

# MULLICA TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

P. O. BOX 318; 500 ELWOOD ROAD • ELWOOD, NJ • 08217 • PHONE 609-561-3868 EXT. 120 • FAX 609-561-7133

Mr. Andrew Weber  
Superintendent of Schools



Ms. Karen Gfroehrer  
Business Administrator

Mrs. Donna Leshner  
Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction

Mrs. Tracey Domena  
Supervisor of Special Education

Mr. Matthew Mazzoni  
Principal

August 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians:

It is our pleasure to welcome you and your child to the Mullica Township School for the 2017-2018 school year. There are many new and exciting opportunities for your child to take part in each and every day at Mullica Township School. Together we can provide your child with the necessary skills for them to find success!

Cooperation and communication are essential to providing your child with the tools needed to reach his or her fullest potential. Positive communication between home and school is an integral part of your child's total educational experience. Through a partnership between home and school, your child will gain the knowledge and experiences needed for academic success.

Your child's homeroom teacher and schedule for the upcoming school year can be viewed in the Genesis Parent Portal. Parents have required paperwork (i.e. – medical history, consent forms, etc.) to complete through the Parent Portal prior to seeing your child's teacher and/or schedule. The Parent Portal can be found on the school's website at [www.mullicschools.com](http://www.mullicschools.com) under the Parent tab.

New users to the Genesis Parent Portal will receive a welcome letter via email today to the email account you provided to the school. Please follow the directions to log on for the first time. You may be asked to change your password after you have logged in.

If you have an existing Genesis Parent Portal account and forgot your password, there is a "Forgot Password" button on the Login page. It will prompt you for your email and it will email you a new password. You can always change your password from within the Parent Portal by clicking the setup button at the top of the screen.

## **PBIS**

This year, we are beginning our third year as a Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) school to promote a positive and caring school environment where students are taught, practice, and receive feedback from school staff regarding the expectations of the school. Through addressing the whole-child, as well as the multiple purposes of PBIS, we directly link to our district's vision statement. Our students will be able to make responsible choices, and in full-implementation, we will nurture a strong, positive school community.

Introducing, modeling, and reinforcing positive social behavior is an important step to a student’s educational experience. Teaching behavioral expectations and rewarding students is a more positive approach than responding after a misbehavior occurs. The purpose of a school-wide PBIS is to establish a climate in which appropriate behavior is the norm.

The PBIS committee has adopted a teaching and learning matrix with three (3) positively stated expectations that support a positive and caring school environment. The expectations below apply to all students and staff members:

### **The Coyote Calling...Be Responsible, Be Respectful, and Be Ready**

#### **Arrival/Dismissal**

The first day of school for students is **Tuesday, September 5, 2017**. Students are able to enter the school at 8:15 am. Students who are registered for the YMCA program may report to the cafeteria at 6:45 am. This year, staff are assigned to specific classrooms/locations in the school to assist your child during arrival. Please refer to the table below for assigned areas for each grade level:

<b>Grade Level</b>	<b>AM Location</b>
Students in grades Pre-Kindergarten to 4th are to report to their assigned homeroom classrooms once arriving to school. Pre-K & K students will be escorted by staff and middle school students to classroom.	
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Gymnasium
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Gymnasium
7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Cafeteria
8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Library

Students being picked up by parents will be dismissed at 3:20pm to the car loop. Parents picking up children are expected to wait at the car loop rather than enter the main office. Students must be signed out of the school by 3:00 pm for reasons that cannot wait for the dismissal bell.

All children Pre-K to 8 are eligible for bus transportation. Bus safety is a top priority at Mullica, therefore, safe and orderly behavior is expected by all students. All students will be assigned a seat and are expected to wear a seatbelt.

A bus pass detailing the time and stop location will be mailed home the week of August 21<sup>st</sup>. Please contact Mrs. Kelly Capaldi in the District Office at 561-3868, ext. 120 for further information.

#### **School Nutrition**

The mission of the Mullica Township Health and Wellness Committee is to assure a school environment that promotes and protects students’ health, well-being, and ability to learn by

supporting healthy eating and physical activity. This initiative brings together current research to create guidelines that help us with healthy choices for all of our students.

Healthy food options are recommended for student birthday parties and school celebrations. The health and wellness survey supported the serving of healthy birthday snacks rather than sugary foods such as cupcakes. Some of the ideas offered by our school-community members were fresh fruit, vegetables and hummus, popcorn, and yogurt. A list of a healthy snack items will be posted on the school website for parents/guardians to use as a guide in preparing for their child’s special celebration.

### **Breakfast and Lunch Programs**

The breakfast and lunch programs will be in operation on the first day of school. *Nutri-Serve* is the food service provider in the district. Nutrition and Service are the core values of the company. Nutrition education is integrated throughout the menus and is reinforced with healthy marketing on the serving line.

#### **IMPORTANT:**

Free and reduced lunch applications are available online and can be found at <http://www.mullicschools.com/free-reduced-application/>

If you took part in the program last year, your child will receive free or reduced breakfast/lunch until either 1) the new forms are processed for this school year, or 2) October 20, 2017. If you do not submit a household application for free and reduced price school meals and you have not received a letter from the district informing you that you are entitled to free/reduced breakfast/lunch, you will be charged a full priced lunch as of this date. It will be your responsibility to pay any outstanding meal charges that accrue after this date. It is essential that all forms are returned in a timely manner.

The breakfast and lunch costs for the 2017-2018 school year are as follows:

	<b>Full Price</b>	<b>Reduced</b>
Lunch	\$2.90	\$0.40
Breakfast	\$1.25	\$0.30

The **Online Lunch Portal** allows parents to safely and securely place money onto their child’s lunch account. The Portal can be found under the Parent tab on our school website at [www.mullicschools.com](http://www.mullicschools.com). Please contact Mrs. Anita Tirado at 561-3868, ext. 247 for further information.

### **Upcoming Events**

- First Day of School for Students is Tuesday, September 5, 2017
- Pre-K Orientation is Thursday, August 31, 2017 starting at 2 pm in the cafeteria.

- New Student Orientation (K-8) is Thursday, August 24, 2017 starting at 10:00 a.m. in the school library.
  - Please plan to attend with your child so that he or she can become acquainted with the school and expectations.
- Back to School Night for ALL Grades is Wednesday, September 13, 2017 starting at 6pm.

We look forward to having your child a part of our wonderful learning experience here at Mullica Township Schools. As always, do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher and/or administrator for any assistance throughout the school year. Also, please refer to the school website at [www.mullicschools.com](http://www.mullicschools.com) for essential information such as the following:

- Student Handbook
- Code of Conduct
- Calendar of Events
- Online Lunch Payment Portal

In addition, please follow the school's official Twitter page @MullicaCoyotes for upcoming events and to see all the great things happening at Mullica!

Respectfully,

Matthew Mazzoni  
Principal