



Florham Park School District

2016-2017 School Year

District Contacts

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Mr. Peter Christ, Principal

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Briarwood Elementary School

151 Briarwood Road
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Mrs. Sherri Glaab, Principal

Happy Holidays!

Dear Parent or Guardian:

Hello, and welcome to the holiday season! I hope everyone had a lovely Thanksgiving. This year is flying by; we have already ended our first marking period. Please see the end of the newsletter for upcoming events.

Powerschool Test Message

Since we are starting the winter season, we will be doing a test message on December 2nd. Please make sure your information is updated in Powerschool so that you're aware of any school closings.

Walk to School Day

We will have our second walk to school day on December 2nd. Please ensure that your children are walking or biking using safe routes to school!

School Parties

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. As this school year continues, I will send more detailed information regarding our parties with food. Offering food has become a safety issue for our student population.

Reader's and Writer's Workshop

Thank you to all who attended our parent workshop on November 16th. It is great to everyone working together to improve the literacy skills of our students. I want to take the time to commend the Briarwood staff for all the hard work that is occurring in that building. We have seen tremendous growth with our students in a single marking period.

Board of Education

In December, we have three board members who will be leaving us. They have served the Florham Park Board of Education for many years. John Carollo served as a board member from 2002-2016, Kevin DeCoursey served as a board member from 1998-2016, and Marianne Haynes served from 2007-2016. We would like to thank them for all of their dedication to this school district. This position is voluntary and isn't always easy. I look forward to hearing what you're doing with all of your spare time!

With that, we welcome three new board members. On January 4, 2017, at 6:30PM, we will swear in Yvonne Cali, Fabienne Crimi, and Nick Ritrivi. I look forward to working with them for the betterment of Florham Park School District.

Retirement

I would be remiss if I did not mention the retirement of Jeff Gruenwald. Mr. Gruenwald has been a fixture in this district for 40 years. He has touched the lives of many and continues to give his best on every given day. I want to wish him well in his retirement and the best of luck!

Upcoming Events

12/2-Walk to School Day

12/2 & 12/3-Sherlock Holmes-Ridgedale Middle School Play

12/6-Winter Concert-Brooklake

12/7-Winter Concert-Briarwood

12/23-Early Dismissal

12/24-1/02-Holiday Break

Sincerely,

Dr. Melissa W. Varley

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