



The CPES Pumpkin Post

September 22nd: School Community Newsletter

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Back-to-School Night: Recap!

Thank you to all the families who joined us for Back to School Night! It was a wonderful opportunity to connect, learn about what a day in CPES looks like, and strengthen our partnership. We look forward to a year full of growth, discovery, and fun!

Thank
you

A few important highlights from the parent information session includes:

- **Arrival/Dismissal.** Please follow the traffic plan, use our crosswalk, and be mindful of car speed when exiting the school campus.
- **Health & Well-Being.** Please connect with Nurse Lexi for any health related information.
- **Communication is Key.** Please continue to look for my weekly newsletter, check our district website, and catch updates on social media via x, instagram and Facebook.
- **The Power of Words.** Never forget the power of your words, and the impact it has on our husky pups!

**For further reference, please refer back to the CPES [Back-to-School Presentation](#).*

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School is Closed 9/23 & 9/24

There will be NO school on Tuesday, 9/23, and Wednesday, 9/24, for students and staff in observance of Rosh Hashanah.



School will resume on Thursday, 9/25 following a full day schedule. School doors will open at 8:35 AM, our day will begin at 8:45 AM, and dismissal will be at 3:00 PM.

Eastmont Orchards: Field Trip on Tuesday, 9/30

Our upcoming field trip to the apple orchard, where students will get to pick three apples each. It's the perfect opportunity to enjoy a beautiful day outdoors, breathe in some fresh air, and get into the spirit of fall. Please see below for important details about this exciting trip:



Date: Tuesday, 9/30

Time: 9:30 - 11:30 AM

Where: Eastmont Orchards, 321 County Rd 537, Colts Neck, NJ 07722

Who: Our CPES Husky Pups & Pack Leaders

What: CPES will enjoy a trip to the apple orchard teaches our young students about where their food comes from, the wonder of nature, and the joy of a hands-on harvesting experience. Each learner will be able to pick up to 3 apples!

Important Reminders:

- **Permission Slip.** Please make sure you ***complete the permission slip in its entirety and return it to your classroom teacher no later than today, Monday, 9/22*** so your child can attend apple picking!
- **Dress the Part.** Have your little one wear closed-toe shoes and clothes that can get a little dirty. Layers are a great idea, too, as the morning can be chilly and the afternoon warm.
- **Be on Time.** To make sure we don't miss our bus, please be on time on the day of our trip.

Learning Starts with Being Here



18 OR MORE DAYS

- Excused and unexcused absences represent lost time in the classroom and lost opportunities to learn.
- Missing just one day every two weeks can add up to 18 days in a year. Absences add up before you even know it.



10 TO 17 DAYS

- Students who are absent an average of 15 days a year miss a year's worth of school before their senior year.
- When students miss a day of school it actually puts them two days behind their classmates.



9 OR FEWER ABSENCES

- Students with good attendance generally achieve higher grades and enjoy school more.
- Children benefit and make the most of their educational opportunities if they attend school regularly and on time.

Regular attendance in preschool helps children build routines, develop social skills, and get comfortable with learning environments. Each day offers new opportunities for growth that set the foundation for future success. When children attend consistently, they feel more confident, connected, and ready to learn. ***Every day your child is at school is a step toward a stronger, brighter future because every moment of learning matters.***

Flu Vaccination Requirement for Preschoolers



As part of New Jersey state health regulations (N.J.A.C. 8:57-4), all preschool students are required to have up-to-date immunizations to attend school, including proof of the annual flu vaccine.

Please be sure to submit documentation of your child's flu vaccination by **December 15th**. *Without this documentation, we will not be able to allow your child to return to school in January, and unfortunately, their spot may be offered to another student on our waiting list.*

You can send proof of vaccination to our school nurse, **Ms. Johnson**, at AJohnson@marsd.org

Thank you for helping us keep our school community healthy and safe!

CPES Halloween Parade

Friday, October 31st @ 9:30 AM

The Halloween Parade is an exciting tradition that gives our preschoolers a chance to dress up, use their imaginations, and celebrate a memorable experience with friends and families! It's a fun way for us to build community, encourage creativity, and make lasting memories. While we enjoy the festive spirit, keeping our children safe is always our top priority.



