

Check out the March Newsletter for important information!

THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE MARCH 7, 2017 BOARD OF EDUCATION WILL BEGIN AT
8:00 P.M. rather than the usual 7:45 P.M.
due to Board of Education training.



News & Updates - March 2017

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www.montville.net

Board of Education Adopts New Mission and Values Statement

At their meeting on February 21, 2017, the Montville Township Board of Education adopted a new Mission and Values Statement. These statements reflect the work of the district's [Branding Committee](#) and the input of students, administrators, board members, parents and residents who comprise the Branding Brain Trust, a group that is focused on developing a new Brand, logo and motto for the school district. These statements reflect the true aspirations the Board of Education and District Administration have for the students enrolled in the Montville Township Public Schools.



MISSION STATEMENT

Montville Township Public Schools strive to develop well-rounded, invested, and inspired students by engaging them in an experience of collaboration with educators, parents, and community that fosters a culture of innovation, character and inclusivity, in a shared spirit of pride.

VALUES STATEMENT

Montville Township Public Schools believes that all students possess the tools necessary for achievement, and it is our role to guide them in crafting a life-long passion and curiosity in fulfilling their potential. The platform on which our students stand, learn, and grow is supported by three pillars:

* **Innovation**

Montville Township Public Schools believes in being a leader in education by creating authentic active learning opportunities in the classroom and beyond.

* **Character**

Montville Township Public Schools values service, engagement, and kindness in connecting our students to one another and the broader community. Through a wide assortment of experiences, course offerings, extracurricular activities and athletic opportunities, we afford our students the means to explore their world and participate in a personalized educational journey designed to help them discover their passions and achieve their goals. We believe that all students should be ethical, self-motivated, caring and contributing members of the global community.

* **Community**

Montville Township Public Schools seeks to cultivate a safe and inclusive environment that champions a sense of spirit and a respect for tradition. Our students are encouraged to break down barriers and bridge divides to create and participate in opportunities for service within their school, the district and the community at large.

Make a motto! Take 60 seconds and help create a district slogan.

Montville Township Public Schools is looking for a district motto -- a catchy slogan that encapsulates the district's mission and values.

Please help us determine how this motto should sound. Read the mission and values statements above then [click the link](#) below to make a motto suggestion. ALL students, parents, residents, staff, faculty, administrators and others are encouraged to participate.



<https://tinyurl.com/MTPSMottoSurvey>

Please respond **BEFORE MARCH 7, 2017**. Thank you.

Referendum Update

At their meeting on February 7th, the Montville Township Board of Education authorized the District Architect to submit the necessary applications and documents to the New Jersey Department of Education with regard to the district's proposed referendum scheduled for **Tuesday, September 26, 2017**.

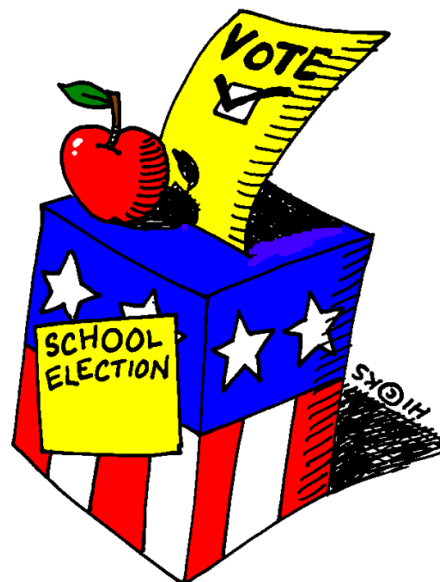
The NJDOE will now calculate the Preliminary Eligible Costs for the referendum projects to determine the amount of Debt Service Aid that the District will be eligible to receive. The Debt Service Aid could represent nearly 40% of the cost of these projects that the local taxpayers of Montville would not need to fund. In addition, the Montville Township Board of Education has indicated that they plan to appropriate \$600,000 from their Capital Reserve Account to further reduce the impact on the local taxpayer.

