

Florham Park School District

2017-2018 School Year



We are Ready!

Dear Families;

I do believe our snow days are over for this school year! This was a rough year in terms of weather. Our last two make up days are half days at the end of the year and graduation will remain on June 20th. Here is the link to our school calendar: <http://www.fpks.org/pdf/17-18%20District%20Calendar.pdf> We will plan something fun and exciting for our students. We are adding more snow days in our calendar for 2018-2019. That will help circumvent using spring break (fingers crossed).

It has been a couple of months since the Parkland, Florida tragedy has occurred. I have spent this time meeting with the police department, our mayor, and other community leaders to discuss safety in our school system. Your child's safety is my top priority. Therefore, we are posing a question for voters in November. This question will read something like, "I agree to raising my taxes approximately \$12.00 per year to provide 3 security officers in the school district." The Florham Park Police Department provides us with two security officers now, however, they are not committed to the schools 100 percent. I would like to have officers who belong on our campus daily. They would have no other job but to keep our students safe. I will continue to remind you of this as the year continues.

Summer Reading

Get ready to read! As we prepare your children to be life long learners, we will be asking them to read over the summer again this year. As of right now, we do not have the complete packet of information ready. But, it is coming soon!

District Contacts

Board of Education Office

67 Ridgedale Avenue
Florham Park, NJ 07932
Phone: 973-822-3880
Fax: 973-822-0867

Dr. Melissa Varley
Superintendent of Schools

Mr. John Csatos, C.P.A.
*Business Administrator/
Board Secretary*

Board Of Education Members

Nick Rittrivi, *President*
Alita Thomas, *Vice President*
Yvonne Cali
Fabienne Crimi
Kristina Heinold
Linda Rozek
Charles Shanley

Ridgedale Middle School

71 Ridgedale Avenue
Phone: 973-822-3855
Fax: 973-822-7963
Mr. Peter Christ, Principal

Brooklake Elementary School

235 Brooklake Road
Phone: 973-822-3888
Fax: 973-822-1577
Dr. Steven Caponegro, Principal

Briarwood Elementary School

151 Briarwood Road
Phone: 973-822-3884
Fax: 973-822-0289
Mrs. Sherri Glaab, Principal

PARCC Testing

The month of April usually means PARCC. Brooklake starts testing on April 23rd and Ridgedale starts April 30th. Please make sure your children have had a good breakfast. We look forward to seeing what they know!

Future Ready

Ridgedale Middle School is aiming to be considered “Future Ready!” We have to design our own “Brand”. As most of you know, when I began the role as superintendent, I decided on “I am Florham Park.” However, it seems that everyone is using that slogan. Our new slogan/brand is “We are Ready!” You will start to see #weareready in our communications, on our signs, and in our newsletters. Florham Park, we are ready!

Budget

The 2018-2019 Florham Park School District Budget was tentatively approved at the March 26, 2018 board meeting. Our formal budget presentation will be held on April 24th at 7PM.

Our budget will include some new additions. We are going to continue our 1:1 Chromebook initiative for our incoming 6th graders, which will give every child at the middle school a Chromebook. We are hiring a full time French Teacher for Briarwood and Ridgedale. Our initiative for ELA will continue with strong professional development from Teacher’s College as well as focusing on our BSI population.

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 staff. Please know that these are very tough decisions that we must make.

Upcoming Dates

4-18 PTA Meeting

4-20 Walk to School Day

5-11/5-12 The Little Mermaid (RMS)

5-15-BKL Spring Concert

5-24 BWD 2nd Grade Drama Performance

I’m looking forward to spring weather!

Sincerely,

Dr. Melissa Varley

Dr. Melissa Varley
Superintendent