



PFA Gazette

Principal's Message

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I just want to and need to give a big thank you to all of our Thompson parents as this year comes to a close. It has been the fastest year I can remember and your support, help and most importantly, your cooperation have been very much appreciated by me.

Thompson continues to be a school that I have been so proud of and I try to run Thompson the same way I did when my own children attended. It is a school that is all about what is good for all 954 students and I try to focus on that theme always.

Middle level students, in my opinion, always want to do the best they can and are so eager to please and cooperate. I am motivated myself in my important work as I am now more clearly able to see the faces of my own grandchildren reflected in the many faces of your children. I also know that they make some mistakes and exercise poor judg-

ment from time to time and this is normal and frankly, it helps them grow up as we try to always have them learn from their mistakes. Making mistakes should always be viewed as opportunities for future growth and that is exactly the way we see this at Thompson.

Of course, I also wish to applaud all of the effort of what I consider to be the best middle level faculty and staff all around. All of the credit for all of the school's success goes to my Assistant Principal, Mr. Baglivio and the professional staff as well as the secretaries. This school must always remain child centered and reflected in everything we try to do.

Thank you to all of the many parents who served as PFA officers, school volunteers, Granny's Attic committee members, Book Fair, High Honor Roll breakfast, dances, trip chaperones and so many others who contributed to

the Thompson experience. I cannot mention individual names, as I am afraid I would forget someone who helped out along the way.

Have a great summer and please enjoy your friends and especially your own family. May I respectfully suggest that you take that special family vacation that you have been talking about for years...do it this summer!

Please remember that we have early dismissal days from June 16-June 19th and schools will be dismissed at approximately 12:30 PM. Lunch will be served to all of our students. The last day of school will Thursday, June 19th.

Submitted by
Mr. Patrick Houston,
Principal

P.S. A special thanks to our PFA "Gazette" editor Suzanne Rauso.



PFA Presidents

With another school year coming to an end, we want to wish all our Thompson PFA families a fun but safe summer. Look for your packet of forms and information from us sometime in August. It is important to read through all the information as we will have some new volunteer opportunities and new dates for school events. We know it sounds like a long way off but, June seemed far away a few

short months ago and it is now almost here. Upcoming PFA-sponsored events include the 8th Grade Dinner Dance on May 29 and Pool Club Party on May 30. Volunteers and staff are busy making plans for what will promise to be a fond memory for our 8th graders as they move on to the respective high schools. We would like to take this opportunity to wish this wonderful class of extraordinary

8th graders best of luck and continued success in whatever they choose for their futures.

Please consider taking on an area for our Granny's Attic fundraiser. We have fine-tuned the areas for chair positions to make it easier to take on a task. Give us a call if you can help.

Happy summer!
Christy and Dana



The Pool Club Party on May 30th will be a blast!

Student Activities

Summer is around the corner, and The Student Activities members merit a well-deserved summer. They have worked hard all year long to coordinate fun activities for the student body here at Thompson. There were many great times that were shared this year, and the members of Student Activities look forward to another fun

and exciting time next year. Congratulations to the Class of 2008. Student Activities would like to wish you all the best in your high school careers.

We would also like to thank all of those students, staff members, parents and administration for their countless efforts in a making this year very suc-

cessful. We all worked together in order to assure that our students had fun and made memories that will last a lifetime.

Have a wonderful, safe, healthy summer. See you in September!

Respectfully submitted,

*Brooke Garofalo
Stephanie Sumick*



Student Activities Members worked hard all year and merit a well-deserved break!

Student Council News

Mike Melando, Coordinator

As anticipated, the "name the hallways" event has reached a successful conclusion. Our five remaining hallways will be called: *Golden Road, Pride Way, Lion Passing, Thompson Terrace, and Mane Street*. Students will be able to use these hallway names to find their teachers' "addresses". Thanks to the homerooms who provided these names!

Thanks to this year's Student Council Executive Board for their dedication and

diligence: Debra Parmentola, Melanie Ridgway, Connor Ryan, Gianna Fischer, Jimmy Naughton, Laura Bilbao, Jerry Lunanuova, Ashley Suarez, and Claire Griffin. To the eighth grade members, the rest of the board and I wish you much success in your future endeavors.

Finally, as the year begins to wind down it is a good time for all 6th and 7th graders to think about running for a Student Council Executive Board position for the

2008-2009 school year. There will be nine positions open in the coming year, and if you are hardworking and have a willingness to both serve and represent your fellow students then this may be right for you. Requirements for those who want to run will be posted on the main bulletin board and announcements for deadlines will be made during homeroom.

Have a great summer!

All 6th and 7th graders should begin to think about running for a Student Council Executive Board position!

Media Center News Ms. Raymond

The Media Center would like to thank all of our wonderful parent volunteers for their continuing support. You have helped to make the media center a truly organized and student-friendly facility!

