

August 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As our summer vacation comes to an end and we eagerly anticipate our return to school, the faculty and staff of the Carl T. Mitnick Elementary School would like to extend a warm welcome to our new and returning students and their families. We are extremely excited for the 2017 - 2018 school year. Custodians, secretarial staff and teachers have been working diligently to prepare our building and classrooms for the upcoming school year.

During my short tenure here at Mitnick School I've witnessed our faculty and staff working together with parents and guardians to provide our students with a nurturing, educational environment where they are challenged to become lifelong learners. It is our mission to nurture and challenge all students in a safe and innovative learning community. By encouraging respect and responsibility, students become self-directed, passionate, lifelong learners who will reach their potential. We are dedicated to supporting all students in exceeding the New Jersey Student Learning Standards.

One of our district goals this year is to foster effective communication and positive relationships with students, parents, staff, and the community. Parental involvement in a child's education has a significant impact on educational achievement. Together with your support and assistance, we can work together to create a positive, nurturing environment where students believe in themselves and strive to do their best. We look forward to working together with you to create this positive learning environment, ensuring that your child has a successful school year.

Various opportunities will be provided throughout the year for you to get involved. We look forward to seeing you at school functions such as Back to School Night, parent/teacher conferences, school performances, parent curriculum nights, and writing celebrations. Many of these events provide the opportunity to explore our curriculum and analyze our educational programs. We are hopeful that you will join us in as many of these activities as possible as your support and commitment to your child's education is invaluable. Thursday Folders will once again serve as a valuable resource that we can use to maintain communication. Many of our teachers use electronic forms of communication such as email and apps like Class DoJo and Remind. Our Mitnick Facebook page is another effective method of communication, providing updates on important events and school functions.

Another district goal for this year is to increase measures that educate parents and students about the importance of school attendance and its link to student achievement. Research shows a positive correlation between student attendance and academic performance. We ask that you make a conscious effort to have your child to school on time each and every day. We will once again have several incentive programs in place this year rewarding students for good attendance.

I anticipate a great school year and look forward to meeting you at Back to School Night and working with you throughout the year. Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns.



Christopher Shivers
Principal
Carl T. Mitnick Elementary School