



## Montclair Public Schools

*Office of the Superintendent*

May 14, 2020

### COVID-19 Notification No. 17

Dear Families, Caregivers, and Staff,

#### **Governor's Educator of the Year recipients**

Congratulations to our 2020-21 New Jersey Governor's Educator of the Year Recipients! We celebrate their ability to inspire our incredible young people. I am so thankful that we have such an amazing group of dedicated professionals. They are experts in their various teaching positions, meeting the needs of students from diverse backgrounds. In addition, our recipients demonstrate leadership in and outside the classroom; have the respect and admiration of students, parents, and colleagues; and play an active role in the community as well as their schools.

We applaud their commitment to making a difference in the lives of our students and service to the district. We look forward to honoring them at the Board of Education meeting on May 18. The link to join the meeting will be posted on the front page of our website. We hope that you can join us to watch these educators be recognized:

Bradford	Vanna Bautista
Bradford	Patricia Dowling
Bullock	Greg McGrath
Bullock	Ruby Campbell
Edgemont	Traci Ciofi
Edgemont	Kaitlin Corcoran
Hillside	Mi Soo Chung
Nishuane	Ellen Haggerty
Nishuane	Marissa May
Northeast	Lorrie Hunter
Northeast	Janet Villalobos
Watchung	Debra Ann Polizzano
Watchung	Kathleen Piller
Buzz Aldrin	Joseph Turner
Glenfield	Syreeta Carrington
Renaissance	Tameka Stafford
Renaissance	Rodney Jackson
MHS	Lauren Csuka
MHS	Jaime Walker

### **Reminder from the District Nursing Office**

Contactless pick-up of your child's medication will take place outside the front door of your child's school on **Tuesday, May 19 from 9:30 to 11 am**. This is a one-time opportunity.

**Please email your child's school nurse by Friday, May 15 with the name of your child, grade and name of the medication(s).**

**Please maintain social distancing and wear a mask.** Your child's school nurse will confirm your request with pick-up details. Please inform your school nurse if your family does not have transportation for medication pick-up.

MHS Grades 10-12:

Laura Schwartz, [lschwartz@montclair.k12.nj.us](mailto:lschwartz@montclair.k12.nj.us)

MHS Grade 9:

Patricia Feely, [pfeely@montclair.k12.nj.us](mailto:pfeely@montclair.k12.nj.us)

Renaissance:

Jerilyn Mullen, [jmullen@montclair.k12.nj.us](mailto:jmullen@montclair.k12.nj.us)

BAMS:

Eva McGorry, [emcgorry@montclair.k12.nj.us](mailto:emcgorry@montclair.k12.nj.us)

Glenfield:

Debra Rolandelli, [drolandelli@montclair.k12.nj.us](mailto:drolandelli@montclair.k12.nj.us)

DLC:

Melissa Groffman, [mgroffman@montclair.k12.nj.us](mailto:mgroffman@montclair.k12.nj.us)

Bradford:

Patricia Dowling, [pdowling@montclair.k12.nj.us](mailto:pdowling@montclair.k12.nj.us)

Bullock:

Christine Langton, [clangton@montclair.k12.nj.us](mailto:clangton@montclair.k12.nj.us)

Edgemont:

Anne Riordan, [ariordan@montclair.k12.nj.us](mailto:ariordan@montclair.k12.nj.us)

Hillside:

Rosemarie Boyle, [rboyle@montclair.k12.nj.us](mailto:rboyle@montclair.k12.nj.us)

Nishuane:

Grace Alfaro, [galfaro@montclair.k12.nj.us](mailto:galfaro@montclair.k12.nj.us)

Northeast:

Patricia Lozito, [plozito@montclair.k12.nj.us](mailto:plozito@montclair.k12.nj.us)

Watchung:

Marjorie McShane, [mmcshane@montclair.k12.nj.us](mailto:mmcshane@montclair.k12.nj.us)

### **Related Service Appointments**

We have heard that you may have challenges getting your children to participate in virtual speech, occupational or physical therapy. I would urge you to make every effort to have them join their sessions. In the event that your children cannot keep their scheduled appointments, please take a moment to send an email to the therapists and let them know that you are cancelling sessions before the scheduled time. This will help us maintain the schedule of all students who require Speech, Occupational Therapy (OT) and Physical Therapy (PT). We thank you for keeping your scheduled appointments.

### **Summer Camps**

Please be advised that after deliberation and based on the current national and state guidelines of the COVID-19 pandemic, all **enrichment** summer camps are cancelled. These camps have served as a highlight of summer fun in the community for many years and we are saddened to cancel these important and enjoyable programs. Please know the health and safety of our citizens, campers, and staff

is paramount. More information about academic summer school or Extended School Year (ESY) will be coming out at a later date, as we are awaiting guidance from the NJDOE.

### **MHS Virtual Graduation**

Montclair High School is planning a virtual graduation ceremony. This week the high school administration sent a letter to all seniors and their families. Below are excerpts from that communication.

*The virtual graduation will take place on the same dates and times as the already scheduled Class of 2020 Graduation to take place on June 24, 2020.*

*To the extent possible, the virtual graduation ceremony will replicate as many components of an in-person graduation ceremony, including the processional, student speeches along with honors and student recognition. In order to capture these moments, we are asking graduates full participation in the process of collecting personal photos and videos for the essential elements of the graduation ceremony, as well as those from friends and families.*

*The ceremony will be streamed for families to view from the comfort and safety of their own homes, details on how to access will follow.*

The high school is also in the process of developing a plan for the distribution of caps and gowns, yearbooks and diplomas. The high school continues to update students and families as details emerge.

Virtual moving up exercises for the middle and elementary schools are also in the process of being planned.

### **Montclair Read Aloud**

Older students are reaching out about how to help and connect with younger students in the district during this time of remote learning. If you are the parent of a middle school or high school child please let them know about this opportunity. Kerala, a student at Glenfield started a YouTube channel called "Montclair Read Aloud." It is here that she has been posting video recordings of stories for younger students. See her and others who have joined in here: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVzZMGBGbsDZFUzk9oXSMOw>

This opportunity is open to all students and all staff. If you would like to collaborate with Kerala follow these directions:

1. Parents/guardians should give their students permission before sending a video recording.
2. Pick a children's book to read.
3. Record yourself reading this book.
4. Send an email to Kerala at [kkim25@mpsdnj.us](mailto:kkim25@mpsdnj.us) with the video recordings of your story, and she will upload them to the channel. Any students or staff who are interested in reading a story for the channel, please email Kerala.

I am getting more and more questions about what will be happening in the fall. We are all living with a high level of uncertainty and fear. We have many unanswered questions ourselves.

Our objective is to identify and disseminate best practices developed during this period of remote learning. If our buildings remain closed in the fall, we will be much better prepared to provide engaged and rigorous instruction.

Each family situation is unique. One of our Board of Education members, at the last board meeting, encouraged parents to keep a careful eye on their children. We encourage parents to seek additional professional support if they note significant changes in their children's behavior or demeanor.

I am hoping for some warmer weather and more sunny days.

*Stay well, stay safe and stay connected. We are all in this together, and we will all get through this together!*

***Thank you, Dr. Nathan Parker***