During the past few months the media center has been active with researchers investigating topics for a variety of class projects. The students have been studying current events, French products, Gary Paulsen, the Italian Renaissance, Monmouth County, and more! As the students conduct research they are guided through important evaluation techniques for online materials. They are encouraged to always begin the research process with **Reliable Resources** such as edited books or online sub-

scriptions. They are reminded that people make web pages for a variety of reasons so it is essential to evaluate all web resources. District research subscriptions and pathfinders of web sites can be accessed through the media center's web page: <http://www.middlestownk12.org/thompson/library.htm>

In June the media center will host our annual **spring book fair**. Students will visit the book fair with their language arts classes on **June 10, 11 or 12**. A variety of popular fiction, world records books and sports books will be available – including books from the district's summer reading list. This is a fantastic chance to pick up some fun summer reads!



Pick up some books at the Spring Book Fair in June!

Special Education News by Mrs. Lynn Godfrey

As I gather my thoughts for this the final PFA Gazette article of the 2007-2008 school year, I feel we should celebrate the achievements of our students as they progress through our education program. To continue this progress it is vital to maintain a level of interest in reading and math during the summer vacation even though our students' attention shifts from school books to the beach. Schools can provide a foundation, but parental help is necessary to ensure a continued quality education.

It is hard to believe that the end of the school year is upon us. It has been a productive year. Much of our success comes from the

sincere efforts of our paraprofessionals: Carol Belke, Jacquelyn Detwiler, Carolyn Halleran, Patricia Lambert, Bronwyn Link, Joanne Mahon, Elizabeth Marino, Irene Mullan, Maureen Parks, Linda Scheurer, Mary Valan, and Allison Wall. The paraprofessionals in many cases are our students' first line of defense. They often work one-on-one to meet immediate needs that make education possible.

We would also like to extend a thank you to our P.F.A. for a wonderful breakfast and delicious luncheon during Teacher Appreciation Week. We appreciate all the effort that was put into making the week special.

Speaking for all our department, I want to wish our graduating class the best on the completion of their studies, and many joyful times at all our graduation festivities. We hope that your high school years will be filled with much success and happiness.

Last, but not least, we are bidding farewell to a valued and well-respected member of our department, Mrs. Nickolette Levy, who devoted twenty-five years to teaching children of special needs in Middletown. Although she will be missed by her students and colleagues, we wish her much happiness in her retirement.

Thank you to our paraprofessionals and our PFA. And all the best to our graduating class!

Thompson Environmental Club



Save the Ice Cream!

That's right. You've heard of Save the Whales, Save the Rainforest but have you heard of Save the Ice Cream?

Honeybees are dying in record numbers and it turns out that we use honeybees to pollinate most of our fruits and vegetables. The ice cream maker Haagen Daas is

worried enough to fund over \$200,000 dollars worth of research to find out what is killing the honeybees.



In the Environmental Club we are learning about this and other interesting topics.

We are also working with the Master Gardeners of Monmouth County to create a beautiful garden habitat in the center of Thompson Middle School. We'll shortly be breaking ground for several small gardens and could use donations of gardening equipment and supplies. Stay tuned for further details!

Submitted by Kevin Jacoves

Informal Science

Submitted by Mr. Newfeld

Summer is the perfect time to take advantage of informal science opportunities with your family travel plans!



Public gardens are a source of informal science and beauty!

As the school year winds down, many families will be finalizing their summer travel plans. Now is the perfect time to encourage children to take advantage of informal science opportunities during their travels. Children can visit science museums, national parks, and public gardens or arboretums along their vacation route. Below is a collection of online resources we've compiled for **Informal Science**.

In the News: Informal Science

http://science.nsta.org/enewsletter/2008-05/news_stories_middle.htm .

On the Web: Informal Science

http://science.nsta.org/enewsletter/2008-05/web_middle.htm

With so much on the web, it's hard to know what's *really* useful. In this section, you'll find SciLinks (websites that have been reviewed by NSTA and your peers), links to web seminars, and various other opportunities related to this theme.

Books, Books, Books: Informal Science

http://science.nsta.org/enewsletter/2008-05/books_middle.htm

Tired of your textbook? There are lots of alternative resources available. Click here for a list of middle school-level books related to this theme.

Enjoy your summer and remember that informal science is everywhere!

World Languages Department, Ellen Finkelstein Coordinator

Félicitations! ¡Felicitaciones!

Congratulations to all our students for a very successful year. All of the students here at Thompson can now communicate in either French or Spanish. Since every one of our students is enrolled in a World Languages course, learning a second language has become an integral part of every child's education.

As the year draws to a close, the World Languages department would like to extend our best wishes to our graduates, who will continue their study of French or Spanish in high school or will take on a new language challenge next year. We look forward to working with our current sixth and seventh graders again next year. In September, if you have any concerns about your child's placement, please feel free to call his or her Spanish or French teacher.



