



MATAWAN-ABERDEEN CONNECTIONS

CLIFFWOOD NEWSLETTER

September 21, 2025

Important Links

[District School Calendar](#), [School Hours](#), [Cliffwood Morning Music Requests](#), [Breakfast & Lunch Menu](#), [PreK, K & New Student Orientation](#), [Welcome Cliffwood Students & Families 25-26](#)
Cliffwood Family Connections [8/6](#), [8/31](#), [9/7](#), [9/14](#)

Message from Mrs. Cherence, Principal

Adventure Awaits! We are Curious. We are Kind. We are Cliffwood Proud!

Back to School Night Recap

Back to School Night was well attended! It was wonderful to see so many Cliffwood families back at school! Thank you to all the local organizations that came out to support our event as well.

If you weren't able to attend, click [here](#) for the Back To School Night Presentation. Please also check with your child's teacher for any additional information that may have been shared in their classroom that evening.

Classroom Highlights

Kindergarten has been busy learning and celebrating colors.

In second grade, Ms. Colaneri's class has been learning the good habits of buddy reading!

School Spirit

Our Huskies are ready for their football games this weekend and your Cliffwood Lions are cheering you on!

Assembly and Attendance Program

This past week, Cliffwood students enjoyed an assembly presented by Ms. Giacchi, our school counselor, about the importance of attending school and being on time.

We're excited to kick off our attendance program this week!



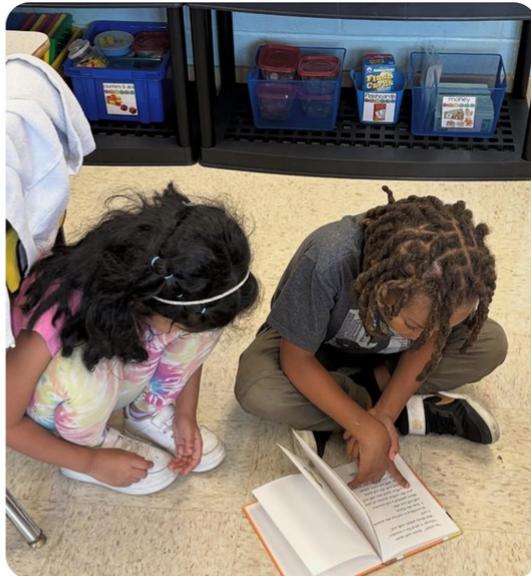
CLIFFWOOD SCHOOL

- Every homeroom with perfect attendance will earn a "paw" to be displayed on the school attendance bulletin board.
- At the end of each month, the class in each grade with the highest attendance will earn 20 extra minutes of recess on the playground!

Let's work together to make every day count!

We Are Cliffwood Proud! ❤️ 🐾 📺







Stay Cliffwood Connected

- [Cliffwood School Website](#)
- Instagram: [@cliffwood_elementary](#)
- Facebook: *Cliffwood School PTO Parent Page*

Week of Respect- October 6-10

The Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights Act requires that the week beginning with the first Monday in October of each year be recognized as the Week of Respect in the state of NJ. Students and staff are encouraged to participate in the Week of Respect!

Monday 10/6	Tuesday 10/7	Wednesday 10/8	Thursday 10/9	Friday 10/10
<p>We respect each other's uniqueness!</p> <p>Wear your favorite color</p> 	<p>No Drama, Pajama Day!</p> <p>Wear your favorite <u>school appropriate pajamas to commit to making a comfortable environment for all!</u></p> 	<p>Respect is no sweat!</p> <p>Wear sweatpants and/or sweatshirts</p> 	<p>Team up against bullying!</p> <p>Wear your favorite team jersey or shirt to show that we are all on the same team and we team up against Bullying!</p> 	<p>We show respect to our school!</p> <p>Wear School colors to show unity for our school</p> 

Battle of the Faculties is Back!!!

Tickets are now on sale for Battle of the Faculties- Come cheer on favorite Cliffwood teachers & staff as they compete in fun games against other MARSD teachers!

