



Green Township School District

Box 14, Greendell, New Jersey 07839

www.greenhills.org

Dr. Jennifer Cenatiempo

Superintendent/Director of
Personnel & Staff Development

Mrs. Karen Constantino

Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Mr. Jon Paul Bollette

Principal/Coordinator of Instruction

September 23, 2022

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The Green Township School District has launched an incredibly successful start of the school year! It is hard to believe that we have already completed the first 3 weeks of the year! Our students are doing remarkable things as they engage in meaningful learning experiences with their peers and teachers. As I visited various classrooms this morning, I saw our youngest learners working with letters and sounds and our oldest learners working with exponents and novels. The growth that occurs in our K-8 program is immense! Each grade level presents our students with wonderful opportunities to grow and learn. Many thanks to our parents, teachers, and students for making these first weeks such a success! Please find updates to a variety of areas included below.

District Goals 22/23 School Year - We are pleased to announce our district goals for the 22/23 school year.

1. Create experiential learning opportunities to enhance student growth.
2. Provide opportunities for excellent academic instruction to elevate student success.
3. Provide social and emotional supports to students and staff.
4. Increase district communication to all stakeholders and provide opportunities for community involvement.

Transportation Update - While there have been a great number of positive moments in these first weeks of the school year, transportation has been an area of constant concern. It has been such a challenge for our students and families to have delayed and inconsistent pick up and dismissal procedures. At this point we have waited for three weeks for this situation to improve with the bus company, and sadly we are still lacking adequate transportation for all of our students at dismissal on a regular basis. The issue that is causing these delays is bus driver shortages. On a regular basis First Student is contacting us in the morning to let us know how many buses we will be short for the day. When we are short a driver, we have to utilize double runs to transport our students. The double run requires the driver to complete their regularly scheduled run and then return to the school to complete a second run. The use of double runs delays the departure of students by 20-30 minutes.

We share in your frustration in this matter and continue to advocate for our students and families. District administration has met with the area general manager, local bus yard manager, and Sussex County Cooperative to express our significant concerns and frustration about the lack of consistency and timeliness in meeting the transportation needs of our school district.



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Additionally, I have publicly expressed our serious concerns at our Board of Education meeting to our board members.

As a result of the driver shortage, the bus company has increased their rate of pay, added incentives, and is actively hiring additional drivers to cover the needs of their fleet so that all buses can be running and on time. In the interim of awaiting these additional drivers, we have attempted to contact several other bus companies to see if we could arrange for an alternative solution until all 7 drivers are available to our district from First Student. Each of these bus companies have told us that they are either short staffed or do not have any additional routes available at this time. We are continuing to work with the bus company to determine other potential solutions to this serious issue.

We apologize for this situation. It is unacceptable for our students and families. We appreciate your understanding and support as we continue to navigate the driver shortage that has been impacting our transportation of district students.

School Breakfast – We are thrilled to be offering school breakfast after the bell each morning to our students. The cost of breakfast will be \$2.00 and will be enjoyed during homeroom.

Extended Day Learning Academy – The Green Township School District will be offering an extended day learning academy for identified students who are in need of targeted assistance in the areas of English Language Arts and/or Mathematics to reach grade level standards. The program will be offered to students in grades K-8. Permission slips will be sent out to students who may benefit from this additional support on Monday, September 26, 2022. Logistical information about the sessions is included below.

Session 1	Tuesday and Thursday - 3:10 pm – 4:10 pm, Student Instruction 10/4, 10/6, 10/11, 10/13, 10/18, 10/20, 10/25, 10/27, 11/1, 11/3, 11/8, 11/15, 11/17, 11/29, 12/1, 12/6, 12/8, 12/13, 12/15, 12/20
Session 2	Tuesday and Thursday - 3:10 pm – 4:10 pm, Student Instruction 1/17, 1/19, 1/24, 1/26, 1/31, 2/2, 2/7, 2/9, 2/14, 2/16, 2/21, 2/23, 2/28, 3/2, 3/7, 3/9, 3/14, 3/16, 3/21, 3/23

Dress Code Reminder – Please be reminded that our district follows a dress code. While today's fashion is focused on crop tops and micro shorts, we have instructed our students that these trending fashion items are not in line with the district dress code. If you have a specific question or concern about dress code, please reach out to Mr. Bollette or myself to discuss.

Drop Off Table – As part of our security plan, we have added a drop off table in the main vestibule of the school. If you are bringing an item for your child to school, you will be buzzed into vestibule. Please use the provided post-it notes to label the item with your child's name and grade level. Thank you for your support in making our school safer for our students!



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Child Study Team, School Nurse, Guidance Counselor, and Student Support Staffing – We are excited to share the information regarding our team members who will be supporting your students this year. If you feel that your child is in need of additional supports, please feel free to email one of our team members, Mr. Bollette, or myself.

Staff Member	Role	On Site Days and Times
Heather Bonney	Applied Behavior Analysis Consultant	2 Hours/Week
Kerry Burneyko kburneyko@greenhills.org	School Nurse	Monday – Friday 8:05 am – 3:15 pm
Kelly Edsall kedsall@greenhills.org	School Psychologist	Tuesday and Friday 8:05 am – 3:15 pm
Janice Faraone jfaraone@greenhills.org	Child Study Team Administrative Assistant	Monday – Friday 10:30 am – 4:00 pm
Tiffany Lutz tlutz@greenhills.org	Social Worker	Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 8:05 am - 3:15 pm
Marybeth Stiles mstiles@greenhills.org	Guidance Counselor	Monday – Friday 8:05 am – 3:15 pm
Rachael Tucker	Occupational Therapist	Monday and Tuesday 8:00 am – 3:00 pm
Kathy Wolfe kwolfe@greenhills.org	Speech and Language Specialist	Monday – Friday 8:05 am – 3:15 pm

Parent Engagement Committees – We are excited to announce a host of parent involvement activities for the upcoming school year. All parents are invited to be a part of various advisory committees including the District Wellness Committee, the Parent Advisory Climate and Culture Committee, Senior and Community Member Involvement Committee, and the District Farm to School Initiative Committee. Each of these committees will have a mirrored opportunity for both staff and students during the school day to allow all stakeholders an opportunity to have a voice in the overall school experience.



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The District Wellness Committee will focus on supporting the overall well-being of our students including nutrition, physical well-being, positive goal setting, motivational supports, and management of stress in the life of a student. The Parent Advisory Climate and Culture Committee will focus on ensuring equity for all learners, discussing HIB, planning and implementing best practices in reducing HIB, and engaging in discussion about how to make our school community a safe and inclusive environment for every student. The Senior and Community Member Involvement Committee will meet to discuss how we can work in collaboration with members of our local community and will plan various volunteer events to support students and the district. The District Farm to School Initiative will work to promote our farm to school plans including monthly taste tests, gardening experiences with our students, healthy recipe contests, and planning events throughout the year to highlight farm to school opportunities for our students.

The first meetings will be held on the following dates and times via Zoom. The links will be sent out to our school community on the Monday preceding the meetings via our insta-alert system.

District Wellness Committee	Tuesday, September 27, 2022 at 6:15 pm
Parent Advisory Climate and Culture Committee	Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at 6:15 pm
Senior Community Member Involvement Committee	Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 6:15 pm
District Farm to School Initiative Committee	Tuesday, October 25, 2022 at 6:15 pm

We are looking forward to engaging with our stakeholders to best support the needs of every student at the Green Township School District. Please contact us with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Cenatiempo, Ed.D.
Superintendent