

## News & Updates - September 2021 WELCOME BACK!

Visit our Website- [www.montville.net](http://www.montville.net)

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### Welcome to the 2021-2022 School Year!



We are excited to welcome our students and staff back for the 2021-2022 school year. Below are a number of key points to keep in mind:

- In accordance with Executive Order 251, masks are required to be worn by all students, staff, and visitors in the indoor portion of the school district premises.
- Masks are required to be worn on school buses.
- Students without an exemption that has been approved by the school physician, who do not wear masks, will be removed from class.
- Our full-day schedule does include a lunch period for all students. At the elementary level, students will have lunch in their classrooms. At the middle and high school levels, students will eat lunch in a number of different spaces within the building. Social distancing will be observed. Masks may be removed while students are eating and drinking.
- As per the New Jersey Department of Health, in the K-12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition **excludes** students who were within 3 to 6 feet of a positive case where both the infected students and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time.
- Should a child come in close contact of a positive COVID-19 case, the student will be required to quarantine. If a negative COVID-19 test result is obtained between days 5 and 7 of the quarantine period, the test result must be submitted to the school nurse and the student may return to school. If no COVID-19 test is administered, the student will be required to quarantine for a period of 10 days, even if he/she is not exhibiting symptoms of the virus. When the region is identified in the high risk or very high risk band, the quarantine period expands to 14 days. Only in those cases where the student has been identified as a close contact in school or required to quarantine at the direction of the Montville Township Health Department will the student be permitted to attend school virtually for the specific duration of the quarantine period.
- Fully vaccinated individuals are exempt from quarantining but should continue to self-monitor for any symptoms.
- Parents should screen their children daily for COVID-19 symptoms. Staff members should also self-screen. There is no need to complete the daily screening app. Anyone who is not feeling well or is exhibiting symptoms should stay home.
- Parents are encouraged to share vaccination information for their child(ren) with the school nurse. This information is helpful if contacting tracing is required.

- Back to School Nights will be held virtually this year. The dates are:
  - o Elementary Schools - September 21
  - o Lazar Middle School - September 22
  - o MTHS - September 23
  - o Additional information about Back to School Night will be provided by the building principals as the date approaches.

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## Rovtar Announces Retirement - Will Depart District on December 31, 2021

Dr. René Rovtar, who has served as the superintendent of the Montville Township Public Schools since July 1, 2015, has announced her retirement from the district as of January 1, 2022. The district has engaged the New Jersey School Boards Association to facilitate the search for her successor. The search process will offer the opportunity for community input through focus groups and surveys to help in the development of the criteria and credentials sought in the new superintendent.

Rovtar concludes a career in education spanning more than 41 years including experience teaching at the middle, high school, and collegiate levels, service as a school business administrator, assistant superintendent, and superintendent. In addition, she worked with the New Jersey Department of Education for 10 years, serving as the Morris County Superintendent of Schools from 1997 through 2003.



## Superintendent Search Survey

**Click the Button Above to Take the Survey**

Community input is an important part of the Superintendent search process. Please click the button above to take the [Superintendent Search Survey](#). The survey will be active through Friday, September 24, 2021. You can also plan to attend the in-person [Community Input Session](#) on Monday, September 20, at 6:30 p.m., in the MTHS Media Center. Please note, to share thoughts regarding qualities and experience you value in a superintendent of schools, you may participate in one or both of the above information gathering opportunities. To learn more about the Superintendent Search Process, please see [News](#) at [Montville.net](#).

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**The Montville Township Public Schools  
"Safe Return Plan" for the 2021-2022 School  
Year, as required by the New Jersey Department  
of Education, is available on the district website  
at: [Safe Return Plan 2021-2022](#)**

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**Schoology As An Important  
Communication Tool**



Parents are reminded that Schoology (the District's Learning Management System) remains one of our primary vehicles for communicating important information to parents and students. Principals use the platform to send updates about school activities as well as to communicate critical information, such as the reporting of the identification of positive COVID-19 cases.

Schoology has a useful app that will allow you to receive updates and access information about your child's courses,

etc. Parents are encouraged to install the app. You can find the Schoology app in the Apple App Store or on Google Play.

If you have any issues establishing your Schoology account, kindly contact [parentaccess@montville.net](mailto:parentaccess@montville.net).

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## **EDUCATE. INSPIRE. EMPOWER.**



### ***Bits and Pieces...***

Congratulations to Ethan Chen whose poem "Spring Hatching" was selected for publication in the September 2021 issue of [Spider Magazine](#). Spider Magazine is a magazine for children ages 6-9 and features stories, poems, articles, and activities from children's authors and artists from around the world. In each issue reader-submitted original writing and artwork are also selected for publication. Ethan is a student at Hilldale School.

Kudos to MTHS junior Mirella Richard. The passionate volunteer, who was recognized earlier this year with the Congressional Award Silver Certificate, is working towards receiving Congressional Silver and Gold Medals. Through Voluntary Public Service, Richard has had a positive impact on the community at large. In May she focused on thanking frontline workers with 100 hand made Thank You cards. The unique gifts featured her own original musical composition which she recorded and placed on sound modules inside each of the [musical Thank You notes](#). This summer she held a flower making class at MTHS where teachers gathered to create brightly colored bouquets of crepe paper blooms that were distributed to healthcare workers at Chilton Medical Hospital.

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