

# Florham Park School District

## 2016-2017 School Year



### I am Florham Park!!

**Dear Parent or Guardian:**

**Strategic Planning-** In our third and final meeting on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017, the district was set in motion with four goals. These goals are as follows:

1. To create a whole child, parents, teachers, and neighbors will cultivate a learning environment that develops social, respectful, emotionally healthy students who can creatively problem-solve and become positive contributors to their community.
2. To foster a learning environment that creates a positive connection between the student and all community members to produce global citizenship.
3. To create a healthy, safe, and secure learning environment that maximizes student access to 21<sup>st</sup> century tools.
4. To create an engaging, connected, and growing environment within the community of local organizations, businesses, parents, students and teachers.

Now that the faculty and staff have their goals, we will set into motion an action plan. That action plan will be presented at a meeting in the near future. More information will be forthcoming. We welcome your feedback and contributions toward the action plan.

You can visit the website and see the work of all stakeholders:

<http://www.fpbs.org/pdf/Strategic/Meeting%203%20Outcomes%20Florham%20Park.pdf>

### District Contacts

#### **Board of Education Office**

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*Superintendent of Schools*

Mr. John Csatos, C.P.A.  
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#### **Board Of Education Members**

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Kristine Heinold, *Vice President*  
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#### **Ridgedale Middle School**

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Mr. Peter Christ, Principal

#### **Brooklake Elementary School**

235 Brooklake Road  
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Dr. Steven Caponegro, Principal

#### **Briarwood Elementary School**

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Mrs. Sherri Glaab, Principal

## **Media Coverage!**

Brooklake is mentioned in New Jersey Monthly! I would like to send out a heartfelt Thank You to Alison Conroy who has worked diligently to bring in mindfulness as well as Yoga 4 Classrooms to our district. We have had nothing but positive feedback.

Here is the link:

<https://njmonthly.com/articles/health/yoga-in-schools-mindful-classrooms/>

## **PARCC**

It is time to begin our yearly testing administration. Brooklake begins testing on April 20<sup>th</sup>, with Ridgedale beginning May 1<sup>st</sup>. We are ready and we believe your children are as well. Let's tackle PARCC!

## **Budget**

The 2017-2018 Florham Park School District Budget was tentatively approved at the March 13, 2017 board meeting. Our formal budget presentation will be held on April 24<sup>th</sup> at 7PM.

Our budget will include some new additions. We are going to continue our 1:1 Chromebook initiative for our incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders, which will have 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> using a Chromebook. We are introducing a part time World Language Teacher for grades K-2. Our initiative for ELA will continue with strong professional development from Teacher's College as well as focusing on our BSI population. To address our math issues, we are also budgeting for a math consultant.

With the imposed 2% cap, it is impossible to make our budget meet without making cuts. This year, we have been forced to reduce our number of teaching staff and we will no longer offer our summer enrichment program. The ESY program will be offered this summer. We have also removed the purchase of a bus and a few other items. Please know that these are very tough decisions that we must make.

## **School Parties for 2017-2018 Reminder!**

Over the past few years, many school districts have completely stopped having events that involve food. This is due to the many allergies and health issues that are present in classrooms. Briarwood and Brooklake have formed committees to determine what would be best for our school district. It was decided that beginning in the 2017-2018 school year, we will no longer host birthday parties that involve food. Parents and guardians may come in and read a book or provide the students with pencils or stickers at the teacher's discretion. There is also an option to donate your child's favorite book to the classroom. However, we will stop having birthday parties with food related items. The committee also elected to have two celebrations involving food per year. These will be at the discretion of the building principal. Those celebrations will involve pre-packaged food only, since they contain a list of the ingredients. Offering food has become a safety issue for our student population.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- 4/10-4/17 Schools Closed-Spring  
Recess
- 4/19 BWD/BKL Jump-a-Thon
- 4/20-4/26 PARCC Testing-Gr. 3 & 4  
(Make-ups 4/27 & 4/28)
- 4/19 Earth Day Observance
- 4/24 Board of Education Meeting
- 4/27 Take Your Child to Work  
Day
- 5/3 BKL Assembly
- 5/4 BWD Principal Forum  
RMS Assembly
- 5/12-13 RMS Spring Musical
- 5/16 BKL Spring Concert
- 5/17 RMS Solar Sprints
- 5/18-19 BKL Spring Musical
- 5/22 Board of Education Meeting  
RMS Solar Sprints
- 5/24-26 Grade 5 Human Growth &  
Development
- 5/26 BKL Multicultural Dance  
Presentation
- 5/29 Schools Closed-Memorial  
Day
- 5/31 NJASK Science Grades 4&8

## **Congratulations to Anika Lippke!**

Anika has published a book on Amazon!. She is pictured here with her teacher Roseann Franklin.



I hope you and your children have an amazing Spring Break! We will see them back on April 18<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Melissa Varley*

Dr. Melissa Varley  
Superintendent