



New Milford Public School District

Danielle M. Shanley, Superintendent
145 Madison Avenue
New Milford, NJ 07646
201.261.2952

The Adventure Continues

September 5, 2023

Dear New Milford Families and Friends:

Welcome back! And for those of you who may be new to the District this year, welcome to New Milford. I hope this letter finds you rested, recharged and ready for a new school year. Our dedicated faculty, staff and I are anxiously awaiting your return Wednesday, September 6. It is also **National Read a Book Day!** I cannot think of a better way to begin our school year. As your Superintendent, I am committed to collaborating, inspiring, supporting, encouraging and learning alongside the members of our school community to remain focused on our number one priority, our students.

This year the Board of Education has approved three District Goals:

#1 Improve teacher practices and student achievement by analyzing the revised NJ Student Learning Standards in English Language Arts, and aligning existing curriculum and instructional practices to the standards.

#2 Improve teacher practices and student achievement by analyzing the revised NJ Student Learning Standards in Mathematics, and aligning existing curriculum and instructional practices to the standards.

#3 Develop the "Profile of a New Milford Graduate" and the revised mission statement by collaborating with school community members to establish a prioritized set of competencies, including 21st century skills, mindsets, and literacies that define a New Milford Graduate.

Please be apprised of the following information and important dates:



Wednesday, September 13, Berkley Street School at 6PM
Thursday, September 14, B.F. Gibbs School at 6PM
Thursday, September 21, NM High School at 6PM
Wednesday, September 27, DEO Middle School at 6:30PM



Saturday, September 30 is our second annual [New Milford Knights Athletics' Day](#). The activities kick off at 9 AM on the fields behind the High School, with food and fun all day long for all ages. Fall athletics are already underway! Varsity football, soccer and volleyball games will be streamed via our school [Youtube account](#) in conjunction with our Hudl account.



The [2023-2024 district calendar](#) has been posted to the District's website.

School will be **closed** on Monday, September 25 for Yom Kippur.

There are two **single session days** (early dismissals) on Monday, October 9 and Tuesday, October 31.



Although the COVID Health Pandemic came to an "official end" on May 11, 2023, cases have been reported to our health offices already. We ask you to exercise diligence at home should your child/children become sick. Please **do not send sick children to school**. Kindly follow any COVID symptoms with a call to your health care provider.



We will begin student lunch service for grades 6-12 on Friday, September 8, and for elementary students on Monday, September 18. Payments for lunch will be made through [PaySchoolsCentral](#). Please be sure to complete the lunch [applications for the free and reduced lunch](#) program. All students eligible for reduced lunch will receive FREE lunch again this year.



Individual Student Score Reports for 22-23 NJSLA assessments in grades 3-10 ELA and in grades 3-8 mathematics, Alg I and Geometry will be sent home to parents as soon as the District receives them. We have posted the [assessment schedule for the 23-24](#) school year on our curriculum page. Updates to [NJ Graduation requirements](#) (from May 2023) can be found on the NJDOE website.



Technology is available to all of our students as part of our one-to-one initiative. Students may not use their own devices for instructional purposes when in school. New devices will be distributed to students in grades 1, 5 and 9. Insurance is available for purchase to protect devices from damage. Although this is a voluntary program, enrollment is highly recommended for substantial savings and reduced costs associated with damaged Chromebooks. Information on the insurance plan and coverage can be found [here](#).



On Tuesday, September 19, the BOE will hold its monthly **Work Session**, and on Wednesday, September 20, the BOE will hold the **Regular Session**. Meetings will be held in the NMHS Media Center at 7PM and are open to the Public, and live streamed for viewing from home. Links for meetings can be found on the front page of the [District Website](#).



Information on busing for **eligible students** can be found in the Genesis parent portal under the Bus tab.



September's *Coffee with the Superintendent and Friends* is scheduled for Wednesday, September 20, at 5 PM. My special guest will be Dr. Whitney Bennett-Perro, Director of Special Services. A Google Meet conferencing link will be sent as a reminder.

As always, we are here to support you and your children. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teachers, counselor, principal, or to the central office staff with any questions.

With all good wishes for a wonderful school year!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Danielle M. Shanley".

Danielle M. Shanley
she/her/hers