



EAST GREENWICH TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

Andrea Evans, Superintendent

Gregory Wilson, Business Administrator

January 16, 2025

Dear East Greenwich Township School Community,

We hope you enjoyed a wonderful winter break with your loved ones and that 2025 is off to a great start. Our students and staff returned to school with renewed energy and enthusiasm. The hallways are once again filled with the sounds of learning and laughter, and we're looking forward to the many opportunities 2025 brings for growth and achievement. Below please find some important information and reminders.

Board of Education Reorganization

Our annual board of education reorganization meeting was held earlier this month. Mr. Anand Acharya, Mrs. Lori Becker and Mr. Jeff Flynn were elected to three-year terms. Mrs. Amanda Black was elected to an unexpired two-year term.

Mr. Mark Schonewise was elected president, and Mrs. Jodie O'Brien was elected vice-president. More information about our board of education, including meeting dates, can be found [here](#).

2024-2025 Calendar

Due to our emergency closing on January 6th, the last day of school is now Friday, June 13th. Please find the updated **2024-2025** calendar [here](#).

2025-2026 Calendar

Our **2025-2026** school year calendar was approved at last night's board meeting, and it can be found [here](#). Please note we are adjusting the timing of our parent-teacher conferences to better support student success. Conferences will be held during the last week of October, rather than the traditional pre-Thanksgiving schedule. This change places conferences at mid-trimester, providing several benefits:

- Teachers can share meaningful progress updates about your student's performance
- Families will have sufficient time to implement suggested strategies and supports
- Students will have opportunities to demonstrate growth before trimester grades close

Additionally, Halloween will now be an early dismissal day for staff and students. We will continue to have our traditional celebrations, such as parties and parades, but we will be adjusting the timing. More information will be shared by building principals in the fall.



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Interim Child Study Team Supervisor

We are pleased to announce Ms. Nanci Paparo has joined our district as the interim Child Study Team Supervisor. Ms. Paparo brings valuable experience as both a school leader and Child Study Team member to this role. We are confident that her knowledge, expertise, and passion for student services will be tremendous assets to our school community.

Ms. Paparo will serve in this interim capacity over the next several months while we complete our search for a permanent Director of Student Services. This position became available following the December retirement of our previous Child Study Team Supervisor, Beth Ann Godfrey.

We invite you to read Ms. Paparo's letter of introduction [here](#).

iReady Math Transition Back to Traditional Grading Scale

We are pleased to share an update regarding our math grading practices for Trimester 2 and the successful implementation of iReady Math. After careful analysis of our students' progress during Trimester 1, we will return to our traditional A-F grading scale for mathematics in Trimester 2. This decision is supported by impressive data from our first trimester.

Our comparative analysis of math grades between 2023 and 2024 shows that student performance in first through fifth grades has remained consistently strong, with grades varying by only 1-2 points from the previous year. This demonstrates that our students have successfully adapted to iReady Math's inquiry-based, student-centered approach.

We are proud of our students' resilience and engagement with this new mathematics curriculum, and we look forward to building on this success in Trimester 2. Later this month our students will be taking the mid-year iReady Diagnostic assessment. Click [here](#) for more information. Thank you for your continued support.

Welcome Preschool Students and Families

On January 2nd, we welcomed new and returning preschool students to our full day preschool program. We are grateful to our dedicated team of administrators, teachers and staff who worked diligently to prepare for students' arrival. We are committed to providing a nurturing, enriching learning experience. The first few weeks have been wonderful, and we are already seeing our preschool students make new friends and adjust to their classroom routines.



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This high quality, free preschool program was made possible through a Preschool Education Aid award in the amount of \$847,336 from the New Jersey Department of Education. We are grateful we are able to offer this comprehensive full day program to our families, and we are hopeful to receive additional funding for expansion in the 2025-2026 school year. More information about the 2025-2026 preschool program will be shared in the next few weeks.

Reminders:

Care Solace

As part of our commitment to supporting the mental health of our students and staff, the district continues to partner with Care Solace. **Care Solace is a FREE mental health coordination service for our district's families and staff.** Click [here](#) to visit our Care Solace website.

Emergency Closing Information

In the event of an emergency closing, delayed opening or early dismissal, notification will be made by phone and text message. The information will also be posted on our district website and Facebook page. Please reference [here](#) for more information on emergency closings.

If you have any changes to your contact information, please contact the main office to update your information.

Hiring

We are hiring for a variety of positions, such as part-time instructional aides, long-term substitutes (interim teachers) and substitute teachers. Please visit [here](#) to learn more and apply.

Illness & Attendance

We strongly encourage you to keep your student home if he or she is sick. Please notify the main office by 9:00am of your student's absence:

Jeffrey Clark main office~ 856-423-0613 Samuel Mickle main office~ 856-423-0412

Medical notes for absences may be dropped off, emailed or scanned to the school nurses at:

Jeffrey Clark School Nurse, Christine Calhoun~ calhounc@eastgreenwich.k12.nj.us

Samuel Mickle School Nurse, Michele Brown~ brownmi@eastgreenwich.k12.nj.us

Sincerely,

Andrea Evans