary School in starting the 2025-2026 school year.

I'd like to start by sharing a little about myself. I grew up in El Paso, Texas. In 2009, I started my educational career as a high school science teacher in Las Vegas, Nevada. Then in 2019, my family relocated to New Jersey due to my husbands work. For the past six years, I have served as an Assistant Principal at Matawan Regional High School. I know it is quite a transition to the primary level but now I will get to see your children grow in their earlier years. I have four kids of my own and a granddaughter.



I also strongly believe in getting involved. I met with our PTO Co-Presidents Ms. Bradey and Ms. Passaro. They have many great events that they have started planning for and I would like to encourage you to become involved. They will have a table during our Back to School Night on September 11th, make sure to stop by and see them.

One of our focus areas this year will continue to be student attendance. To go along with MARSD's message of Attendance Matters will be "I am here". I ask that you help us with conveying this message. It is so important to be present in anything we do.

I would also like to welcome any new families to the community. There is information below on some of our upcoming events. The next newsletter will go out on August 18th and it will contain

information about the 1st days of school, including Drop off and Pick up Procedures.

I look forward to having a great year. If at any time you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Sincerely,  
Lorena Carbajal  
Acting Principal  
Ravine Drive Elementary School  
732-705-5800  
[lcarbajal@marsd.org](mailto:lcarbajal@marsd.org)

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## Upcoming Events

### Student Orientations

#### **Friday, August 29th**

New student orientation- For new students attending Ravine Drive in Grades 1, 2, and 3. We will begin at 10:00am in the Cafeteria. You will be able to learn about the school, tour the building, and receive your school issued chromebook.

#### **Wednesday, September 3rd**

Pre-Kindergarten Orientation 9:30am-10:00am. The orientation will begin on the blacktop (weather permitting). Parents and guardians will enter through our breezeway and report directly to their classrooms led by the classroom teacher.

#### **Wednesday, September 3rd at 10:30am**

Kindergarten Orientation 10:30am-11:00am. The orientation will begin on the blacktop (weather permitting). Parents and guardians will enter through our breezeway and report directly to their classrooms led by the classroom teacher.

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### **Back to School Night - SAVE the DATE!!!**

The 2025-2026 Ravine Drive Elementary School Back to School Night is scheduled for **Thursday, September 11th**. Event will begin at 6:30pm in your students homeroom class.

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## Roadrunner Information

### **Ravine Drive ES Website**

Make sure to check our school website. School supply lists are posted.

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## Student Schedules & The Parent Portal

Student classroom assignments will be released on **Monday, August 25th**. When accessing your child's schedule in the [Parent Portal](#), it is imperative that contact information be updated to ensure proper communication throughout the year. Instructions on updating contact information on the Parent Portal can be found [here](#). Please be sure to review the information and make appropriate changes.

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## 2025-2026 District Calendar & School Hours

The **first day** of school for students is **Thursday, September 4th**. To start the school year, please note that we will be operating on a 4 hour schedule on both **Thursday, September 4th** and **Friday, September 5th** with students being dismissed at **1:20pm**.

Link to [District Calendar](#)

Link to [MARSD School Hours](#)

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## YMCA Before and After School Care

The YMCA offers before and after school care. All of the program's information can be found through this link [HERE](#).

If you have any questions about the program or registration, please contact the YMCA directly at 732-566-9266. If you will need the program, it is important to register as early as possible because the full registration process usually takes some time. This program is held in our school before and after school.

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# Ravine Drive Elementary School

170 Ravine Drive  
Matawan, NJ 07747  
Phone (732) 705-5800  
Fax (732) 705-5850

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CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES



**Matawan-Aberdeen Regional**  
School District

