

The Montclair Public Schools

Montclair, New Jersey

Dr. Penny MacCormack
Superintendent

Greetings,

Thank you for your interest in the Montclair Public School District, an award-winning magnet system that serves more than 6,700 students annually and is a model for magnet school districts nationwide.

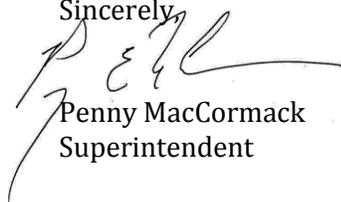
A conversation about Montclair's public schools begins with each family's ability to choose from a variety of theme-based magnets, starting at the elementary level. Learning themes include, among others, environmental science; Montessori; gifted and talented; global studies; visual and performing arts; and science, technology, engineering and math, known as STEM. Families select the best fit for their children from among seven elementary schools and three middle schools leading to one comprehensive high school. World languages are taught throughout the district from kindergarten on, and each school offers SAIL (Students Accelerated in Learning) through differentiated instruction as well as various magnet offerings.

All students complete their secondary-school education at Montclair High School, a rigorous academic environment that offers three small learning communities for students with focused interests: the Civics and Government Institute (CGI), the Center for Social Justice (CSJ), and the STEM Academy. Dozens of Advanced Placement (AP) and high honors courses, a school of visual and performing arts, a science scholars program, architecture studies, Fed and Euro Challenge programs, more than 30 athletic teams, and 100-plus extracurricular offerings speak to the array of opportunities Montclair students have to discover and pursue their passions. Ninety percent of graduates go on to colleges and universities, including to these world-class institutions where members of the MHS Class of 2014 will matriculate this fall: Harvard, Brown, Cornell, Princeton, Yale, UPenn, Columbia, Stanford, Middlebury, Barnard, and the University of Virginia.

Supporting our schools and our educators is a Central Services staff of experts whose mission is to provide students, teachers, schools and families the best possible curriculum and technology support as well as staff-specific professional development.

I invite you to turn the page and read more about our offerings and to visit our district website at www.montclair.k12.nj.us.

Sincerely,



Penny MacCormack
Superintendent



The Montclair Public Schools: An Overview

Montclair, New Jersey

Academics

- An award-winning magnet system with elementary and middle schools identified by the themes global studies, science & technology, creating connections, Montessori, university, STEM, environmental science, and gifted & talented
- Academically challenging high school with a diverse curriculum, more than 25 AP classes, small learning communities (the Civics and Government Institute, Center for Social Justice and STEM); and visual art and performance options in the School of Visual and Performing Arts (SVPA)
- Ninety percent of 2014 graduates matriculated at post-secondary institutions of higher learning, including at Ivy League universities and dozens at highly competitive schools
- Multiple world language offerings, including Spanish, French and Mandarin (K-12), as well as German, Italian, Latin (high school); MHS language students typically earn top honors in competitions and on national exams
- Sixty percent of the district's instructional staff hold advanced degrees in teaching and/or their subject area

Extracurricular

- MHS offers more than 100 clubs, including community service, salsa dancing, bridge, Ultimate Frisbee, robotics, and literary magazine
- SVPA stages three productions per year, including Showcase, a student-run production, and the spring musical (e.g. "In the Heights," 2014)

- Euro Challenge, Fed Challenge, Model UN, and Model Congress teams typically finish with top finishes in national competitions; Mock Trial team consistently competes at regional, state, and national levels; Math League team ranked in the top 20 of New Jersey high schools

Athletics

- The district supports more than 30 varsity sports, including soccer, football, basketball, baseball/softball, track, tennis, lacrosse, gymnastics, swimming, crew, fencing and golf
- In 2013-14, athletes earned titles in football (state champions; coach named state coach of the year), crew (state champions), fencing (state champs in epee), swimming (gold medalists at Meet of Champions), boys' tennis (sectional champions and state finalists); typically a dozen or more athletes are recruited annually to Division 1 and 3 colleges and universities

District

- Glenfield, Hillside and Montclair High School named Model Schools for the Arts by the New Jersey Arts Education Partnership
- Montclair Fund for Educational Excellence (MFEE) named top educational foundation by the Mid-Atlantic Education Consortium, funding nearly \$1M annually in teacher grants and programs, 33 Centers of Excellence including a Guidance Center, Laraja Gallery, a graphic arts studio and podcasting center at Glenfield and Math Lab—all enhancing students' academic experiences
- *Newsweek* recognition as one of the top 1,000 schools in the nation. US Department of Education distinction as one of six exemplary magnet school programs in the nation