



## MATAWAN-ABERDEEN CONNECTIONS

CLIFFWOOD NEWSLETTER

October 12, 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](#), [9/21](#), [9/28](#), [10/5](#)

### Message from Mrs. Cherence, Principal

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

Dear Cliffwood Families,  
Just a quick reminder that school will be closed tomorrow, Monday, October 13th, in observance of Columbus Day. We hope you enjoy the long weekend with your families!

There's still time to register for the Cliffwood Color Run, happening this Wednesday, October 15th! It's going to be a fun and exciting event, and we can't wait to see you there, don't miss out!

#### Arrival & Dismissal Reminder

For everyone's safety and to help reduce congestion, please only make a right turn out of the school parking lot during arrival and dismissal times. This really helps keep traffic flowing smoothly, thank you for your cooperation!

#### Attendance Matters

We've been doing an amazing job arriving to school on time, thank you! As a reminder, please try to schedule doctor, dental, and other appointments after school hours whenever possible. We've noticed an increase in early dismissals, and it's important that students stay for the full school day so they don't miss valuable learning time.

#### Storm Safety

With the upcoming storm, we want to take a moment to wish all our Cliffwood families a safe and secure few days. Please take the necessary precautions and stay safe, we're thinking of you!



CLIFFWOOD SCHOOL

## Learning in Action!

Be sure to scroll down and check out the photos below to see all the exciting and hands-on learning that took place at Cliffwood this past week. Our students have been busy exploring, discovering, and having fun!

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

**We Are Cliffwood Proud!** ❤️ 🇺🇸 🌱

## PreK Trip to Eastmont Orchards



## First Graders Exploring Shadows!

First graders explored how their shadows change by going outside at different times of the day and watching them move and grow!







Parachute Time in the Courtyard





PreK Art Time in the Courtyard



## Learning about the Phases of the Moon

First graders had a blast exploring the phases of the moon by creating each one using Oreo cookies!





Week of School Violence Awareness Week

## Spirit Days Schedule:

<b>Monday 10/20</b>	<b>Tuesday 10/21</b>	<b>Wednesday 10/22</b>	<b>Thursday 10/23</b>	<b>Friday 10/24</b>
<p>Lets keep the peace!</p> <p>Wear tie dye</p> 	<p>Workout your differences with kindness and respect!</p> <p>Wear workout attire</p> 	<p>Unity Day!</p> <p>Wear and share orange to show unity for kindness, inclusion, and acceptance</p> 	<p>We are a team and all in this together!</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 are united against school violence!</p> <p>Wear School colors to show unity for our school</p> 

MARSD K.E.Y.S. Academy Walk

APPROVED FOR DISTRIBUTION  
Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District  
*J. Nieves*  
Authorized Signature

MARSD K.E.Y.S. ACADEMY

MATAWAN-ABERDEEN REGIONAL K.E.Y.S. ACADEMY COMPASS  
PREFERRED  
HEALTHCARE HEALTH GROUP

**3RD ANNUAL  
1- MILE WALK  
FOR  
RECOVERY**  
IN COLLABORATION WITH  
NJ4S COMPASS

**PREVENTION,  
AWARENESS, AND  
FUNDRAISING FOR OUR  
YOUTH IN RECOVERY**

Register now  
at:

**SCAN ME**



**SATURDAY, OCT. 25TH**  
MATAWAN REGIONAL HS  
450 ATLANTIC AVE.  
ABERDEEN, NJ 07747  
REGISTRATION: 8:30-9:30 AM  
WALK BEGINS: 10:00 AM  
FEE: \$25 PER PERSON

**SPONSORS**  
CORPORATE/BUSINESS: \$500  
TREATMENT PROVIDERS/NON PROFIT: \$250  
INDIVIDUAL/PRIVATE DONORS: \$100  
(LAWN SIGN/MESSAGE)

**PAYMENT CASH OR CHECK**  
(PAYABLE TO KEYS ACADEMY)  
MAILED TO: 1027 STATE ROUTE 34  
MATAWAN, NJ 07747

For more info contact Jennise Nieves:  
**CALL 732-224-2645 OR  
EMAIL JNIEVES@MARSD.ORG**

## Join our Team!

We're excited to share that the Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District currently has several openings, and we would love your help in spreading the word! These are wonderful opportunities to be part of our district and make a difference in the lives of our outstanding students.

We are looking for:

- Part-Time Instructional Assistants (Elementary level)
- Part-Time Reading Specialist (Elementary level)
- Substitute School Bus/Van Drivers
- Substitute Transportation Assistants
- Substitute Classroom Teachers
- Substitute Instructional Assistants
- Substitute Nurses (Please email [smoore@marsd.org](mailto:smoore@marsd.org))

If you, or someone you know, may be interested, please visit this website to apply: [Applitrack](#).

To apply for Substitute Classroom Teacher and/or Substitute Instructional Assistant positions, please use this link: [ESS](#)

Come join our wonderful district and be part of the team that supports our students each and every day!

## Stay Cliffwood Connected

- [Cliffwood School Website](#)

- Instagram: [@cliffwood\\_elementary](#)
- Facebook: *Cliffwood School PTO Parent Page*

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!

## 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>

## 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](mailto:ldyer@maschiofood.com), 732-705-5326

Sarah Engst, Area Supervisor, [sengst@maschiofood.com](mailto: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!**

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## Cliffwood PTO NEWS

### Color Run

There is still time to register for the Color Run on Wednesday.

### Trunk or Treat

Trunk or Treat: We still need trunks. All trunks entered will get \$5 school store money. We will have food available, a bounce house and Davey B's ice cream truck.

### 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!

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## Dates to Keep in Mind

10/13- School Closed

10/15- Color Run

10/16- Battle of the Faculties

10/20-10/24- School Violence Awareness Week  
10/22- PTO Meeting 5:30 PM in the Cafeteria  
10/25- K.E.Y.S. Academy Recovery Walk- 8:30-9:30 AM Registration  
Walk Starts at 10 AM MRHS  
10/29- Cliffwood Trunk or Treat  
10/30- School Picture Day  
10/31- Cliffwood Halloween Parade at 10 AM  
10/31- Early Dismissal- Students are dismissed at 1:20 PM  
11/10-11/14-Scholastic Book Fair  
11/11- Coastal Wilds wildlife assembly will be coming to Cliffwood

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**Matawan-Aberdeen Regional**  
School District