Some important details regarding the CPES Halloween Parade include:

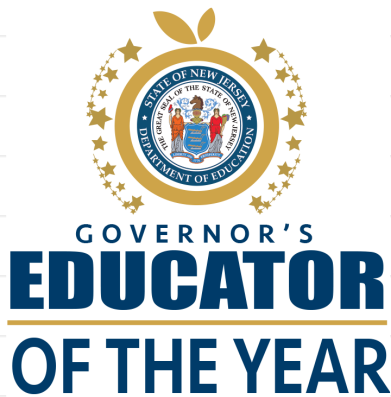
- **Time:** 9:30 AM
- **Location:** The front of CPES
- **How to Watch:** There will be designated areas for families to watch and celebrate in the fun of Halloween! These locations will be shared at a later time with the school community.

To help us celebrate safely, please remember to:

- Send your child to school in a costume that is easy to move in and bathroom-friendly (no masks or props, please).
- Label all costume pieces with your child's name.
- Make sure your child wears comfortable shoes for walking.
- Stay in designated areas during the parade (as outlined in the picture below) and follow staff directions. The path and parent areas to watch the parade will be marked off.

As a reminder, **Friday, October 31st is 4-hour day with a dismissal at 12:45 PM**. Thank you for helping make this a safe and special day for everyone!

Governor's Educator of the Year: Nominations



The Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District is proud to once again participate in the New Jersey Governor's Educator of the Year (GEOY) Program, which honors outstanding teachers and educational services professionals. **Do you know an educator who is dedicated, inspiring, and making a difference?** We invite administrators, staff, students, parents, and community members to submit nominations using the GEOY form by Saturday, November 15, 2025, to the building principal.

Each school will recognize one teacher and one educational services professional, with honorees moving on for county, state, and even national recognition. Please see below important information regarding the Governor's Educator of the Year (GEOY) Program:

- [Nomination Form](#)
- [Eligible Criteria](#)

**Please visit on our district website at: www.marsd.org for addition information.*

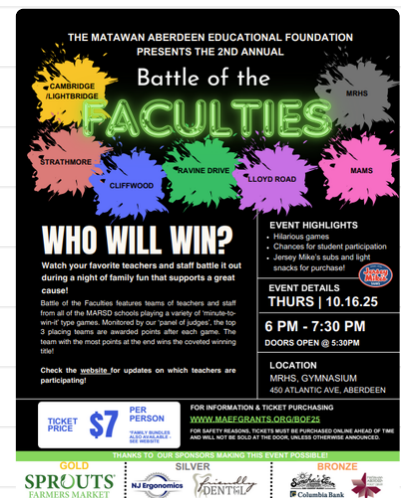
Please nominate the educators who have made a positive impact on your child's learning journey. Thank you for your support and continued collaboration!

Battle of the Faculties

The **Battle of the Faculties** is back, and it's time to settle the score! Who among the MARSD staff will rise to the top and claim the title of the district's most dominant team? Will it be the reigning champs from Strathmore Elementary School, or will it be our own team representing Cambridge Park Elementary School, the Alpha Pups?

Please see below important information regarding Battle of the Faculties:

- **Date:** Thursday, October 16th
- **Time:** 6:00 - 7:30 PM
- **Location:** MRHS Gymnasium, 450 Atlantic Avenue, Aberdeen, NJ 07747
- **Tickets:** Tickets must be purchased online so we can safely control attendance numbers at <https://www.maefgrants.org/bof25>



We hope to see you there cheering on our staff!

Husky Naming Plan



As we begin Theme 1: *Family & Me*, our students will take part in naming our very own CPES husky pup! Naming the mascot transforms it into a true member of our school community, fostering spirit, belonging, and shared traditions. ***Students will submit their name ideas by drawing a husky pup and handwriting their suggested name on the same paper in each class.*** This process combines art and early literacy skills while making each submission personal and meaningful. The colorful entries will be displayed around the school for all to enjoy. Submissions are due no later than **10/3**.

Stay tuned valued school community members and families because you will have an opportunity to cast your own vote when we tally our most popular names!

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MARSD Parent Notification of Standardized Assessments

The state requires the notification of Standardized Assessments to be shared with the school community before October 1st. As required, please see the [MARSD Parent Notification of Standardized Assessments](#). Thank you!

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Thank you, CPES PTO!

September 26th is National PTO Appreciation Day!

We are so grateful to our amazing PTO for their time, dedication, and endless support of our students, staff, and school community.

From organizing events to providing resources, their efforts help make our school a special place to learn and grow.



