



## Hopewell Elementary School

35 Princeton Avenue

Hopewell, New Jersey 08525

Phone : 609-737-4007

Fax : 609-466-8095

Twitter: @HopewellES / @HESVerticalFarm

David E. Friedrich, Principal

Dr. Amy Parker, Counselor

---

Dear Hopewell Elementary Parents,

On behalf of the Hopewell Elementary School family, it is my pleasure to extend a warm welcome to you and your children as we commence the 2018-2019 school year. This year, we look forward to the arrival of approximately 430 students at Hopewell Elementary School. It is a privilege to serve as your principal as we collaborate to provide a comprehensive, engaging, relevant and individualized educational experience for your children in a safe and nurturing environment. Our staff strives to challenge your children intellectually, develop them socially and lead them toward independent thinking. We aspire to equip all students with the skills and knowledge necessary to be successful in school and beyond.

I would like to take a moment to recognize and thank our incredible secretaries, custodial and maintenance staff who have done so much this summer to make Hopewell Elementary School operational, safe and looking great. They have been wonderful in responding to teacher and parent inquiries, distributing supplies, completing referendum-related projects, and cleaning/waxing every room and hallway in the building.

As you will see below, we have a great deal of information to share regarding school events, communication and district news. Please take a moment to read each section carefully and reach out if you have any questions.

### OnCourse Connect / Class Placements:

We will be using OnCourse to communicate many important details about the upcoming school year. **Beginning on Wednesday, August 22nd, your child's classroom placement can be found in [OnCourse](#) by clicking on the "Other Student Data" on the left side of the page when you login.** Parents will also be able to see their child's bus number, bus stop and other important information. Please note that in the coming weeks, the transportation department will send an email that includes your child's actual bus pass. Please print out the pass and have your child bring it to school on the first day. Our office staff would be glad to assist in the printing of forms upon request. After you identify your child's classroom teacher, you can access the teacher's website for important information including a Welcome Back Letter. To do this click on "Dashboard" and then on the homeroom teacher's name in blue. There will either be a link called "Welcome Back Letter" or the letter will appear on the teacher's homepage.

Once the school year begins, you will once again be able to view daily attendance, homework, as well as report cards at the end of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd trimester in the OnCourse system. Each teacher will be maintaining a website in OnCourse

throughout the year that will include homework and/or other important information for parents and students related to their class. If you experience any problems trying to access your OnCourse account, please email us at [Registrar@hvrds.org](mailto:Registrar@hvrds.org) or call 737-4000 ext. 2304.

#### Upcoming Events:

Several special events will take place on Thursday, August 30<sup>th</sup>. Beginning at 9:30 am, all incoming kindergartners will gather in the cafeteria to learn more about the upcoming year. At 11:00 am, we will hold a New Family Orientation in the cafeteria for 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents who are joining us from other school communities. Finally, our PTO will host an Open House for all enrolled students from 1:00 – 3:00 pm. During this time, families will be invited to connect with friends old and new, visit classrooms and return PTO-related paperwork. Please understand that while our teachers will try their best to be in attendance they may have vacation plans.

Our first day of school is Thursday, September 6<sup>th</sup>; it is a full day and lunch will be served. Family members are invited to attend our breakfast, hosted by the PTO, immediately following the opening ceremonies. Our first PTO meeting will take place on Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 am in the faculty lounge. All parents are invited to attend. The PTO Welcome Back Carnival will be held on Friday, September 14<sup>th</sup>. Back to School Night will take place on Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. Kindly note our Back to School schedule:

- 6:00 - 7:00    Preschool, kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade
- 7:00 - 8:00    Special education, special area and child study team (Media Center)
- 7:15 - 7:45    Principal's address with PTO
- 8:00 - 9:00    3rd, 4th and 5th grade (individual classrooms)

#### School Communication:

As a way to keep parents informed of important dates and happenings and in a concerted effort to conserve energy and paper, the school's [website](#) will be utilized and updated often. Please visit and peruse the homepage regularly. On the website parents can find [Virtual Backpack](#), which contains school and community-related information. At this time, there are forms that need to be returned. Please take a moment to review, print and complete documents found in the Back to School folder. In addition, parents are encouraged to follow us on Twitter [@HopewellIES](#) and [@HESVerticalFarm](#). This is a convenient way to receive the latest Hopewell Elementary-related news via your phone, tablet or computer.

#### PTO Online/Mobile School Directory:

The HES PTO is happy to announce that once again this year we will be providing every HES family with a copy of our school directory. You should have received an e-mail earlier today with the subject line "Hopewell Elementary School

Directory Confirmation". Please review, update, and complete your student and family information for the directory using the instructions and link provided. If you did not receive the confirmation e-mail, you may not be in our database. To add your family to the directory database, please click on the following link -

<https://www.myschoolanywhere.com/new-family.a5w?fam=HopewellElementarySchool79832>.

Enjoy the final days of the summer break. We are confident wonderful things will occur this year at Hopewell Elementary School. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

David E. Friedrich

Principal