



THE MOUNTAINSIDE MESSENGER

WELCOME BACK

**WE'RE BACK &
BETTER THAN EVER!**



**MEET THE
2021-2022
ADMINISTRATIVE
TEAM**

From left to right:

**Mrs. Suzanne Jenks, Deerfield Principal,
Mrs. Jessica Vierschilling, Beechwood Principal,
Mrs. Walling, Superintendent, and
Mrs. Sheri Rouleau, Supervisor of Special Education.**

The Mountainside School District is proud to introduce our new Administrative team for the 2021-2022 school year. Mrs. Jessica Vierschilling joins us as our new Beechwood School Principal, with Mrs. Suzanne Jenks taking the reins as Deerfield School Principal, upon the retirement of Mrs. Richards. Rounding out our leadership team, is Mrs. Sheri Rouleau, Supervisor of Special Education, and Mrs. Janet Walling, Superintendent of Schools. Each have a wealth of experience, are committed to excellence in education and have expanded programming in our District. They have worked tirelessly to keep staff and students safe and engaged throughout the challenging times of this pandemic.

Empower People
Inspire People
LEADERSHIP
Lead Change
Share Vision

YOU'RE IN GOOD HANDS WITH OUR INCREDIBLE NURSES



Lisa Bruno, Beechwood's School Nurse, keeps our youngest students feeling safe and comforted throughout their day. From the excitement of a first lost tooth, to nervous first days and the inevitable bumps on the playground, she is always there to calm nerves and offer help. **Sonia Branco**, Deerfield's School Nurse, manages a wide range of grade 3-8 students and offers support and comfort when they need it the most. Throughout the pandemic, both nurses have spent countless

hours navigating the latest health guidance and providing the most up-to-date information to staff and families. We are forever grateful for our own frontline workers for their amazing dedication to our well-being, and efforts to keep our doors open, with student and staff safety always a top priority. Their critical role has never been more tested, but they have met these challenging times with admirable calm and confidence. We just love our incredible school nurses!

***** COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS *****

Our PTO and the Watts Foundation continue their generous support of our schools.

Last spring, the Watts Foundation generously donated \$6,000 to be used to support the Deerfield Library and purchase additional reading materials.

Recently, the PTO hosted an annual "Parent Education Night" on November 8th. It was presented by Rutgers Behavioral Health Care and gave parents information on supporting children with stress and anxiety. They also hosted a festive Trunk or Treat for Halloween, and managed a virtual Tricky Tray fundraiser during the difficult times last spring. Our schools are committed to sustainability practices, with our PTO currently heading up recycling efforts of used markers, Legos, and a GreenDrop clothing drive.

***** Family Reading Night *****

The Mountainside Education Association (MEA) will be hosting "Family Reading Night" on November 18th at 6:30. It's sure to be a wonderful event, where families can focus on each other and the joy of reading.

Please visit our website for information on the events above, under the community tab, in the "ELFF" folder at www.mountainsideschools.org

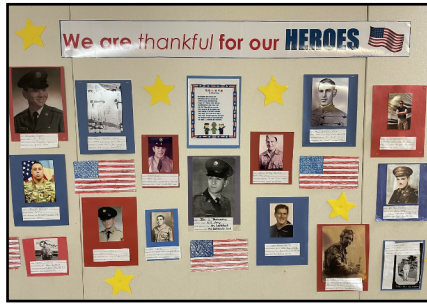


***** **BUSY IN BEECHWOOD** *****



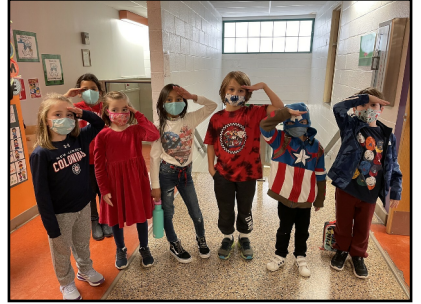
Halloween Traditions Continue!

Beechwood Bears had a day of silliness with our annual festivities celebrating Halloween. To everyone's delight, the weather held up in time to have our parades, with families lined up around the block to see the clever costumes on display. Teachers joined in the fun with creative costumes of their own! The PTO hosted an amazing Trunk or Treat to finish up the day with more creative fun and games for our community to enjoy.



Honoring our Veterans

Thank you to Mrs. Groth & everyone who contributed to this powerful display. These brave heros are all connected to our Beechwood family. Students proudly point out their own special person displayed. This tradition is a wonderful way to express our admiration & gratitude to these Veterans for their service. Students also wrote notes to be delivered by Mrs. Sluberski's & Ms. Smith's veteran dads to NJ Veteran's Homes.



***** **RESPECT AT DEERFIELD** *****



Gossip is Like Confetti

Ms. Ramesar, school counselor, facilitated a "Gossip is like Confetti" SEL lesson with 3rd graders. They discussed handling gossip and sharing secrets among friends. The confetti demo suggested that when students gossip some information can go missing and spread, leading to misunderstandings and cause conflict. They also talked about when it is okay to share a secret. For example, if someone might be in danger of getting hurt or hurting someone else, that is when we should share a secret with a trusted adult.

Week of Respect & Red Ribbon Week

Deerfield & Beechwood celebrated Week of Respect October 4-8th. Each morning, Deerfield students listened to a quote about respect in morning announcements., along with activities via the Deerfield Daily Google Classroom. Ms. Ramesar and Ms. DalCortivo partnered with the PTO again to plan an eventful Red Ribbon Week with Spirit Days like Wacky Hair Day to say no to wacky choices!

Soldier's Angels Treats for Troops

The Peer Leaders led a new school-wide program called Soldiers' Angels Treats for Troops. It is a Halloween Candy collection program. The collected candy is donated to deployed service members and veterans. This is a fantastic program that teaches students to be caring, empathetic, thoughtful, & community-oriented.

MOUNTAINSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mrs. Janet Walling - Superintendent

Mr. Michael Falkowski- Interim Business Administrator



Board of Education

James Ruban, Jr. - President

Dana Guidici Pietro- Vice President

Bill Dillon

Jordan Hyman

Vivian Pupo

Candice Schiano

Carmine Venes

Beechwood School
1497 Woodacres Drive
908-301-9104

Deerfield School
302 Central Avenue
908-232-8828

The Mountainside School District is looking for some great people to join our school family. If you or someone you know are interested, please visit our [website](#) for more details on our employment opportunities.



Substitutes

\$125/day – certified teachers
\$115/day – college graduates
\$105/day – sub certified only

**Note: New rates as of November 17, 2021*

60 college credits required to apply for NJ Substitute Certification
New: 30 college credits via Pathway 2 (specific criteria required)



Lunch Aides

Beechwood & Deerfield Schools

\$14/hour

Monday-Friday – 2.5 - 3 hours per day (flexible schedule)



Part-Time & Substitute Custodians

\$16.85/hour

Part-Time Positions: Mon-Fri 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (25 hrs/week)

Substitutes: Flexible Schedule as needed (Monday – Friday)

Contact Kelli Castro 908-232-3232 x 100 kcastro@mountainsideschools.org

**WE'RE
HIRING!**

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Visit our website at
www.mountainsideschools.org