

Cliffwood Family Connection

Week of September 14, 2026

Dear Cliffwood Families,

We are off to a wonderful start to the 2026–2027 school year! It has been so exciting to see our students back in the building, learning, laughing, making new friends, and settling into their classroom routines. Thank you for helping us make the first days of school such a smooth and successful start!

Important Communication Update

We want to keep our Cliffwood families informed about an upcoming change to how we communicate with you.

The Matawan-Aberdeen Regional School District is transitioning to the Apptegy Communication Platform. We anticipate that the new platform will be ready to launch midweek this week.

We will continue to keep you posted as we make this transition and will share updates and information with you along the way. Once Apptegy is ready to go, we will provide families with any information needed to access and use the new platform.

Unfortunately, our Smore account has been disabled, so we are unable to send our Family Connection through our usual platform this week. We apologize for the inconvenience and appreciate your patience as we work through this transition.

For now, this is your Cliffwood Family Connection for the week! ❤️



Students Attending Multiple District Buildings

We recognize that some of our families have children attending different schools and understand that coordinating multiple drop-off locations can be challenging.

To help provide families with additional flexibility, the district has worked with our YMCA partner to offer **flexible supervision for 15–30 minutes at a cost of \$5 per day** when families need additional time due to arrival or dismissal conflicts.

For families with a **K–5 student and a preschool student at Cambridge Park**, we recommend dropping off the older child first and then proceeding to Cambridge Park.

At this time, preschool students who have siblings attending another district school with the same start time **will not be marked late when the delay is related to the sibling drop-off.**

Thank you for your patience and understanding as families navigate schedules across multiple buildings.

Chromebook Reminder

Our student Chromebooks are an important tool that allows our students to learn, create, collaborate, and access a wide variety of educational resources.

Please make sure your child's Chromebook is **kept in a safe place and handled responsibly.** Families should be aware that there are charges associated with **lost Chromebooks, lost chargers, and repairs resulting from damage.** Please remind your child to treat their Chromebook and charger with care both at school and at home.

New Chromebooks for 1st & 5th Grade

Students in **1st and 5th grade will be receiving new Chromebooks.** We expect the new devices to be available to students **by the end of this week.**

Lightspeed Monitoring

Please also be aware that student Chromebooks are equipped with **Lightspeed.** Lightspeed provides schools with digital tools that help us monitor, filter, and manage student internet and device activity to support a safe and appropriate digital learning environment.

When a student searches for or accesses inappropriate content, **messages and alerts may be sent to building administration** for review.

If an alert is received that requires follow-up regarding your child, **the principal and/or school counselor will contact you directly.**

Chromebooks provide our students with so many wonderful opportunities, but we also want to remind families that **digital citizenship and healthy technology habits extend beyond the school day.** We encourage parents and guardians to monitor their children's Chromebook use at home, including the websites they are accessing and the amount of time they are spending on their devices.

Working together, we can help our students use technology **safely, responsibly, and purposefully.**

Support the Sheard/Crank Family

Please check the attached flyer for information about the **Geniyah Sheard/Crank Basketball Clinic & Touch-a-Truck Fundraiser** on **September 26**.

All proceeds from this event will go directly toward supporting the **Sheard/Crank family during this difficult time**. We hope our Cliffwood community will come together to show this family how much love and support surrounds them.

Registration:

[Register for the Basketball Clinic & Touch-a-Truck Fundraiser](#)

Please see the attached flyer for additional details.

What's Happening at Matawan Library?

The **Matawan Library** has so many wonderful programs and activities available for our students, families, and community members throughout the month.

Please take a look at the **attached September events calendar** and check out some of the great opportunities available to our Cliffwood families!

Back to School Night

We are looking forward to welcoming our families into Cliffwood for **Back to School Night this Thursday, September 17!**

 **Thursday, September 17**

 **Doors Open at 5:45 PM**

Please be sure to review the attached Back to School Night information.

Please plan accordingly for parking, as we anticipate a large number of families joining us for this special evening.

We can't wait to see you!

Important Dates

September 17 —  Back to School Night

Doors open at 5:45 PM

September 21 —  School Closed — Yom Kippur

September 23 —  PTO Meeting

5:30 PM — Room 15

September 26 —   Geniyah Sheard/Crank Basketball Clinic & Touch-a-Truck Fundraiser

More details on attached flyer

September 29 —  Rita's Italian Ice PTO Dine Out

5:00–8:00 PM

October 14 — Cliffwood PTO Color Run

More information will be coming soon!