

PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



November 2022 Issue

Empowering Children through the School Conference

We're about 10 weeks into the school year and approaching the end of the first quarter, which means that school conferences are ready to be scheduled. All schools will have early dismissal on Monday through Wednesday, November 7-9, for meetings with parents and students.

School conferences are critical for promoting positive student-parent-teacher relationships and provide an opportunity for children to become advocates for their own learning. One of the best decisions parents can make is to include their child in the parent-teacher conference. Last year, 4th and 5th grade teachers accomplished this with tremendous success and many more teachers are looking forward to welcoming students to the table.

Why include children in the conference?

- * Including students in teacher conferences reinforces the "village" concept by surrounding children with the important people in their school lives.
- * Participating in the school conference is an empowering opportunity for children which typically results in more focused and responsible school behavior and attitude.
- * Children need regular opportunities to speak with trusted adults. The school conference allows small, structured opportunities in which children can interact with teachers, under the watchful and supportive eyes of their parents.
- * High school students who successfully conference with their teachers become adults who confidently engage with college professors or future supervisors about academic or work issues.

How to prepare your child?

Many of the elementary teachers spend time in class practicing with children for their conferences, so it's highly likely that additional prepping won't be necessary.

Talk with children about greeting the teacher with a handshake, looking the teacher in the eyes to say hello, and listening respectfully to what the teacher has to share. Your child might think of a question they can ask their teacher, such as "Are there areas you think I can be better at?" or "Math comes easy to me, but I have trouble with writing. How can I get better at this?"

Other Tips:

Parents may excuse their child to the hallway to wait with a book if you or the teacher needs to discuss a sensitive matter.

Conferences are for all students – whether school comes easy to them or they are facing challenges in school.

High school students may wish to ask about their teachers for course suggestions for next year. Teachers are a great source of information about course content and rigor.

Have a great conference experience!

A Fresh Start Thrift Shop at PHS

Announcing the opening of "A Fresh START Thrift Store!" located at Parsippány High School. The Thrift Store offers new and gently used clothing and accessories targeted for teens and adults. Even better - everything is \$5 or less!

The mission of this store is to give the district's START students opportunities to learn and expand their soft and hard skill sets within a retail environment while also servicing our school community. The START program students assist in running the store and complete tasks such as sorting inventory, cleaning clothes, ironing/steaming, pricing, and selling merchandise. Nick, an employee from the START program, shared that he "likes interacting with customers because I am very social. I like coming to after school events and selling items at the store. I am excited to make money so we can do fun things with our program!"



In addition, business, marketing and technological skills are incorporated into the business and, therefore, provide additional learning and socialization opportunities for a variety of students. Ali, an employee of "A Fresh START" stated, "I enjoy working here because in the future I have a goal of opening my own business. By working here, I am learning skills that I can use in my business. Also, I like to be creative and socialize with customers."

Students have been overheard saying they are "so excited to have a clothing store to shop in! Everything is so inexpensive and of great quality!"

Donations are welcome! Clothing must be in good condition; handbags, scarves, and jewelry are also accepted. Profits from the business are reinvested into student programming and Community-Based Instruction.



One of the START students is ready to handle a sale!

Feel free to contact:

Jenna Spautz
(Transition Coordinator) at

jlspautz@pthsd.net

Additionally, follow us on Instagram
[@pthsd_afreshstart](https://www.instagram.com/pthsd_afreshstart)

PARSIPPANY SCHOOLS AT A GLANCE

Parsippany-Troy Hills Township Schools 2022-2023



Total Student Enrollment
7071



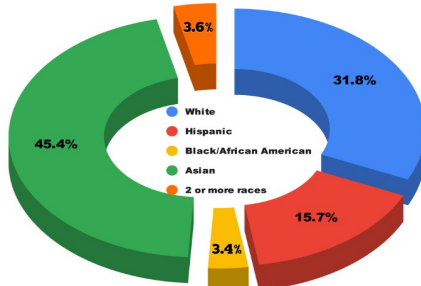
7 Schools Qualify for Title I Funding
14% of Students Qualify for Free/Reduced Meals



High School Athletics Participation



District Graduation Rate



Enrollment Demographics



Students in Special Education



1511 Total Staff



AP Student Enrollment



English Language Learners

NOVEMBER DIVERSITY DATES

Native American Heritage Month

National American Indian and Alaska Native Heritage Month

November 1-2: All Saints Day/All Souls Day/Día de los Muertos

November 11: Veterans Day/Armistice Day

November 16: International Day for Tolerance, founded by the UN to promote respect for various religions, languages, ethnicities, and cultures.

November 16: Dutch American Heritage Day

November 20: Universal Children's Day (U.N.) The day is celebrated globally to promote the rights of children and improve their standard of living.

November 24: Thanksgiving



JOIN THE FEW, THE VERSATILE, THE SUBSTITUTES!

Among the employee shortages that have been reported in the local and national news, we'd like to add substitute teachers to the list. There is a true need for substitute teachers at all schools. There are two pathways that lead to substitute certification:

Pathway #1

- ◇ Completion of 60 semester-hour credits;
- ◇ Credits must be completed at an accredited college or university at the time of application;
- ◇ Credential is valid for five (5) years from the date of issuance.

Pathway #2

- ◇ Completion of 30 semester-hour credits;
- ◇ Credits must be completed at an accredited institution of higher education at the time of application;
- ◇ Applicant must be enrolled in an accredited institution of higher education at the time of application;
- ◇ Applicant must be at least 20 years of age;
- ◇ Credential pathway is available until June 30, 2023;
- ◇ Credential is valid for five (5) years from the date of issuance.

We encourage parents and family members who meet either criteria and who have a desire to work in an exciting school environment to apply to be a substitute teacher. College students who will be home in December and January are also eligible to become substitutes. They should apply now, however, and not wait until the Fall semester ends as the application process takes several weeks.

The Parsippany-Troy Hills School District uses an organization called ESS to procure substitutes, so applicants will need to visit the ESS website at: <https://ess.com> to apply to be a substitute. To obtain a substitute certification, please visit the New Jersey Department of Education's website at: <https://nj.gov/education/license/sub>

Many of current teachers and administrators began their careers as substitute teachers. It's a great way to get your foot in the door to begin a tenure-track teaching position. Join us!