

COPPER HILL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

December 2019

Character Trait: *Caring/Compassion*

Vanessa Ahmed, Principal
Jesse Lockett, Vice Principal
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Dear Parents,

We hope everyone enjoyed their Thanksgiving holiday, giving thanks for the many things you are grateful for. We offer our thanks to each family for helping foster a successful home-school connection for your children. Whether it be through parent teacher conferences, parent clinics, email correspondence or phone calls, your willingness to help build a strong educational foundation for our children is a key component to their success!

In November, we celebrated Veteran's Day by honoring Veterans who are part of the Copper Hill Community at our Town Hall Meeting. Our morning began with a welcome breakfast and included singing of patriotic songs and a message shared by our own Veteran, Mr. Lockett, focusing on service and how everyone can serve in any capacity to help one another, our community and our world. Each Veteran was presented a certificate for being *brave, smart and kind*, which is our focus this year at Copper Hill. It was a beautiful celebration and we thank all the families who were able to join us to create such a special event for our students!

Please mark your calendars for Thursday, January 9 to celebrate Hour of Code Family Night at Copper Hill. Our supervisor of technology, Mr. Ralph Losanno, computer literacy teacher, Mrs. Diane Cook, and our technology integration specialist, Ms. Pat Flavin, will be facilitating this night of technology for our families! More details about this event to come!

Thank you to our families who supported our PTO during our fall clothing drive. We also have a spring clothing drive on April 30 and May 1 for some spring cleaning! We also thank our generous families who have purchased items for our "Helping Hands" campaign during the holiday season. Your kindness is overwhelming and truly appreciated! Our PTO is presenting our annual Holiday Shop for our students to purchase gifts for family members and friends during the holiday season. Thank you to the many volunteers who help organize our Holiday Shop for our students and assist them in choosing their special gifts!

On behalf of the faculty and staff here at Copper Hill, we wish everyone a joyous and festive holiday season! May the New Year be filled with much health and happiness for all!

Fondly,

Vanessa Ahmed
Principal

Jesse Lockett
Vice Principal

IMPORTANT STUDENT DROP OFF REMINDERS

Student drop-off begins at 8:45 am. Please wait at the stop sign, which is posted in the driveway, until you are waved on by the staff member on duty. When exiting the drop off area please be aware of busses that may still be entering the back parking lot or leaving school. All students must be in their classrooms by **8:55 am**. If you are dropping your child off after **8:55 am**, please park your car in the main parking lot and walk your child into the building and check-in with the main office.

Important Safety Notice-- Emergency Contact Information for Every Child

The school will utilize the school communication system, School Messenger, to contact you in the event of an unscheduled early dismissal and other closings or delayed openings. For this reason, it is absolutely critical that we have current phone information for every child. Cell phone numbers and work phone numbers tend to change. As neighbors move, designated emergency contact persons may change as well. Please be sure to provide the office with prompt written notice of any work, home or cell phone number changes for you or the individuals you designated as emergency contact persons for your children. This is an essential step in our emergency contact procedures, and we appreciate your cooperation. Also, with temperatures dropping, the likelihood of a school closing, delayed opening or early dismissal increases. Please be sure that you have discussed and practiced your plan should school need to close early and there is no aftercare. Also, please take this time to plan with your children what action they will take in the event that you are not home to meet them.

REMINDERS

Weather permitting students go outside for recess every day. Please remember to send your child to school with a warm coat, gloves and hat suitable for outdoor winter weather. If your child wears shoes or boots to school, please remember to send them to school with sneakers on their physical education days.

LOST AND FOUND

With the cold weather approaching, please remember to put your children's name on their belongings (especially outerwear). We have a Lost and Found for clothing items and lunchboxes located in the vestibule. Smaller items and valuables are kept in the Main Office. All items unclaimed by winter break will be donated to charity.

ABSENCES AND CHANGE IN ROUTINES

- If your child is **absent or tardy** for any reason, please call the **Copper Hill Attendance Line** by dialing 284-7665, Option 1. Leave a message detailing the nature of the absence, your child's name and his/her teacher's name. Messages may be left at any time of night or morning and are retrieved on a daily basis.
- If your child needs to be **dismissed early**, please send a note to school with your child noting the time for pick-up and the reason. Children leaving the school prior to 3:10 will be marked as an early dismissal. **Three early dismissals count as one absence.**
- If your child normally rides the **bus**, but will need to be **picked up** at dismissal time, please send in a note with your child that morning.
- Please do not leave information regarding your child's change in procedure on a teacher's e-mail. They often don't have an opportunity to check their e-mail in the afternoon and your message may not be communicated.
- **Please send a note with your child in the morning for any changes in procedure so that classroom instruction is not interrupted with a phone call.**

ATTENTION PARENTS OF PRESCHOOL CHILDREN

The State of New Jersey has mandated the Flu Shot for all preschool children enrolled in schools and daycare. Please forward the required documentation by December 20, 2019. Your child may not return to school in 2020 if documentation has not been received. Contact Mrs. Maslankowski the school nurse, if you have questions at 908-284-7670.

SECURITY REMINDER

Parents are reminded that our school district follows a strict security plan in order to keep our school safe. All classroom doors must remain closed and locked when vacant before, during and after school hours. A student is not allowed to go into their classroom after their teacher has left for the day. The office and custodial staff are **not permitted** to unlock doors for students who need homework materials. Please speak to your child concerning the importance of packing all necessary books and materials for homework at the end of the day.

