

MSD E-News

Morris School District ~ 31 Hazel Street ~ Morristown, NJ 07960
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Welcome to **MSD E-News!** **MSD E-News** will provide periodic updates regarding district initiatives, student achievements, upcoming events, and other items of interest. We hope you will find **MSD E-News** updates helpful and informative. In addition to this District-wide E-News service, each elementary school will now provide periodic E-News updates. Information regarding how to sign up for E-News from you child's elementary school may be found near the end of this document.



2011-2012 School Year to Celebrate Decades of Excellence in School and Community

The 2011-2012 school year marks the 40th anniversary of the merger of the Morristown and Morris Township school districts and the 20th anniversary of the Morris Educational Foundation. The merger of the Town and Township school systems was an important milestone in the long and proud history of the Morris School District, one of the first and finest school districts in the state. Established in 1992, the Morris Educational Foundation has contributed more than \$1 million in grants to District schools to inspire teachers, support innovative programs and projects, and fund college scholarships for MHS graduates. Together throughout the school year, the Morris School District and the Morris Educational Foundation will "Celebrate Decades of Excellence in School and Community" and honor the leadership of those two who forged our District and created the Morris Educational Foundation. Community-wide celebrations to mark these milestones will take place in the spring.

We're Proud!

The National Merit Scholarship Program has honored nine Morristown High School seniors for their performance in the 2012 National Merit Scholarship Competition. Named as National Merit Commended Students, *Aiden Keefer, Victoria Lin, John Merwin, Eric Minor, Stacey Trackenberg, and Wesley Vogel* placed among the top 2.3% of more than 1.5 million students who participated in the 2012 scholarship competition. Recognized as Outstanding Participants in the National Achievement Scholarship Program, which honors exceptional academic performance by Black American high school students, are *Jaylond Cotton-Martin* and *Alexandra Stennett*. *Jessica Urrutia* was honored for Excellence in Academic Achievement by the National Hispanic Recognition Program. Congratulations to all these students!

Last Call! Kick up your Heels for the Morris Educational Foundation this Sunday, October 23

Help the MEF support our students and inspire our teachers by joining neighbors and friends for the 3rd annual *COLONIAL CHALLENGE* at Ginty Field at 10:00 AM on October 23. Options include a 5-K run, a 1-mile Kids Run, or a 1-mile Family Walk. The weather looks great, so grab the little ones, the not-so-little ones, the dog, neighbors & friends and make the most of a beautiful autumn day while helping the MEF help our schools! Log onto www.practicehard.com for registration information or call 908-245-3000.

Honeywell Alert System

The District's Honeywell Instant Alert system was used often during the early days of the school year to keep parents up to date with schedule changes and bus delays due to storm damaged roads. It is very important to keep your family's Honeywell Alert contact information up to date so that you may be quickly notified of emergency or other important information. If you have not yet done so this school year, please check to be sure that all phone numbers and Email addresses to which you want Honeywell messages sent are included and are correctly entered. To check your Honeywell registration information, log on to the Instant Alert Website, <https://instantalert.honeywell.com>

MHS Brings *FAME* to Morristown High School

Watch Morristown High School's very own talented and gifted performance artists recreate the excitement and magic of the 1980's Broadway hit, *FAME*. Why travel to the city when top-notch talent and entertainment can be found right here in Morristown? Performances @ 7:30 PM on Friday, November 18, Saturday, November 19, and 3:00 PM on Sunday, November 20. Tickets available at the door.

Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Policy (HIB) Presentation for Parents

New Jersey's recently revised Anti-Bullying Policy is designed to strengthen the standards and procedures for preventing, reporting and responding to incidents of harassment, intimidation and bullying. All Morris School District parents are invited to learn about the Policy, its reporting procedures and consequences for students at an evening information session to be held at on Wednesday, November 30 7:00 PM at Thomas Jefferson School.

***Rachel's Challenge* - a Presentation for Parents**

Thanks to a generous grant from the Morris Educational Foundation Morris School District parents and Frelinghuysen students will have the opportunity to attend a presentation of *Rachel's Challenge*, a program of hope presented by the family of the first victim of the Columbine tragedy, Rachel Joy Scott. Through this program, Rachel's family will help empower parents to help their children find a purpose in their lives and make a difference in the world. The evening program for parents will be held at FMS at 7:00 PM on November 2. The program is open to the public. For additional information about Rachel's Challenge, visit www.rachelschallenge.org.

Important Reminders

- **November 8** - Because the start of school was delayed by one day due to Hurricane Irene, November 8 has been changed from a day off for students to a 4-Hr. 20-Min. session (half-day) for students. By making this a half-day, we are able to preserve for the long winter ahead all of the 4 emergency closing days built into the original school calendar.
- **Change to Delayed Opening Start Time** - If inclement weather requires a delayed opening, schools will open **two hours later than normal**, not 90 minutes, as has been the practice in the past. School bus pickups also will be delayed by two hours.

School E-News Registration information

E-mail bulletins from FMS and MHS have proved to be extremely effective in providing timely updates and reminders for middle school and high school parents. Elementary schools now have similar Email update systems in place. Although elementary schools do not need to send updates as frequently as do the high school and middle school, elementary E-News will provide periodic updates and reminders about school programs, activities, and dates to remember. To sign up for E-News from your child's school, simply send a blank email to the appropriate address, below.

Woodland School: join-woodland@msd.listserve.us

Thomas Jefferson: join-thomasjefferson@msd.listserve.us

Alfred Vail: join-alfredvail@msd.listserve.us

Sussex Ave: join-sussexave@msd.listserve.us

Hillcrest: join-hillcrest@msd.listserve.us

Alexander Hamilton: join-alexanderhamilton@msd.listserve.us

Normandy Park: join-normandypark@msd.listserve.us

Lafayette: join-lafayette@msd.listserve.us

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- **Sunday, October 23** - Morris Educational Foundation's Colonial Challenge 10:00 AM at Ginty Field
- Wednesday, November 2 - "Rachel's Challenge" a presentation for parents @ FMS 7:00 PM
- Thursday, November 3 - P.A.C.E. Holiday Social & Gift Boutique - 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. Morristown High School Atrium
- Monday, November 7 - 4-Hr. 20-Min. Session all grades - Parent Conferences
- Tuesday, November 8 - 4-Hr 20- Min. Session all grades - Staff Development
- Wednesday, November 9 - 4-HR. 20-Min Session - Parent Conferences
- Thursday, November 10 - Schools Closed - NJEA Convention
- Friday, November 11 - Schools Closed NJEA Convention
- Friday & Saturday, November 18 & 19 @ 7:30 PM - MHS Production of *FAME!*
- Sunday, November 20 @ 3:00 PM - MHS Production of *FAME!*

Thank you for joining the Morris School District E-News community. If you no longer wish to receive Morris School District E-News, please send a blank Email to leave-district@msd.listserve.us. If you know of other individuals or families who might like to join Morris School District E-News, please let them know they may do so by simply sending a blank email to join-district@msd.listserve.us.