

# MONTCLAIR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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### Superintendent of Schools

*Community Message SY 21-22 No. 19*

**Jonathan Ponds, Ed.D.**

April 14, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians and Staff,

We've had a busy spring and much to be excited about. Our in-person school tours have been in full swing, the district recently held a Gifted & Talented information session, schools have been celebrating Autism Awareness Month with inclusive activities and our middle schools and High School held family forums for rising students next year. In addition, after much hard work, dedication and community input, the Board of Education's proposal for the *Community Investment/Bond Referendum* to repair and upgrade district facilities is moving on to its next steps after the Board voted unanimously in its favor. Thank you to everyone who voiced their support!

As we get ready for spring break, please note that there will be **NO COVID-19 testing at the Annex during the recess, April 15 through 22**. Testing will resume Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, 4 to 6 PM beginning April 25. If you will be traveling during the break, I would like to remind you of the [COVID-19 travel recommendations](#) from the CDC and the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) that the district follows.

I would like to formally congratulate Mr. Frank Sedita who was appointed the permanent Nishuane Principal. However, I met with some families who had concerns about my process in selecting a permanent principal. Although I've used this process to name other building leaders, I recognize the request of some families wishing for a *formal* input process before I promote an *Interim/Acting* Principal to a *permanent* position. Moving forward, I will implement a process for promoting an interim to a permanent position. Thank you to the families for communicating to me and expressing your concerns. I look forward to working with you on these processes. Lastly, I am excited about Mr. Sedita as the Nishuane Principal and am confident he will continue to do great work serving the students, staff and families.

This weekend marks the beginning of Passover and the Easter holiday. May those of you who are celebrating enjoy gathering with your families during this time of reflection, renewal and hope. Wishing everyone a fun and relaxing week off to recharge and return energized for the rest of the school year.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jonathan Ponds

Superintendent