Thank you, CPES PTO, for all that you do!

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PTO Corner

The Cambridge Park Elementary School PTO plays a key role in supporting students and staff. By joining, parents can directly contribute to events, fundraisers, and programs that enhance the school experience. The PTO raises funds for classroom supplies, extracurricular activities, and school improvements, helping create a better learning environment for all students.



Please see below important announcements and information from the CPES PTO:

- **Stay Connected:** Follow along on social media!
- **Instagram:** @ptocambridgepark
- **Facebook:** Search "Cambridge Park PTO" & request to join the group!
- **Save the Dates:** Thanks to our PTO, there's lots of excitement

happening at CPES! Don't forget to check out the flyers below and join us for upcoming events!

- **Husky Pup Gear:** Show your school spirit by ordering CPES Husky Pup gear! Orders are due September 30th (no exceptions).

**If you are interested in joining the PTO, please reach out to PTO President Ms. Dana Bradfield.*



Events Sept. - Dec.

Like to plan ahead? Check out the exciting things we have planned from Sept. - Dec.!



CPES PTO Membership

Thinking about joining the CPES PTO? Check out for more information!



Park Meet Up

Interested in more playground time? Join us for our September CPES Park Meet up!



CPES Spirit Wear

Interested in purchasing CPES Spirit Wear? Check out the PTO Spirit Wear flyer!



Harvest Fest

Looking for some fall activities to do with your family? Come join us at Harvest Fest!



Harvest Fest Raffle

Looking for a way to boost your business and give back to our community? Check out the Harvest Fest Raffle!



Mum Sale

Planning to decorate with
mums for the fall season?
Please consider our CPES PTO
Mum Sale!

Food Drive

Let's join together for the CPES
PTO food collection for the
Matawan Community Food
Pantry!

Important Dates to Remember – September:

- **Monday, September 22nd:** First Day of Fall (Wear a *flannel*)
- **Tuesday, September 23rd & Thursday, September 24th:** Rosh Hashanah (School is **CLOSED**)
- **Thursday, September 25th:** Park Meet Up @ CPES Back Playground (6:00 PM)
- **Friday, September 26th:** CPES School Spirit Day (Wear your CPES gear *OR* school colors)
- **Monday, September 29th:** RAM BOE Meeting @ MRHS (6:30 PM)
- **Tuesday, September 30th:** Field Trip (Apple Picking @ Eastmont Orchards)
- **Tuesday, September 30th:** Last Day to Order CPES Spirit Wear

Important Dates to Remember – October:

- **Thursday, October 2nd:** Yom Kippur (School is **CLOSED**)
- **Friday, October 3rd:** Breast Cancer Awareness (Wear *Pink*)
- **Friday, October 3rd:** Husky Pup Name Submissions Due!
- **Monday, October 6th through Saturday, October 18th:** PTO Food Pantry Collection
- **Tuesday, October 7th:** PTO Meeting @ CPES Gymnasium (7:00 PM)
- **Friday, October 10th:** World Mental Health Day (Wear *green*)
- **Monday, October 13th:** No School for Students **ONLY**
- **Monday, October 13th:** RAM BOE Meeting @ MAMS (7:00 PM)
- **Wednesday, October 15th:** Global Handwashing Day (Wear *blue*)
- **Wednesday, October 15th:** CPES PTO Park Meetup @ Andover Park (Time TBD)
- **Thursday, October 16th:** Cambridge Park Pumpkin Patch (during the school day)
- **Saturday, October 18th:** Harvest Fest (1:00 - 4:00 PM)
- **Saturday, October 18th:** Trunk or Treat @ Harvest Fest (1:00 - 4:00 PM)
- **Thursday, October 23rd:** Ralph's Italian Ices & Frozen Yo Cafe Dine Out (6:00 - 9:30 PM)
- **Friday, October 24th:** CPES Spirit Day (Wear your CPES gear *OR* school colors)
- **Friday, October 31st:** **Halloween Parade @ CPES (9:30 - 9:40 AM)**
- **Friday, October 31st:** 4-Hour School Day (12:45 PM dismissal)



Dr. P

Contact



Dr. Paone-Hurd brings a decade of experience in education to the Cambridge Park Elementary School community. Now, as a proud member of the Cambridge Park team, Dr. Paone-Hurd is excited to bring her knowledge and passion to help every student thrive in our preschool building!

