Welcome Parents!



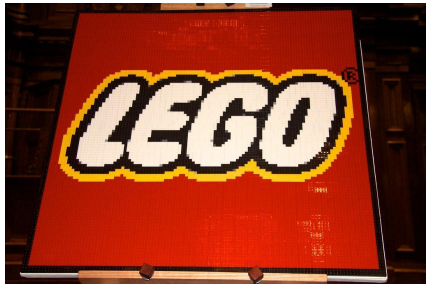
Matthew Dempsey
Principal

Mr. Dempsey

- Graduated from RHS 2005
- Student-Athlete at Kean University
- BA English 2010, Dual Certified K-12 English and SPED, Kean
- MA Special Education 2015, Kean
- MA: Educational Leadership
- Married for 12 years and have 2, soon to be 9 years old twin boys
    - Alexander and Ethan Dempsey
- Grew up in West Keansburg.
- 16th Year in Hazlet







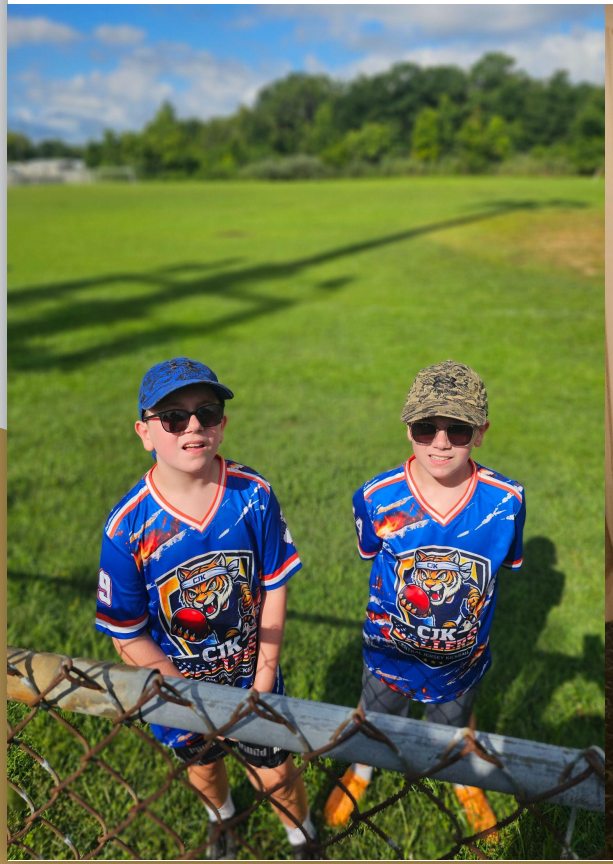
#KnowYourWhy







Family







QUICK MESSAGE FROM

Mrs. Chionchio

Arrival and Dismissal

- Safety is the most important thing we focus on.
- On the first day, Parents/Guardians will not be permitted inside the building.
- Please feel free to take pictures outside of the building and create amazing memories before we begin arrival at 8:40 am.
- Please be patient and let's all work together to make this as safe and smooth as possible for all.



Valet Service

- Drive to the next available spot on the valet line.
- Remain in your car at all times.
- You will be directed to pull through the parking lot towards the Playground then in front of the building by a staff member.
- Please pull up behind the car in front of you, unlock your car doors and have your child ready to exit on the right side of the vehicle with his or her backpack within reach.
- School staff will assist children exiting your vehicle and escort them into the building.
- Due to the configuration of the SD parking lot, valet drop-off is the safest and most convenient option



NOTES

- The Valet Path helps create the safest and smoothest arrival for all students.
- Please make sure you are yielding to the buses in the Valet Line.
- There are cones placed on both sides of the parking lot for students to walk inside.
- Parking on the side streets and walking in, helps with the arrival process.

Dismissal

- Each PreSchool Teacher will explain their dismissal specifics in their “Welcome Letter”
- Once you have you student, you will need to leave the school grounds.
- You cannot use the playground until school hours are over.



Communication

- All communications will be done using Email and Real-Time
- Please ensure all your contact information on Real-Time is updated.
- Please feel free to contact your student's teacher or me anytime.
- We can always arrange a phone call or parent meeting,



Communication is Key!

- Parent Portal
- Email
- District/School Websites
- Teacher Webpages
- Phone
- Virtual Backpack (E-Backpack) on Website
- Newsletters & Principal messages
- PTO meetings



Early Release of Students

- When possible, please provide a note to the teacher a day or two in advance.
- In day of situations, please contact the office as soon as possible.
- Students will only be released to parents/guardians or anyone listed on Real-Time. You will need your ID.
- If a person who is not on Real-Time picking up your child, send a email with a copy of their ID.
    - Email:
        - mdempsey@hazlet.org
        - vchionchio@hazlet.org
        - mefesto@hazlet.org
- IF we do not receive and ID, your child will not be released.

