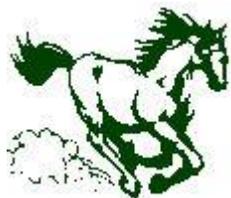


Jeffrey Huguenin, Ed.D.
Principal



Laura Cecilione
Supervisor

JOSEPH J. CATENA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

In cooperation with dedicated staff, parents and students we establish high expectations that enhance self esteem, develop creativity and individuality, build responsibility for self and others, accentuate respect, inspire thought and optimize each child's potential.

August 15, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On behalf of the entire staff, we would like to welcome you to the 2018-2019 school year at the Joseph J. Catena School! We are eager to fill the classrooms with Catena SuperKids and hear all about their "Summer Bucket Lists!"

Together over the last few years, the Catena school community has worked to create colorful learning spaces that allow for movement, encourage collaboration, and spark our students' minds with creativity. Instruction has been tailored to meet the needs of each student in our classrooms with individual feedback based on data. Intuitive and adaptive software, as well as other technology resources provided by the district have been maximized to help our students grow and learn. And, we have invited our students to have ownership in their own learning through the inclusion of goals, progressions and self-assessment.

This year, our emotionally safe and academically rich classes are set for us to tie all of these efforts together and allow us to **inspire** our students to explore their urge to do or feel something creative and take their learning to amazing places!

Our home-school partnership is truly like no other and is a significant part of our school's continued success. We look forward to enhancing that relationship even further during the upcoming year.

Catena SuperKids can access their classroom assignments through the Parent Portal in Genesis on August 29th. Additionally, you will find transportation information regarding bus numbers, approximate pick-up times, and bus stop locations. Before logging off, please be sure to read and sign off on the Parent Handbook and review any additional forms.

As a reminder, the **first day of school for students is Thursday, September 6, 2018**. This is a full day of school. Doors will open at 8:40 AM, with instruction beginning at 8:50 a.m. and ending at 3:20 PM. In addition, Back to School Night is scheduled for Wednesday, September 26th at 6:30PM. Specific information will be sent home during the first week of school. School pictures are scheduled for Tuesday, September 25th.

Please be aware of the following staffing updates for the upcoming year:

Full Year Positions:

- Mrs. Laura McMenamin – Grade 1
- Mrs. April Bodner - LTS Grade 5
- Mrs. Laura Brophy - TA
- Mrs. Amy Czajkowski - TA
- Ms. Krista Hughes - TA
- Mrs. Maria DosSantos - Lunchroom Assistant

Please help us in extending a very warm welcome to our new staff members.

Student Arrival/Drop-Off Procedures

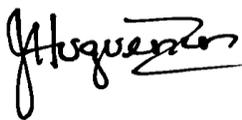
If your child is a walker for the upcoming school year and needs to cross over Burlington Road, please be sure they cross with the crossing guard, who will be stationed at Bear Oak Road.

Please review the pick-up/drop-off procedures below:

1. Students are to be dropped off in the lower parking lot located outside the Kindergarten wing. Please turn into the entrance between the Eisenhower School and the Catena School and then make a left turn into the Catena parking lot. Then, pull up to the curb on the right side and drop your children off. In order to keep traffic flowing, please have your child exit the car quickly. A staff member will be assigned to greet children at that location in the morning. Please do not park your car in this area when dropping your children off.
2. Cars are not permitted in the main front entrance driveway. This is to ensure safe arrival and dismissal procedures for our students every day. Only buses are permitted in the driveway.
3. The lower parking lot outside of the kindergarten and fourth grade wings is designated no parking between the hours of 8:20 AM and 8:50 AM. Please do not park in this area as it is reserved for drop-off in the morning.
4. Students arriving to school after 8:50 AM are to report to the office to obtain a late pass.
5. If you are picking up your child, you must park your car in the side lot, along the sidewalk by the exit driveway area, or in the Eisenhower parking lot. Students will be dismissed, and they may travel along the walkways or across the coned off crosswalk to these three different locations to meet their parent/guardian. It is important that cars use the designated parking spots to prevent any additional traffic back-ups. Cars are not permitted to be idling in any of the car routes. Please consider the use of the Eisenhower parking lot as it has the most space and more than sufficient parking.
6. If you need your child prior to 3:25, please report to the main office where you will sign them out. *Please remember, any change in a child's usual dismissal must be indicated by a written and signed note from a parent/guardian.*

Thank you for your support and partnership in our efforts to educate our students. We look forward to an inspiring year!

Enjoy some last summer fun and the Labor Day Weekend!



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