Once the Preliminary Eligible Costs are received from the NJDOE, the district will provide more detailed information regarding the fiscal aspects of the referendum.

Ongoing reports about the Referendum are part of the regular agenda at each Board of Education meeting.

Referendum Timeline

During the Summer of 2017 the Board will take action to finalize the actual referendum questions to be included on the ballot. The referendum election will take place on Tuesday, September 26, 2017. If approved, construction on



all projects would take place during the summer of 2018.

[Click here](#) for more information on the Proposed September 26, 2017 School Bond Referendum:

<http://www.montville.net/Page/13067>



Montville Township High School Launches MTTV This Week

The Video Broadcast Classes at Montville Township High School are now producing a weekly newscast to provide interesting information about activities and events involving Montville Township High School. The program is broadcast to the

student body on Wednesdays and can be accessed by the public through the high school website main page or the MTHS Video Yearbook YouTube channel.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=foHy_dGYo70&t=3s

The program also includes a continuing series highlighting historical locations within Montville Township as the community continues its 150th Anniversary celebration through the remainder of 2017.

NJDOE Seeking Input on Development of New Jersey's Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Plan

Dear Parents and Guardians,

New Jersey is in the process of creating its state plan that details how it will implement the *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)*. Each state must develop a plan that adheres to the requirements of the federal *ESSA* statute and must submit a plan to the U.S. Department of Education for approval. I invite you to review and provide feedback on the proposed [New Jersey ESSA State Plan](#) before it is submitted to the U.S. Department of Education.

ESSA replaces the *No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)*, enacted in 2002, and it reauthorizes the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965*. Under *ESSA*, some federal requirements remain in place. For instance, all states must set challenging academic standards and they must annually assess students' progress towards those statewide standards in math, English language arts, and science.

However, *ESSA* provides flexibility in other areas. The plan that New Jersey will submit to the U.S. Department of Education will describe how the state will improve efforts in areas such as accountability (e.g., factors stakeholders believe should be included in the School Performance Reports); supports for educators; supports for struggling schools; and how federal funds can most effectively help schools achieve academic goals.



Over the last six months, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) has heard from thousands of parents, educators, and community members across our state. Today I am inviting all of the parents of the Montville Township Public Schools to learn more about *ESSA* and provide feedback directly to the NJDOE on the proposed plan. Your feedback will help provide the NJDOE with ideas and suggestions to

incorporate in the final New Jersey *ESSA* State Plan. Public comment is being taken on the proposed state plan until March 20, and the NJDOE expects to submit the plan to the U.S. Department of Education by April 3, 2017.

Below are links about New Jersey's proposed *ESSA* State Plan that you can find on NJDOE's [main *ESSA* webpage](#):

- An [overview](#) of the plan, including videos, a PowerPoint presentation, and the entire state plan.
- Register for live [webinars](#) to learn about the New Jersey *ESSA* State Plan.

You can email the NJDOE with questions or comments at essa@doe.state.nj.us.

Thank you for your interest in helping New Jersey develop its *ESSA* State Plan.

Bits and Pieces....

The Cedar Hill Parents Book Club is a huge success. The next book to be discussed will be "Grit." The next book club meeting is scheduled for March 9th.

Students at Valley View School are supporting St. Jude's Children's Hospital by participating in the Math Marathon.

Five Lazar Middle School students were selected to participate in the North Jersey Regional Honors Junior High School Chorus and Orchestra. Congratulations to violinists Michelle Wang and Katherine Lebedev and vocalists Mrudul Nagapurkur, Joshua Philip and Shubhra Sood!

Congratulations to Dhruv Dang and Alan Lai. Both students have been selected to give oral presentations at the Rutgers Science Symposium


Recent awardees at the ArtStart program at William Paterson University included Gavin Poole (1st place for his wheel thrown and carved piece entitled "Driftwood") and Kevin Kahwaty (Honorable Mention for his hand-built sculpture entitled "Dog Bark").



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