

Evesham Township School District

Meland Administration Building, 25 South Maple Avenue, Marlton, NJ 08053 www.evesham.k12.nj.us (856) 983-1800 Fax # (856) 983-2939

Dr. Justin Smith, Superintendent

Mr. John Recchinti, School Business Administrator Mr. Richard G. Dantinne, Jr., Director of Personnel

Ms. Danielle T. Magulick, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Dr. Jennifer Bland, Director of Special Services

September 22, 2023

Dear ETSD Staff and Families,

<u>Highlights</u>: New ETSD homepage link to Ballot Questions info (Nov. 7 vote); ECC Before and After Care Program Transitioning to Outside Provider; ETSD Text Message Notification Further Update; Evesham Education Foundation Upcoming Events; Opportunities and Resources (new listings)

"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."

– proverb with variations tracing back to multiple continents

(our 2023-24 District Theme is "Cooperation is Key")

ETSD homepage has a new link to Ballot Questions info (Nov. 7 vote). More will be added.

<u>Cliff's Notes Re: ETSD's 2 Separate Proposal Ballot Questions</u>

ECC Before and After Care Program Transitioning to Outside Provider

ETSD's ECC before and after school program is going to be changing hands on December 1, 2023, to Just Kids, owned by Archway near Marlton. Archway's Just Kids program has been in operation for over 30 years and is located in 14 other school districts in South Jersey. For more info: https://www.justkidsprogram.org/

We are working with Just Kids to make this process as seamless as possible for all our staff and families involved. The before and after care program will continue very much as it has been: housed in our schools, at the same student to counselor ratio. We are also very hopeful that all current ECC staff will remain the same. Archway will use ETSD's 2023-24 pricing.

Our district has given this decision much consideration. Our ECC program is losing money. Requirements to which all NJ school districts are subject make it very challenging financially for districts to operate before and after care programs, and, as a result, districts are increasingly turning to outside providers. Within the context of a projected \$600,000 loss in state aid for 2024-25, which may result in cuts to educational programming, our district cannot continue to operate ECC. This transition to Just Kids is the best direction for the program, so it can continue successfully moving forward.



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All currently registered participants of ECC will have the opportunity to transfer from ECC to Just Kids. The Just Kids program will handle this transfer and any paperwork involved. Current ECC families received an email from our ECC Director Leah Perlmutter with more information. Thank you for your understanding.

ETSD Text Message Notification Further Update

Parents who did not receive the School Messenger opt-in text message on Sept. 7 should receive it this afternoon. The text reads, "Evesham Township School District alerts. Reply Y 2 confirm, HELP 4 info. Msg&data rates may apply. Msg freq. varies. schoolmessenger.com/txt" Please feel free to hit Y to confirm to enable this text message feature. It may be used moving forward, in conjunction with other communication means, to notify parents about weather-related closures, bus delays, and more. The same feature is being added for staff; staff will be notified when the text message above is sent to their phones. Text messaging will not be used as an additional notification method until all parents and staff have this access to this voluntary option. Further updates regarding this process will be provided.

Evesham Education Foundation Upcoming Events

- EEF Annual Fall Dinner, 10.5.23
- EEF Movie Night, Savich Field, 10.13.23, Super Mario Bros
- FANTASTIC NEW EVENT: <u>Designer Bag Bingo</u>, <u>DMS</u>, <u>11.3.23</u>, <u>6-9 pm</u>

Opportunities and Resources

- Community Activities
- (NEW) Oct. 21: <u>Autism Awareness Color Run & Sensory Walk 10.21.23</u> @ Rice
- Oct. 26: <u>BCIT DISCOVERY NIGHT 2023</u>

Sincerely,

Dr. Justin Smith

Superintendent of Schools