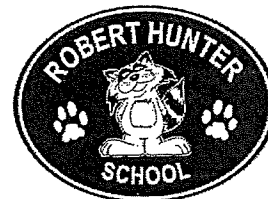


ROBERT HUNTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



8 DAYTON ROAD
FLEMINGTON, NEW JERSEY 08822

Mrs. Jessica Braynor
Principal

Mrs. Lindsay Shirvanian
Vice Principal

Dear Robert Hunter families,

We are pleased to announce that Tango, a certified therapy dog, will be visiting Robert Hunter School! Students will be able to interact with Tango and his handler, Linda Murphy, through classroom visits, reading experiences, and more!

We are aware that some students have allergies, and we are working with our school nurse to take measures to minimize risks and exposure. Also, we realize that some students do not feel comfortable around dogs. Please be aware that no student is obligated to interact with Tango when he visits RH. Should you have concerns and would prefer that your child not have any contact with our therapy dog, please complete the **opt-out** form below.

Working with animals has been shown to benefit students in many ways including:

- Increasing levels of motivation
- Improved academic skills, including but not limited to reading fluency
- Helping to build trust and provide a sense of security
- The provision of unconditional acceptance
- Promoting character traits that include: caring, cooperation, empathy, gratitude, humanity, nurturance, patience, perseverance, respect, responsibility, self-control, self-esteem, and service.

We are very excited to provide our students with the opportunity to work with Tango throughout the school year.

Should you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you,

Mrs. Braynor and Mrs. Shirvanian

2022-2023 Therapy Dog Program Opt-Out

I do **NOT** give permission for my child to work with a therapy dog at Robert Hunter School:

Students Name: _____ Classroom Teacher: _____

Grade Level: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____