

Good Evening Netcong Community:

I wanted to provide some important information regarding upcoming parent teacher conferences, our school calendar, report cards, as well as discuss significant revisions to our gifted and talented program.

Parent/Teacher Conferences:

As communicated in September, all students will be learning virtually the first week of November. Therefore, no students will report to school November 2nd through 4th, as learning will take place from home. Parent teacher conferences will also occur during the first week of November. Parent teacher conferences will be held virtually via Google Meets over the course of two days. Conferences will take place:

Monday, November 2 nd	6:00pm to 8:00pm
Tuesday, November 3 rd	1:30-4:00pm and 6:00pm to 8:00pm.

Parents can sign up for a time via the Genesis parent portal and must do so **no later than 11pm, Monday October 26th**.

Elementary Conference time slots are 15 minutes, middle school time slots are 10 minutes, and special area time slots are five minutes in length. Once you schedule the meeting via Genesis, a teacher will contact you and provide a Google Meet link.

If you need a conference with a teacher or staff member who is not listed on the portal, please reach out to that staff member directly to schedule an appointment. Members of our child study team and other specialists (such as occupational therapy and speech therapy) are available to meet. Again, please reach out directly to these specialists to schedule a meeting.

Marking Period/Report Cards:

The first marking period ends on November 10th. Students who elected to return to school in person via our survey should do so on November 11th. All families will receive their drop-off location and time, as well as their pick-up location and time, during the first week of November via Genesis. More information regarding drop-off and pick-up will be forthcoming. All students who are currently attending school in person will have the same drop-off and pick-up time and location.

First marking period report cards will be available via Genesis on November 17th. Elementary school students in grades 1st through 5th will receive a grade of a pass, fail, or needs improvement in language arts for reading and writing. All other subject areas will have a grade. Although there will be no letter grade in language arts, the narrative section will be detailed regarding your child's performance in language arts based on grade level standards. Thus, the narrative contained in the report card will provide more accurate information regarding student proficiency in meeting grade level standards. In other words, you will be given information on exactly what standards and skills in which your child is proficient and/or weak. This will allow parents to receive more meaningful detailed data to support student learning, rather than just a grade. The district will begin full standard based grading and report cards next school year at the elementary level. Middle school students will still receive a grade in all subject areas this current marking period. Please be mindful that Pre-K and Kindergarten students only receive report cards during second and fourth marking periods.

If your child has an IEP for special education and related services or for speech and language only, the quarterly progress report of IEP goals and objectives is now available in the Genesis Parent Portal. Please log into your Parent Portal, click on the summary tab, and click the button marked "View IEP Progress Reports"

Gifted and Talented:

Our gifted and talented program is undergoing significant revisions to make the program more interesting and rigorous for eligible students. While make revisions, we modified the selection and eligibility requirements. Attached, in our school messenger alert is our gifted and talented handbook for you to peruse if you are interested. If you feel as a student you meet the criteria, or you are a parent or guardian who feels your child should be considered, please complete the

appropriate paperwork and submit it to Ms. Burkat (grades K-3) or Ms. Dougherty (4-8). If you need further information or have any other questions regarding gifted and talented, please reach out to Ms. Burkat or Ms. Dougherty.

Have a great evening.