- Buzz the Main Office and your child will be brought out to you.
- All Students must be met at the main entrance and signed out
- A student's schedule will not be changed 3:00pm or later.



Safety and Security

- #1 Priority!!
- Officer Randolph
- Visitors without ID will not be admitted into the building. NO EXCEPTIONS
- Escorts for Visitors
- District Behavior & Care Assessment Team
- Drills
    - One Fire Drill/month
    - One Security Drill per month
        - Lockdown
        - Shelter in Place
        - Evacuation Drill



Breakfast and Lunch

- Breakfast and Lunch served daily
- Students order in classroom
- Free/Reduced forms on website
- LUNCH MENU
- Snacks:
  - Independence
  - Nut free
  - PLEASE NO Purchasing snacks for friends

- Breakfast-$2.40
  - Served in classroom
  - Inform teacher if you never want breakfast for your child
- Lunch-$3.95
  - Served in the cafeteria
  - Nut free tables
  - Friends at nut free tables okay as long as lunch is nut free
- LET US KNOW IF YOU DO NOT WANT YOUR CHILD TO PURCHASE!!



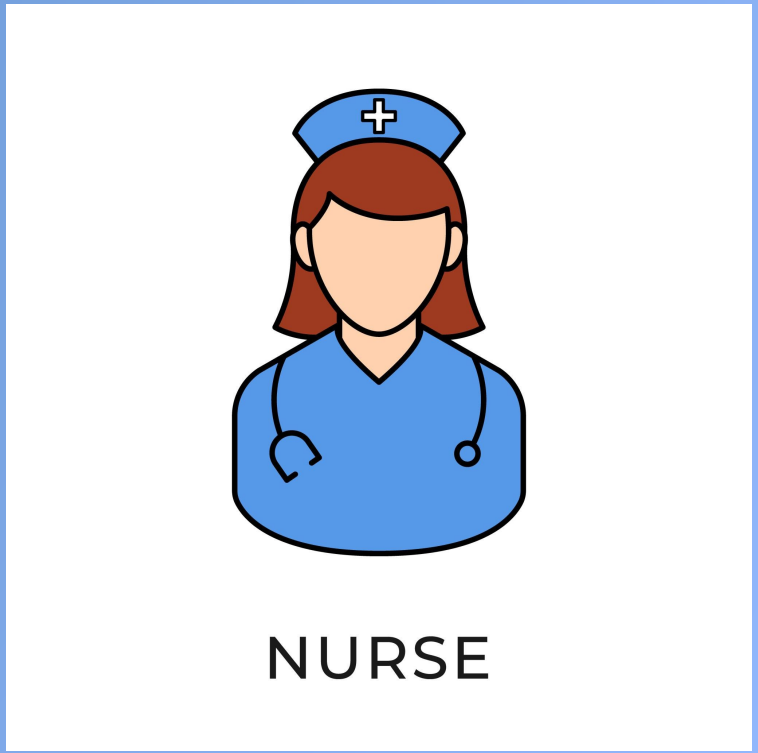
Start the Day out Right!!

Information posted on the district website, as well as your digital backpack.

A word from your School Nurse!!

Mrs. Festo





Illness

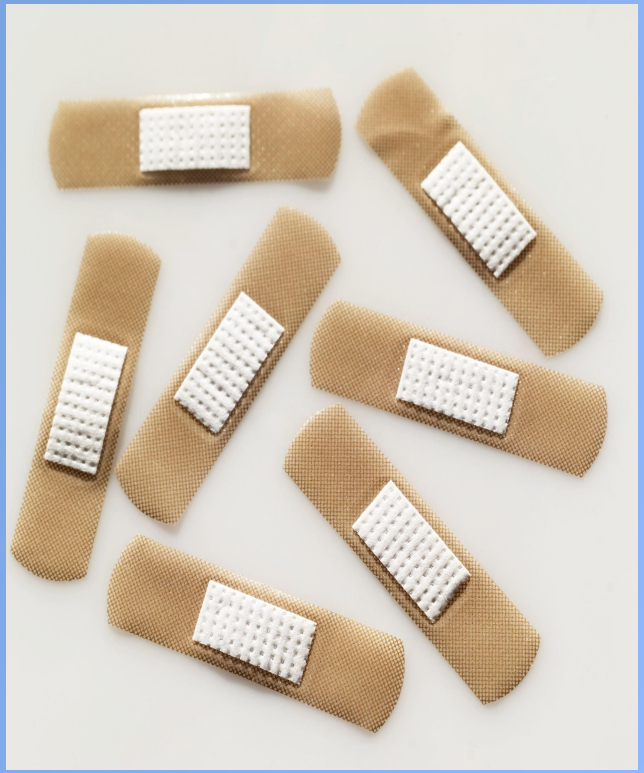
- Please screen children for signs of illness before sending them to school.
- Parents/guardians may be contacted for:
  - Fever
  - Vomiting or diarrhea
  - Persistent/significant cough or congestion
  - Sore throat
  - Rash or other concerning symptoms
- Students should remain home until fever, vomiting, and diarrhea have resolved for at least 24 hours.
- Certain contagious illnesses may require medical clearance and/or an appropriate treatment period before returning to school.
- When in doubt, contact the Health Office ext. 8003 I'm always happy to help determine the appropriate next step.

