



Medford Township Public Schools

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September, 2009

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Below you will find information regarding two important changes in district procedures/protocols having an impact on you and your child for the 2009-2010 school year. The changes focus on our **Student Attendance Policy/Regulation** and the manner in which the district will assist outside organizations in **publicizing** their programs and events.

Foremost, I refer you to the District Website Link for **Policies/Procedures**; select **Student Attendance** for our recently revised Student Attendance Policy/Regulation #5200. The Policy/Regulation were revised to meet the guidelines set forth by New Jersey Administrative Code and to ensure the safety and well being of all of our students. It contains significant changes in the Regulation Guide regarding the definition of "unexcused" absences and the action taken when students exceed "**four**" **unexcused** absences within the school year. Please refer to page 2, number 2 for the definition of an "Excused Absences" and page 3, number 4 for definition of an "Unexcused Absence." Additionally, the District must take significant actions when a pupil has "**ten**" or more **unexcused** absences. I am requesting that you review and become familiar with the Policy/Regulation and discuss its implications with your child. If you have any questions/concerns regarding the Policy/Regulation, please do not hesitate to consult your building principal or call me at your convenience.

The other important change that I need to bring to your attention is a change in District protocol regarding assisting outside organizations in publicizing their programs and events. As you are aware, in the past, organizations such as MYAA, Traveling Sports Teams, Cultural Activities, etc. have provided the District with flyers to distribute to you via your child. Additionally, many organizations have requested that the District email flyers home directly to you. In an effort to reduce the use of paper and to minimize the number of emails that you will be receiving, the District has created a Link "**COMMUNITY BULLETINS**" on the District Website to post specific information from organizations which may be pertinent to you and your child. I am recommending that you access the Link on a weekly basis to keep informed regarding information/activities that may interest you and your child. Please make note that in addition to receiving information on the District Website, as in the past, you will be receiving various flyers and emails from "district/school sponsored" organizations and events.

It is my sincere hope that both of these changes will have a positive impact for you and your child. I want to wish you and your child all the best as we embark on an exciting and productive school year. I look forward to seeing you at one of the many upcoming school sponsored events.

Sincerely,


Joseph J. Del Rossi, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools