



Evesham Township School District

Meland Administration Building, 25 South Maple Avenue, Marlton, NJ 08053

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Dr. Justin Smith, Superintendent
Mr. John Recchinti, School Business Administrator

Ms. Danielle T. Magulick, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Mr. Richard G. Dantine, Jr., Director of Personnel

August 26, 2021

Dear ETSD Families,

Highlights: Updated NJDOE guidance including close contact definition for students; Executive Order 253; Evesham Backpack & School Supplies Collection Drive.

Updated NJDOE guidance including close contact definition for students

The NJ Dept. of Education released an update last Friday, August 20 to its [Road Forward: Health and Safety Guidance for the 2021-22 School Year \(Updated August 2021\)](#) A notable adjustment in the update is that the close contact definition now “excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student (laboratory-confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) where both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time. This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting” (p. 14). Our students are seated 3 to 6 feet apart in school this coming school year. Last year, the spacing in the close contact definition was 6 feet or less. Note, this adjustment only applies to students. If/when an ETSD student or students have to quarantine for covid-related reasons, they would learn from home remotely like we did last year, via synchronous Google Meet. The NJ Dept. of Education's Return to School guidance allows for remote learning in the case of quarantines but does not permit a full remote learning option for families. *Synchronous Google Meet is for covid-related reasons only.* Absences due to traditional, non-covid-related reasons such as travel and other illness will be handled as absences, with no remote learning option.

Executive Order 253

[Executive Order 253](#), announced by Gov. Murphy this past Monday, institutes a vaccination or testing requirement for “covered workers” within schools. This press release shares more info: <https://nj.gov/governor/news/news/562021/approved/20210823b.shtml>

EO 253 defines “covered workers” as both full and part-time employees, including but not limited to administrators, teachers, educational support professionals, individuals providing food, custodial, and administrative support services, substitute teachers, bus drivers, contractors, providers, and any other individuals performing work in schools whose job duties require them to make regular visits to schools, including volunteers. “Covered workers” do not include individuals who visit the school only to provide one-time or limited duration repairs, services, or construction. An Executive Order carries the weight of a law,



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and districts are required to enforce it. This EO pertains most of all to our district staff. If you as a parent in a volunteer capacity are making regular visits to schools to the degree that this EO would apply to you, we will contact you with more information.

Please note: As of today, as we implement this Executive Order, we are temporarily pausing until further notice any new ECC registrations and the ECC wait list for our Evesham Child Care Before and After School Program.

Evesham Backpack & School Supplies Collection Drive

This drive was a huge success! Our district is so grateful for the generosity of our community, our families, and local businesses for their donations generating over 200 backpacks filled with supplies. We will be distributing these resources to students in need for the start of the school year. This effort, catalyzed and coordinated by our Township Leadership, Mayor Jaclyn Veasy, Deputy Mayor Heather Cooper, Councilman Eddie Freeman III and more, and backed by town organizations like HUGS, the Marlton Business Association, and D.E.O.N., exemplifies the 'all in' giving spirit of our great town of Evesham. For more information, please see this [Evesham Township Backpack and School Supplies Drive Press Release](#).

Friendly reminders of Vaccination Walk-In Opportunities

- Mondays, from 2 PM to 6 PM, at the Burlington County Emergency Services Training Center, 53 Academy Drive, Westampton (drive-thru clinic);
- Tuesdays, from 9 AM to 1 PM at the Palmyra Community Center, 30 West Broad, Palmyra;
- Wednesdays from noon to 4 PM at the Weimann Building, 400 Delanco Road, Edgewater Park;
- Thursdays from 3 PM to 7 PM at the Bordentown Township Senior Center, 3 Municipal Drive, Bordentown.

Sincerely,

Dr. Justin Smith
Superintendent of Schools