

From the Schoolhouse to Your House

Notes from the Superintendent, Theresa J. Pollifrone-Sinatra

Volume 6

June 2005

Letter to Members of the Metuchen Education Community Terri Sinatra, Superintendent

Well, here we are – nearly at the end of another wonderful school year! In just a few weeks the students will be off and away. It is my most sincere wish that your summer be filled with rest, relaxation, and just enough excitement to keep it from being dull. Enjoy it, because you have all earned it.

Our Metuchen Education Community is second to none. Together, we have managed to accomplish great things for our students and for the community at large. Metuchen children are receiving a wonderful education, and we will soon realize our dream that all schools benefit from updated renovations.

During this summer, many of our teachers will participate in professional development activities and curriculum writing. Our administrators and supervisors will participate in an annual retreat to hone their leadership skills. I would like to thank each and every member of our faculty for their talent and dedication to the children of our community.

Parents, I understand that the success of our children hinges not only on the teachers, principals, and supervisors in our district but also on you – our students' parents. I want to thank you for your support and continued high regard for our educational offerings.

During this upcoming summer we will see a great deal of construction at three of our schools. At Moss, our playground will be expanded. This was due to a grant from the Statewide Livable Communities Fund – part of the Department of Environmental Protection. Please note that the playground area will be “off limits” for the month of July. I know that we can count on your cooperation in keeping your children away from this area during this important upgrade. At Campbell School, two new classrooms will be installed. Our modular classrooms are being made at this time. You will be able to view them on our website, www.metuchenschools.org. At Metuchen High School, we will begin the process of upgrading every classroom, renovating the entire building envelope, and improving our fields. We will start this major undertaking this summer with a large-scale asbestos-removal project. I ask your cooperation in helping us maintain safety at each site this summer.

I sincerely thank everyone for their continual support of our school system, and I wish each of you a peaceful and enjoyable summer.

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The complete calendar for the 2005-2006 school year is included for your convenience. Please take special note of those days earmarked as make-up snow days.

REVISED 2005-2006 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Sept. 1	Thursday	Staff In-Service	
Sept. 5	Monday	Labor Day	
Sept. 6	Tuesday	Opening Day for Students	
Oct. 4/5	Tuesday/Wednesday	Rosh Hoshana	All Schools Closed
Oct. 13	Thursday	Yom Kipper	All Schools Closed
Nov. 8	Tuesday	Election Day - Staff In-Service	All Schools Closed
Nov. 10/11	Thursday/Friday	NJEA Convention	All Schools Closed
Nov. 23	Wednesday	Early Dismissal	
Nov. 24/25	Thurs/Friday	Thanksgiving Recess	All Schools Closed
Dec. 23	Friday	Early Dismissal	
Dec.26 -	Monday-Monday	Winter Recess	All Schools Closed
Jan. 2		(December 25-Christmas, January 1-New Year's Day)	
Jan. 16	Monday	Martin Luther King's Birthday	All Schools Closed
Feb. 17	Friday	Staff In-Service	All Schools Closed
Feb. 20/21*	Monday/Tuesday	Presidents' Day	All Schools Closed
Mar. 27*	Monday	School Holiday	All Schools Closed
Apr. 10/17*	Monday-Monday	Spring Recess	All Schools Closed
		(Passover Apr. 13/14, April 16 Easter)	
April 18	Tuesday	School Board Elections	
May 26	Friday	Staff In-Service	All Schools Closed
May 29	Monday	Memorial Day	All Schools Closed
June 22	Thursday	Last Day of School	

The last three days of school will be early dismissal days.

Number of Days School Is In Session Per Month

September	19	November	17	January	20	March	22	May	21
October	18	December	17	February	17	April	14	June	16

Student Instructional Year 181 days

Staff Work Year 185 days

*Priority of **Make-up Snow Days** - Feb. 21, March 27, Apr. 17, June 23

THIS CALENDAR HAS ADDED JANUARY 2 TO WINTER RECESS AND EXTENDED THE SCHOOL YEAR ONE DAY TO JUNE 22.

Revised calendar approved on May 31, 2005.

