



MATAWAN-ABERDEEN CONNECTIONS

STRATHMORE NEWSLETTER

Straight From Strathmore

Hootline News - Sunday, October 26, 2025



Important Links

[District Website](#), [District Calendar](#), [School Hours](#), [Arrival/Dismissal Procedures](#),

Past Newsletters

Important Reminders

Wearable Electronic Devices

As we work to maintain a focused and highly engaging academic environment, this is an important reminder regarding wearable smart devices (like smartwatches) and the use of all personal electronic devices in school.

Our district policy, MARSD SmartPhone/Mobile Device Policy #5516.02, applies to all personal devices, including smartwatches, to reduce distractions and promote face-to-face interactions. For our elementary students, please remember personal smart devices and smartwatches must be kept in your child's backpack or school bag at all times.

Need to Communicate? If a student needs to contact a parent or guardian during the school day, they may come to the main office with staff permission to use a school phone.

We appreciate your partnership in supporting a distraction-free environment that prioritizes academic engagement and student well-being. You can review the full policy ([#5516.02](#)) on the district website for complete details.

School Playground Usage

Our playground equipment is designed for specific age ranges to ensure maximum safety and proper developmental challenge.

When younger children use equipment intended for older students (such as tall slides or high monkey bars), the size and design create a risk of falls and injury. Likewise, equipment designed for our younger Kindergarten and Pre-K students, is not built to withstand the force or weight of older children.

Our playground is a community resource, and we want to ensure its safe use at all times, including evenings and weekends. When your family visits the school playground during non-school hours, please consider the age recommendations for each piece of equipment to ensure safety.

Halloween Parade / Celebrations

- Our parade is scheduled for Friday, 10/31 at 10:00 AM (weather permitting). See the *Halloween Parade* section for specific details.
- Students should arrive to school dressed in their costume.
- Dangerous props, such as pitchforks, swords, bats, etc., are prohibited in school.
- If your child will not be participating in the Halloween Parade due to religious or personal reasons, please notify your child's teacher by Wednesday, 10/29. A dedicated, supervised alternative space will be provided inside the building for those students during the parade time.





Halloween Parade

Get ready to see our students show off their creative costumes! We are excited to invite parents and family members to watch our Annual Halloween Parade on Friday, October 31st at 10:00 AM.

Students will parade outside, looping once around the entire school building. Parents are invited to watch along the perimeter of the parade route.

We anticipate a large crowd, so please be aware that parking will be limited. Our parking lot will be accessible for parking until it is full. Once the lot reaches capacity, it will be closed to all incoming traffic to ensure the safety of our students. We encourage you to plan accordingly or consider walking if you live nearby.

This is an outdoor event, so please note that the parade is weather permitting. We will notify you if the parade needs to be canceled due to inclement weather.

(Click for [parade flyer](#))

Governor's Educator of the Year Program (GEOY)

MARSD is participating in the New Jersey Department of Education Governor's Educator of the Year Program (GEOY). Do you know an educator who is dedicated, inspiring, and making a difference? If so, please take the time to recommend this person for the Governor's Educator of the Year Program by completing this nomination form template and returning it to the building principal by Friday, November 28th. Administrators, staff members, students, parents, and community members are encouraged to participate.

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

STES at a Glance



1st grade Pumpkin Day



1st grade Pumpkin Day



1st grade Pumpkin Day



Kindergarten ABC Fashion Show
Proud Students



Safety Patrol - Flag Crew
Mrs. Albanese shows the new crew the ropes.



Kindergarten ABC Fashion Show
Parade Time



School Spirit
Mrs, Kelly and Hootmore show off their Strathmore Spirit!



Staff Pink Out



MAEF Battle of the Faculties
Team Strathmore Storm



K/1st Mix it Up Lunch

UPDATE - The Kindergarten and First Grade lunches have been rescheduled for Monday, 10/27:

Get ready for an exciting change of pace! One day this week, we'll be shaking up the usual routine with a special grade-level Mix-Up Lunch.

Instead of sitting with their homeroom classes, students from the same grade will eat together at lunch tables, seated randomly by ticket color. This is a wonderful opportunity to build connections and strengthen the sense of community within of our school!

This activity encourages students to step outside their usual circles and meet new peers they might not see during their school day. Students will get valuable practice initiating conversations, engaging in cooperative dining, and interacting comfortably with a wider variety of peers.

During the lunch session, we will review cafeteria and playground expectations and to introduce our new "Kindness Ticket" system.





Nurse's Notes

Please click [here](#) to view important information from Nurse Mallozzi regarding **student health screenings**.

If you have any medical/health-related questions, please reach out to Nurse Mallozzi at CMallozzi@marsd.org.

Mrs. Monaco

Our school counselor, Mrs. Monaco (formerly Ms. Connelly) has been busy planning and implementing classroom lessons focused on social emotional learning and the character traits that we want our students to embrace. She is an integral part in supporting all students. You can find a few of her friendly reminders by clicking the counselor's corner image.



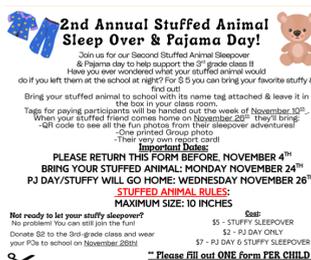
PTO Fundraiser Alert



PTO Happenings



T-Shirt Design Contest
(click image for details)



Stuffy Sleep Over
(click image for details)

Dear third grade parents,

Traditionally, at the end of the year, each third grade student receives a yearbook to remember their years at Strathmore Elementary School. The yearbook is funded by the PTO and participation from all of you!

Over the course of the year, we will be asking for various themed pictures of your third grader! Keep a look out for all the fun activities and yearbook flyers! As always, participation is voluntary. The yearbook is free of charge and we are hoping for 100% participation!

Thank you for your continued support!
This is going to be a great year!

-The Third Grade Yearbook Committee

3rd Grade Yearbook
(click image for details)

Givebacks

Visit the Givebacks website to stay up to date on the PTO, events and fundraisers. [Click here](#) to visit the Givebacks website.

Get Involved

Check out Strathmore's [PTO page](#) on the district website, where you can find information on how to connect. The PTO meets every other month in the Strathmore Library at 7:00 PM. Meeting dates for the year are October 8, November 12, January 7, February 25, April 8, and June 3.

Save the Date - 3rd Grade Spring Dance Party

Community Connections

You are invited to attend a Community Connection Session: Shaping Our District's Future, on Monday, November 24, 2025

This session will focus on the topic of PreK–5 redistricting for the 2026–2027 school year.

Attendees will have the opportunity to learn what redistricting entails, why it may be necessary, and how it could impact our schools and families.

The session will begin at 5:30 p.m. at Ravine Drive School, in person or virtually.

For complete details, please refer to the [flyer](#).

Important Dates

- Monday, October 27: BoE Meeting, 6:30 PM at MAMS
- Tuesday, October 28: Fall Picture RETAKES
- Wednesday, October 29: Fundraiser at Sundaes
- Friday, October 31: Halloween Parade @ 10:00 AM
- Friday, October 31: Early Dismissal Day - 1:20 PM
- Wednesday, November 5: Early Dismissal Day - 1:20 PM
- Thursday-Friday, November 6-7: School Closed
- Thursday, November 13: MP1 ends
- Friday, November 14: STES Spirit Day
- Friday, November 14: Early Dismissal (PreK-8 students)
- Monday, November 24: Community Connections Meeting, 5:30 PM at Ravine Drive School
- Wednesday, November 26: Early Dismissal Students and Staff (1:20 PM)
- Thursday-Friday, November 27-28: School Closed