Tickets can be purchased at <https://www.maefgrants.org/bof25>

THE MATAWAN ABERDEEN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
PRESENTS THE 2ND ANNUAL

Battle of the
FACULTIES

CAMBRIDGE / LIGHTBRIDGE
MRHS
STRATHMORE
CLIFFWOOD
RAVINE DRIVE
LLOYD ROAD
MAMS

WHO WILL WIN?

Watch your favorite teachers and staff battle it out during a night of family fun that supports a great cause!

Battle of the Faculties features teams of teachers and staff from all of the MARSD schools playing a variety of 'minute-to-win-it' type games. Monitored by our 'panel of judges', the top 3 placing teams are awarded points after each game. The team with the most points at the end wins the coveted winning title!

Check the [website](#) for updates on which teachers are participating!

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Hilarious games
- Chances for student participation
- Jersey Mike's subs and light snacks for purchase!

EVENT DETAILS
THURS | 10.16.25

6 PM - 7:30 PM
DOORS OPEN @ 5:30PM

LOCATION
MRHS, GYMNASIUM
450 ATLANTIC AVE, ABERDEEN

TICKET PRICE \$7 PER PERSON
*FAMILY BUNDLES ALSO AVAILABLE - SEE WEBSITE

FOR INFORMATION & TICKET PURCHASING
WWW.MAEFGRANTS.ORG/BOF25

FOR SAFETY REASONS, TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED ONLINE AHEAD OF TIME AND WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR, UNLESS OTHERWISE ANNOUNCED.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS MAKING THIS EVENT POSSIBLE!

GOLD
SPROUTS FARMERS MARKET

SILVER
NJ Ergonomics
Friendly DENTAL

BRONZE
Columbia Bank
MATAWAN ABERDEEN EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Save the Date- School Picture Day is 10/30

Free & Reduced Breakfast and Lunch Form

The 2025-2026 Meal Applications are to be completed electronically this year. This will be done through Genesis link: [Parent Portal](#).

Families who wish to complete paper applications can request a copy of the application packet. They will also be available at Back To School Night.

Maschio's is our Food Service Company this school year. Below are POC's for your use as needed.

Lauren Dyer, On-Site Director, ldyer@maschiofood.com, 732-705-5326

Sarah Engst, Area Supervisor, sengst@maschiofood.com

Governor's Educator of the Year Program

The Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District is excited to continue our participation in the New Jersey Department of Education's Governor's Educator of the Year (GEOY) Program. This program celebrates outstanding Teachers of the Year and Educational Services Professionals who make a lasting impact on students, families, and our community.

At Cliffwood, we are fortunate to have so many amazing educators who go above and beyond every day. This is your opportunity to



nominate and highlight a teacher or educational services professional who has made a difference in your child's life or supported your family.

Nominations are due by **November 28th**. [GEOY Nomination Form](#)

Thank you for helping us recognize the incredible work of our Cliffwood team!

Breakfast & Lunch Menus

Information about Excused/Unexcused Absences

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

1. Religious holidays (Each year, the State Board of Education votes on a list of approved religious holidays for observance upon the written request signed by the parent.).
2. Participation in observance of Veterans Day.
3. Participation in district board of election membership activities.
4. Take Our Children to Work Day.
5. College visit(s), up to three days per school year for students in grades 11 and 12.
6. Closure of a busing school district that prevents a student from having transportation to the receiving school.

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!**

Cliffwood PTO NEWS

Box Tops



CLIFFWOOD AVENUE
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
CLIFFWOOD, NJ



Referral Code: 16D42ILN

Be sure to sign up for Box Tops for Education and scan receipts to earn rewards for Cliffwood School!

Mum Pick-Up 9/25 4-6 PM

Dates to Keep in Mind

- 9/23-Rosh Hashanah School Closed
 - 9/24- Rosh Hashanah School Closed
 - 9/25- Mum Fundraiser Pick-Up 4-6 PM
 - 9/30-Cliffwood Family Dinner at Texas Roadhouse 4-8 PM
 - 10/2- Yom Kippur School Closed
 - 10/6-10/10- Week of Respect Spirit Wear Week
 - 10/15- Color Run
 - 10/16- Battle of the Faculties
 - 10/29- Cliffwood Trunk or Treat
 - 10/30- School Picture Day
 - 10/31- Cliffwood Halloween Parade at 10 AM
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Matawan-Aberdeen Regional
School District

