



Mendham Township Middle School

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Principal's Final Update

UPDATED Inaccurate Testing Data on Page 2 - 7/2/07

June 25, 2007

Dear Mendham Township Middle School Family,

It is my sincere hope that this letter finds you enjoying time with your children, family, and friends. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to complete my first full year as the principal of Mendham Township Middle School. More importantly, I am committed to continuing to elevate our school's capacity to provide an *educational experience of the highest quality* for each and every child in our middle school community. Your support throughout the year has been greatly appreciated.



Each report card envelope should contain your child's official fourth marking period report card; official NJASK or GEPA state score report; honor roll recognition (if applicable); Mel Levine's "save the date" parent workshop informational flyer; and a mathematics placement letter only if your child is eligible for an accelerated mathematics course. If you have questions about any of these documents, please contact the office at any time throughout the summer. We are here to help.



Please note that on June 13 and 14, all MTMS students participated in a two-day mathematics assessment, which was utilized to determine mathematics placement for the 2007-2008 school year. Each student's final grade in mathematics, score on the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge, and teacher recommendations were used in conjunction with the test results to determine placement. Students who are eligible for accelerated mathematics classes have been notified within the report card envelope. Please note that participation in an accelerated mathematics class in the 2006-2007 school year does not automatically qualify a student for accelerated placement in 2007-2008. If you have questions, please contact me at your convenience.



Congratulations to Mrs. Perlett – after 29 years of dedicated service to the Mendham Township school community, she will be retiring from the profession and therefore, will not be returning for the 2007-2008 school year. To commemorate her commitment to our children, we have created the Perlett Award, which will be given to a graduating Mendham Township Middle School student for his/her interest and dedication to audio/visual support of all major in-school activities. Thank you Mrs. Perlett, you will be missed!

Special congratulations are also in order for Ms. Abrahamsen, our eighth grade language arts teacher, who is moving on to gain high school teaching experience as she hopes to one day

supervise a language arts department. Best of luck in all you do Ms. Abrahamsen – you will be missed!

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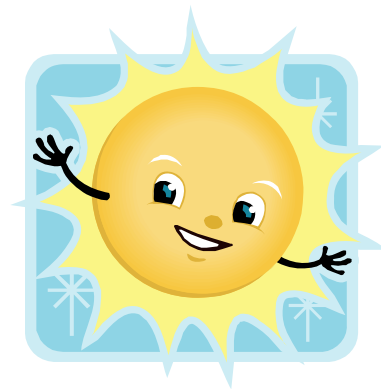


Each year, the State of New Jersey requires that all public schools develop two “building level objectives” and subsequently implement a plan to address each objective. Our first 2006-2007 building level objective was a two year plan that focused on increasing our students’ capacity as writers; and the second goal addressed increasing student proficiency in the area of mathematical problem solving. **I am excited to report that we exceeded the expectations set forth in both objectives - Congratulations to the staff, students and entire school community for your efforts in this regard!** If you would like to learn more about our ‘building level objectives’, please visit our web page and click on “Building Level Objectives” or type the address below directly into your browser. Objectives are available on-line all year.

http://www.mendhamtwp.org/pdf/ms_bldg_level_obj_06_07.pdf



Preliminary NJASK/GEPA state testing results reveal a significant improvement in test scores at every grade level and in every content area. For example, 100% of our fifth graders scored at least proficient in language arts **and 70% (originally reported 75%)** of them scored **ADVANCED PROFICIENT** in mathematics! Ninety-seven percent of our eighth graders passed the science section of the GEPA test and 54% of them scored **ADVANCED PROFICIENT**. Approximately 93% of the entire MTMS student body passed the state mathematics assessment and over 49% scored **ADVANCED PROFICIENT**. In language arts, approximately 96% of the entire MTMS student body passed the state mathematics assessment and about 33% scored **ADVANCED PROFICIENT**. Once we receive the cycle 2 reports from the state confirming the enclosed preliminary results, we will report the scores on our web page including the strength of our scores relative to our district factor group peers. It is very exciting to see such great improvement in our students’ academic performance. Teachers, parents, and students are certainly to be congratulated for their hard work and dedication.



On behalf of the entire staff of Mendham Township Middle School, I wish you all a very happy and healthy summer! Student schedules will be coming home in mid to late August. Keep your eye on our web page for information and supply lists for the 2007-2008 school year. In September, we are rolling out renewed science and world language curricula supported by new instructional materials and textbooks. The social studies, language arts and mathematics departments are tweaking curricula as well to ensure that our students are exposed to thorough, challenging, and supportive programs! We will see you in September!

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Patrick J. Ciccone".

Patrick J. Ciccone

cc: Dr. Christine Johnson, Superintendent of Schools