*The following calendar is an alternate calendar that will be used if it becomes necessary to open school later in the year because of construction delays. **It is included for your reference only.** We will not know if it must be used until later this summer. Please check our website for up to date calendar information.*

ALTERNATE 2005-2006 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Sept. 1	Thursday	Staff In-Service	
Sept. 5	Monday	Labor Day	
Sept. 12	Monday	Opening Day for Students	
Oct. 4/5	Tuesday/Wednesday	Rosh Hoshana	All Schools Closed
Oct. 13	Thursday	Yom Kipper	All Schools Closed
Nov. 8	Tuesday	Election Day - Staff In-Service	All Schools Closed
Nov. 10/11	Thursday/Friday	NJEA Convention	All Schools Closed
Nov. 23	Wednesday	Early Dismissal	
Nov. 24/25	Thursday/Friday	Thanksgiving Recess	All Schools Closed
Dec. 23	Friday	Early Dismissal	
Dec.26 -	Monday-Friday	Winter Recess	All Schools Closed
Jan. 2	(December 25-Christmas, January 1-New Year's Day)		
Jan. 16	Monday	Martin Luther King's Birthday	All Schools Closed
Feb. 17	Friday	Staff In-Service	All Schools Closed
Feb. 20/21*	Monday/Tuesday	Presidents' Day	All Schools Closed
Apr. 13/17*	Wednesday-Monday	Spring Recess	All Schools Closed
		(Passover Apr. 13/14, April 16 Easter)	
April 18	Tuesday	School Board Elections	
May 26	Friday	Staff In-Service	All Schools Closed
May 29	Monday	Memorial Day	All Schools Closed
June 22	Thursday	Last Day of School	

The last three days of school will be early dismissal days.

Number of Days School Is In Session Per Month

September	15	November	17	January	20	March	23	May	21
October	18	December	17	February	17	April	17	June	16

Student Instructional Year 181 days
 Staff Work Year 185 days

*Priority of **Make-up Snow Days** - Feb. 21, Apr. 17, June 23

Note for teachers: If staff in-service day(s) are used as make-up snow days, the in-service day(s) will have to be made up at the end of the school year.

SCHOOL WILL BEGIN FOUR DAYS LATER THAN PLANNED. THIS CALENDAR OMITTS THE SCHOOL HOLIDAY ON MARCH 27 AND THREE DAYS OF THE SPRING RECESS – APRIL 10, 11,12.

Alternate calendar approved May 31, 2005

**METUCHEN
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

16 Simpson Place
Metuchen, New Jersey 08840
Phone: 732-321-8700

Please contact Maggie Ryan, 732-321-8700 Ext. 1016 with any questions or comments about the newsletter.



**Metuchen
Public Schools**

We're on the Web!
www.metuchenschools.org

June Calendar

- June 2 S.T.A.R. Banquet — 6:30 p.m. — Presbyterian Church Hall
- June 6 Music Recognition Dinner — 7:00 p.m. — MHS Cafeteria
- June 7 Board of Education Agenda/ Business/Closed Sessions — 8:00 p.m. — MHS
- June 9 Spring Athletic Awards — 7:00 p.m. — MHS gymnasium
- June 14 Board of Education — Open/ Business sessions — 8:00 p.m. — MHS cafeteria
Student Recognition Awards
- June 15 Senior Athletic Banquet — 7:00 p.m. — MHS cafeteria
- June 28 Board of Education Special Open/ Special Business Meeting

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You may contact any member of the Board through the
Board of Education Offices
16 Simpson Place
Metuchen, NJ 08840

MHS GRADUATION
Wednesday, June 22
6:00 p.m.
Edgar Field
Diplomas distributed on
Thursday, June 23

**In case of inclement weather,
MHS graduation will be held
in the MHS Auditorium**

EMS GRADUATION
Thursday, June 23
1:30 p.m.
Edgar Field

**In case of inclement weather,
the EMS graduation will be held
in the EMS Multi-Purpose Room**

KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION
A.M. — 9:00 a.m.
P.M. — 11:30 a.m.