★ For additional information and illness-specific return-to-school requirements, please refer to the SDECLC Health Guidelines:

★ https://www.hazlet.org/o/sdeclc/page/health-guidelines

Injury

- Open communication is very important to me, especially when it comes to the health and safety of our students.
- If your child is injured at school, they will be promptly assessed and cared for in the Health Office.
- Thankfully, most school-day injuries are minor; often nothing a Band-Aid, ice pack, and a little TLC can't fix!
- For more significant injuries or whenever additional follow-up is needed, a parent/guardian will be contacted promptly.
- Rest assured, whether an injury is big or small, your child will always be thoroughly assessed and cared for.



Screenings

- Throughout the school year, students will participate in routine health screenings as required.
- Screenings may include height, weight, vision, hearing, and blood pressure.
- If a screening result indicates that your child may benefit from further evaluation, I will contact you and provide a referral.
- A referral does not necessarily mean something is wrong, it simply means additional evaluation by the appropriate healthcare provider is recommended.
- If you receive a referral, please follow up with the appropriate provider and return any requested documentation to the Health Office.



Medications

- If your child requires prescription medication during the school day, a medication authorization form must be completed and signed by their medical provider before medication can be administered at school.
- All medication must be provided directly to the Health Office in the original, properly labeled container.
- If your child's medication supply is running low, I will contact you so it can be replenished.
- Please NEVER place medication in your child's backpack. This includes prescription and over-the-counter medications.
- Backpacks are stored at child-level and are accessible to other students. Medication in a backpack could be accidentally taken by another child, misplaced, or lost and creates a serious safety risk.
- Acetaminophen (Tylenol) and Ibuprofen (Motrin) may be administered by the school nurse in accordance with the school's physician standing orders when appropriate. I will make every attempt to contact a parent/guardian prior to administration.
-

ALLERGIES

- If your child has a food or medication allergy, please have their healthcare provider complete the attached Allergy Action Plan and return it to the Health Office.
- If epinephrine or other allergy medication is required at school, a Medication Administration Form must also be completed and medication provided to the Health Office.
- Please notify the Health Office of any new allergy, reaction, or change to your child's allergy plan during the school year.
- Preschool Classrooms: All preschool classrooms are peanut and tree-nut-free, including during snack and lunchtime.

Kindergarten Familie

- A designated peanut/tree-nut allergy table is available in the cafeteria.
- Students with a documented peanut/tree-nut allergy will be seated at this table unless parent/guardian permission is provided for community-table seating.
- An allergy-table seating form will be provided so families can indicate their seating preference.

Doctor’s Notes & Absences

- Please provide the Health Office with medical documentation following an extended illness, surgery, or medical procedure.
- Students absent for 3 or more consecutive days due to illness should provide a doctor’s note upon returning to school.
- A doctor’s note is required for an extended excuse from physical activity and again when the student is cleared to return.
- Absences related to illness, surgery, or medical recovery may still count toward your child’s total absences, even when medical documentation is provided.
- Please notify the Health Office of any surgery, significant illness, restrictions, or changes in your child’s health so we can safely support their return.
- IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER:
  A doctor’s note documents *why* your child was absent; it does not necessarily make those days disappear from their attendance record.

Important Documents

- Allergy Awareness Lunch Table
- Asthma-Action-Plan American Lung
- Food Allergy Action Plan
- Health Guideline & Absence
- Health Guidelines & Absence Notification
- Medication Administration Form 2026-2027
- Seizure Action Plan



SYCAMORE DRIVE PTO

- The Sycamore Drive PTO is an organization united in its efforts to support the educational experiences of our children. Our PTO works with the community, the staff and the administration to make a difference in the children's lives. Throughout the year, the PTO conducts various fundraisers to provide assemblies, special events and non-budget item/supplies to enrich our children's learning environment.

- Please visit the PTO Website to join and get more information.

SYCAMORE DRIVE PTO

THANK YOU