

# Colts Neck Township Schools

**Superintendent of Schools**  
MaryJane Garibay, Ed.D.



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**Business Administrator/Board Secretary**  
Vincent S. Marasco

January 5, 2024

Dear Colts Neck Families,

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I sincerely hope you and your family enjoyed the recent holiday season. As we move into 2024, I want to take this opportunity to share some important updates and reminders.



**SCHOOL START & DISMISSAL TIME SCHEDULES:** It's definitely the time of year when there exists greater possibility for inclement weather. To assist you in your planning for potential delayed openings and early dismissals, our school time schedules are available on the district's website under the "Our District" tab or by clicking [HERE](#). Just a reminder, effective this school year, our delayed opening start times changed to reflect a ninety (90) minute delay. My [November 14, 2023 letter](#) explaining this change is also available on the district's website. **IMPORTANT:** Please be advised that when it becomes necessary to delay, facilitate an early dismissal, or close schools we will communicate directly with parents in the most timely manner. We encourage you to exercise extreme caution if you access or receive information about district operations that are not distributed from or posted by the Colts Neck Township Schools.

**2023-2024 DISTRICT ASSESSMENT CALENDAR:** We recognize and appreciate that our parents want to know when their child(ren) are scheduled to be assessed through statewide student assessments or our own standardized assessments. On September 14, 2023, you should have received a [letter](#) from Dr. Erica Reynolds, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, listing all assessments administered to our students during the course of the 23-24 school year. Within that same letter is the anticipated 23-24 assessment calendar. The District Assessment Letter is available under "Curriculum" on the district website or by clicking [HERE](#). If it becomes necessary to revise the assessment calendar, parents will receive notification from the district of the revised calendar. Please note, this calendar does not include teacher-issued tests, quizzes, etc. For specific information about scheduled teacher assessments, please contact your child(ren)'s teacher.



**ENERGY SAVINGS IMPROVEMENT PLAN (ESIP):** To keep our parents and school community updated on the numerous projects under our Energy Savings Improvement Plan or ESIP, we have created a special site under Departments/ [Facilities & Maintenance](#) where you can access information about the progress being made. Be sure to check back from time to time so that, together, we can appreciate this investment into our schools.



**VIRTUAL BACKPACK OF FLYERS AND COMMUNITY INFORMATION:** To provide parents with quick and easy access to an array of information for our students and families, we maintain a place on our district website where you can view flyers for various community organizations. When you visit the Virtual Backpack, you will find flyers from organizations like the Colts Neck PTO, CNTEA, Colts Neck Girls and Boy Scouts, Colts Neck Recreation, and the Colts Neck Sports Foundation. Be sure to check back to our “[Virtual Backpack](#)” for the most current information available to us.

**23-24 PARENT HANDBOOK:** Each school year, we publish a digital Parent Handbook that contains important information about the district's curriculum, extracurricular activities, and more! The handbook also includes important contact information for specific school personnel, programs, and current samples of important Colts Neck Township Board of Education Policies and Regulations. This handbook is designed to support parents by condensing many important pieces of information about the Colts Neck Township Schools in one place. The [23-24 Parent Handbook](#) is always available on the main page under “Shortcuts” on the district's website.



**CONTINUATION OF 23-24 PARENT ACADEMIES:** We wish to thank everyone who was able to join us for our three Parent Academy Sessions that took place during October and November. Within the near future, we will be emailing our new session descriptions and registration forms. We anticipate hosting sessions in January, February, and April. So, stay tuned!

**DISTRICT WELLNESS COMMITTEE:** By the end of January, we will be emailing the sign-up form to participate in the District's Wellness Committee. This committee is designed to bring parents, staff, and members of our school community to evaluate the numerous aspects of the district's programs related to the health and wellness of students and staff. All are welcome, so please be on the look out for this opportunity to join us.



**COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP PTO:** One of the most important partnerships we have is with our Colts Neck PTO. Members of the PTO work non-stop throughout the year to plan, coordinate, and implement numerous activities and fundraisers that directly benefit our students. They are the largest fundraising organization for our schools! We are very unique and fortunate to have one well-coordinated PTO for the entire district; and, with three schools, multiple grade levels, and a ton of fun to plan, they are always looking for new members and volunteers. To learn more about this impactful and invaluable group, or to become a member and volunteer, please visit their website, at [coltsneckpto.org](http://coltsneckpto.org).



**COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION:** On January 3, 2024, the Colts Neck Township Board of Education conducted its annual Organization Meeting. During this meeting four new members of the Board were sworn in and then the full Board elected its 2024 president and vice president. Your 2024 Colts Neck Township Board of Education members are as follows:

President: John Camera

Vice President: Jessica Ramirez

Membership:

Alison DeNoia, Brenna Dillon, Amy Dimes, Jason Orrico, Vincent Rugnetta, Kevin Walsh, & Angelique Volpe



Since January is School Board Member Recognition Month in New Jersey, I want to take this opportunity to thank all present and past members of our Colts Neck Township Board of Education for all that they do to support the mission and vision of the district!

As a school district we are so very fortunate to serve a community of students, parents, and individuals who value and support the work that we do each day with children. In 2024, we look forward to our continued partnership as we remain focussed and excited for all that our students will accomplish this year. On behalf of the entire staff, Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Dr. MaryJane Garibay, Superintendent  
Colts Neck Township Schools

*“There is immense power when a group of people with similar interests gets together to work toward the same goals.” ~ Idowu Koyenikan*