



HILLSIDE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

"Ready, Set, Excel!"

Antoine L. Gayles, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools

April Lowe
Principal



August 2017

Dear A.P. Morris Family,

On behalf of the staff at A.P. Morris School, I am happy to welcome you to the 2017-18 school year! We are looking forward to a partnership with you to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential. With support from both home and school, your child will have an **UN-BEE-LIEVABLE** year. The first day of school can be filled with anxiety for both parents and students. However, if you are aware of the first day of school procedures this can lead to a smooth transition. **Please take a moment to review this letter.**

You and your child are invited to **"Meet the Teacher" on Wednesday, September 6, 2017 from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** During this informal meeting, you and your child will have a chance to meet the teacher and see their classroom. The first day of school for students is **Thursday, September 7, 2017.**

Arrival/Dismissal Plan

Pre K and Kindergarten students are to report to school **no earlier than 8:45 a.m.** and no later than 9:00 a.m. Upon arrival, Pre K and K students should enter using the auditorium doors, which is on the side of the ECC building. Staff members will be there to assist and supervise the children. *Due to our large student population, it is critical that parents and students do not arrive prior to 8:45 a.m.* Breakfast after the bell (free breakfast) will begin on Monday, September 11, 2017. **Pre K students will be dismissed at 2:35 p.m., from classroom doors.** Pre K students that have a bus pass will be placed on the appropriate bus. **Kindergarten students will be dismissed at 3:20 p.m. from various classrooms.** Kindergarten students that have a bus pass will be placed on the appropriate bus. **Dismissal locations for Pre K and Kindergartners have been posted on our website.**

First Grade students are to report to school no earlier than 8:00 a.m. and no later than 8:15 a.m. Upon arrival, they are to report to the auditorium, which is on the side of the ECC building. Staff members will be there to assist and supervise the children. *Due to our large student population, it is critical that parents and students do not arrive prior to 8:00 a.m.* Breakfast after the bell (free breakfast) will begin on Monday, September 11, 2017. Dismissal is at 2:35 p.m., and the students will exit from the front of the A.P. Morris building. Students that have a bus pass will be placed on the appropriate bus.

Student Valet Drop off

If we continue with the student valet service it will not begin until Monday, September 11, 2017.

Please plan to park and walk your students to the appropriate location the first two days of school.



School Uniforms

The school uniform represents self-pride and confidence. **Parents/Guardians, please help us by making sure your child wears the uniform to school daily.** Uniforms can be purchased at *Kids Place* (126 Board St. in Elizabeth) or any other department store.

Girls Uniform: Khaki jumpers, skirts, pants or shorts; navy blue polo shirts and sweaters

Boys uniform: Khaki pants or shorts and navy blue polo shirts and sweaters

Before and After School Child Care

If you are interested in signing your child up for the Boys and Girls Club Before and Aftercare Program, please call **(908) 687-2697**.

Back to School Night

Back to School Night will be held **on Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.**

Lunch

Lunch will be served daily with the exception of early dismissal days. Lunch applications must be completed online. Each student that has a completed lunch application online will receive a Bee Buck. **Student status will remain as it was last year until October 1st.** The cost for lunch is **\$2.60** and will be served on all full day sessions.

Busing

If you have not received a bus pass, please call the department of transportation at (908) 352-7664 ext. 6453. Bus passes are created by the transportation department. The schools are not responsible for printing bus passes. Please do not wait until September to inquire about bus passes. Your child will not be able to ride the bus without a pass. If your child has a bus pass, please have your child at the bus stop at least five minutes prior to their scheduled pick up time. **Please be on time to pick up your child from the bus stop at the end of the day.** The pass must be attached to your student's backpack. This pass will match the animal picture on the window of your student's bus. **Students will not be allowed to ride the bus without a pass.** Parents/Guardians must provide a signed letter if a child is not riding the bus on any particular day.

PTA- Please consider joining the A.P. Morris PTA. Our students can greatly benefit from your involvement and contributions to the school's program and its operations. More information about the PTA will be given at Back to School Night.

I look forward to seeing you on **Wednesday, September 6, 2017 from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.,** when you attend **"Meet the Teacher."**

Enjoy the rest of the summer!



April Lowe
Principal

