



# Mendham Township Middle School



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## Principal's Update – Mid-Point Third Marking Period

March 8, 2007

Dear Mendham Township Middle School Families,

It is hard to believe that we are venturing into the second half of the third marking period already and that yearly eighth grade state testing begins next week. As I recently completed my first full year as the principal of MTMS, I am thrilled to report that our administration, instructional staff, and support personnel are working extremely hard to hone our skills in order to facilitate a most challenging, rigorous, and supportive environment focused on delivering a "comprehensive educational experience of the highest quality" to each and every student. Please note that our attempts to improve the school environment and strengthen our academic programs have all been aimed at one target, supporting and maximizing student growth and achievement (or as we more commonly refer to it... student learning)! In general, although change/improvement often requires us to 'give up' something that we connect to, in the end, I am very excited to continually see this school community's desire to move forward in the best interests of our kids – I cannot think of a better common interest!

As you may be aware, MTMS hosts a Project Citizen student group, which is committed to improving the environment both locally and globally. Recently, Project Citizen student members approached me with regards to making MTMS a more 'environmental friendly' institution. They provided compelling arguments to replace 'paper announcements' sent home with students with a paperless, digital medium of communication with MTMS families (e.g. e-mail / web page). Although I am in no position to immediately implement their request, I do want to take this opportunity to remind you that EVERY notice that is sent home through our students is placed on-line the day before it is sent home (if it ever gets home ☺). ALL notices are also archived under "Principal's Letters" and or "Friday Flyers". A purely digital means of home/school communication would be advantageous to the efficiency of our office, to our families, and most importantly ... to minimize waste and reduce the strain on our non-renewable resource – trees. Please visit our web page often ([www.mendhamtwp.org](http://www.mendhamtwp.org)) and save the MTMS homepage in your 'favorites'. On behalf of the Project Citizen group, I strongly urge you to regularly use our web page as a source of information, especially since it provides a much more in-depth view of our school community than a Friday flyer. Your participation shall serve as a first step toward this initiative. If you have comments, suggestions, questions, or have an idea to advance the 2006-2007 Project Citizen goal, please contact the club's advisor, Mr. Guido, at [dguido@mendhamtwp.org](mailto:dguido@mendhamtwp.org).

Please note that students who arrive late to school on state testing days will not be permitted into their classrooms during testing and therefore, will participate in any missed testing sections during make-up week.

As a final note, please be aware that final exams and end of year tests will be administered on the last few days of school and as a result, end of year report cards will be mailed home following the close of school along with academic achievement certification.

Have a great spring!

Very truly yours,

cc: Dr. Christine Johnson, Superintendent of Schools

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