



Mountainside School District

1497 Woodacres Drive Mountainside, NJ 07092

908-232-3232

www.mountainsideschools.org

Janet Walling - Superintendent of Schools

March 25, 2022

Mountainside Parents/Guardians and Staff,

Good afternoon and welcome to spring! The past few weeks have been very busy in our schools, filled with engaging educational activities, positive changes, and student events. I would like to take a moment to acknowledge some of these activities and share important updates:

- Congratulations to the Deerfield School students who recently participated in our middle school musical of SpongeBob and the PTO Science Fair. It was wonderful to be able to once again hold these events in person and I am so proud of all their efforts in both of these activities!
- The Mountainside Board of Education adopted a [revised school calendar](#) at their meeting on Tuesday, March 22nd. The calendar has been adjusted to reflect a "give back" of our remaining emergency day. In the event that Mother Nature does not cooperate and there is a reason to utilize our remaining emergency day, this calendar may be adjusted. Specifically, please note the following changes:
 - [Friday, May 27th](#) -- School will be closed for students and staff
 - [Tuesday, May 31st](#) -- Early dismissal day for all students / Afternoon Professional Development for staff
- Governor Murphy recently signed legislation requiring school districts to provide written notification to parents or guardians following completion of a school security drill by the end of the school day. In accordance with this updated requirement, moving forward, an email will be sent out by your child's school following each security drill to advise you that the event took place. This new notification requirement does not apply to fire drills. All emergency drills are conducted with seriousness and sensitivity to our students and staff. Please reach out to your child's principal with any questions.
- As we conclude our 3rd week of optional masking in the District, I am pleased to share that we have not seen an increase in positive COVID cases. As a result of this positive trend, we are able to consider additional adjustments. Specifically, after discussion with our administrators and nurses, both buildings will be adjusting their lunchtime protocols and seating arrangements so all classes can eat in the cafeteria and/or APR room. Students will be encouraged to maintain distancing as much as possible. We are hopeful to make additional adjustments as the year progresses, but will continue to remain vigilant should the health circumstances warrant any changes.
- Please remember to visit the District website for up-to-date information:
 - [Employment Opportunities](#): Openings include substitute teachers and a full time custodian
 - [Electronic Friday Folder \(ELFF\)](#) - Upcoming Events

Mountainside Schools will be closed for our Spring Break from April 11th through April 18th. School will reopen for students on Tuesday, April 19th. I hope everyone has a nice and relaxing time off and look forward to a good rest of the year together.

Janet Walling