*Continue your
language study!*

Final exams are being administered in June, during the last few full days of school. Exams are given in full year language courses only. There are no final exams for sixth graders or for students in our half-year programs. The final exam schedule is as follows:

Spanish 1

Monday, June 9

Wednesday, June 11

Thursday, June 12

Friday, June 13

French 1

Monday, June 9

Wednesday, June 11

Thursday, June 12

Spanish 2

Friday, June 6

Monday, June 9

Wednesday, June 11

Thursday, June 12

French 2

Monday, June 9

Wednesday, June 11

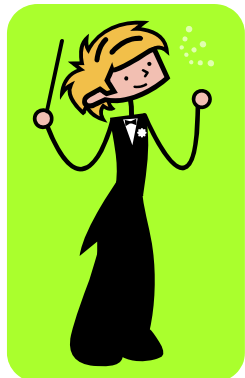
Thursday, June 12

As summer vacation time fast approaches, I would like to encourage all of our students to try to use their world language skills while they are away from school, even if it's just an occasional word or phrase. If you travel to a place where Spanish or French is spoken, please encourage your son or daughter to put their language knowledge to use. They should be able to order something to eat or drink, ask how much something costs or find out the directions to a destination, for example.

Have a happy and safe summer! *Bonnes vacances! ¡Buenas vacaciones!*

Try out language skills on a vacation or dinner out. Encourage your child to order something to eat or drink or ask directions.

Ending the Year in Activity Arts — Lynn Williams



Chorus and Band Students have had a great year of performances and activities.

As our school year is drawing to a close, the Activity Arts department is having many culminating activities. The 6th grade chorus will have their Spring Concert on May 28. Students are reminded to come to the rehearsal after school on May 27 from 2:37-4:00. The sixth grade chorus Spring Concert will begin at 7:30 pm.

The 7th and 8th grade Spring Concert will be Monday, June 9th at 7:30 pm. The students will need to stay after school that same day, June 9, from 2:37-4:30. The concert will begin at 7:30 and end at 8:15. Let's end our year with a wonderful performance. Thank-you for a great year and good luck to our 8th graders in high school next year!

Congratulations to the Thompson Band and Jazz Band on a fantastic Spring Concert on May 8th! Best of luck to our 8th grade band members who will be moving on to high school!

The Thompson band will be performing at graduation on Wednesday, June 18th at 2:30 pm. Band members need to arrive at Collins Arena

in Brookdale College at 2:00 pm. Any student who is using a school-owned instrument will need to either sign it out with Mrs. Raguseo for the summer or return it to the school on the last day of classes. Thanks for a great year!

The Thompson Singers were honored to perform at the Monmouth County Superintendent's Teacher of the Year Luncheon at Branches of Eatontown on May 9. The program featured the piece, "Wind Beneath My Wings" which the group dedicated to all of the special teachers they have had in the past. The students were wonderful and Mrs. Williams would like to congratulate them for a great performance.

The band and chorus participated in the High Note Music Festival on May 16. The students were excellent and should be proud of their performances.

In the cycle classes, there are many culminating activities. Mrs. Kaufman's Video Production class is filming a "Farewell" for retiring teachers and a "Memory Reel" for the graduating students.

The "Memory" video will be shown to the graduating class on the last day of school. The eighth grade class will be able to see their year in review as they prepare to embark to their new high schools. Mrs. Kaufman would like to thank her students for their hard work this year in the production class.

Mrs. Ballone's Computer classes are ending the year with a Presentation Package integrated with the social studies curriculum. The students are using Power Point, Word and Publisher to research, and create storyboards and brochures and business cards about topics in civics and geography. The seventh grade will be using the electronic library to learn how to cite sources and create graphic organizers and incorporate pictures into projects about the Civil War and Reconstruction. The sixth grade will be making a trifold brochure about the Renaissance using research and formatting techniques.

Thanks to all of our students, and have a great summer!



Stay in the loop!

Stay in the Loop!!

To be on the Thompson email alert list, which provides you with up-to-date information as well as reminders of events and meetings, please email your request to be on the list along with your child's grade for September to:

ThompsonPFA@yahoo.com

Please email your request even if you are on the list this year!

Social Studies Department – by Kevin Graham, Coordinator

Well, another school year is coming to an end. On behalf of the entire Social Studies Department, I would like to congratulate our eighth graders and their parents on their graduation. Good luck in high school!

Summer vacation is a great time for rest and relaxation. It is also a good opportunity to prepare for the upcoming 2008-2009 school year. With that in mind, may I offer some ideas for your consideration?

- Take some time for an honest evaluation of this past school year; the pros and the cons. This is a good way to think of how the pros can be accentuated and continued next year and why the cons occurred and how they might be minimized or eliminated. A little bit of forethought can go a long way.
- Encourage your children to read over the summer. Urge them to look at a newspaper every day. It is a great habit to form as they approach adulthood.
- Plan to take some time to become familiar with the school district's website – www.middletownk12.org

It is full of information about a wide variety of important school related topics. It is also a terrific way to stay in contact with your child's teachers next year.

- But most importantly, rest up and enjoy this invaluable opportunity to spend time with family, friends – and yourself. September will be here soon enough so make every day of summer count.
- I will be retiring at the end of June so let me say goodbye to one and all. I have been a very lucky man for the last thirty-one years. I have met so many wonderful people at Thompson and I will miss many things about working here. Let me say to you as parents that you are *very lucky* people to be able to send your children to Thompson. This is a sensational school in every way – great students, wonderful teachers/staff and a caring atmosphere where I believe children are about as happy as they can be in school. My career here is something I am extremely proud of and I will never forget Thompson Middle School.

Language Arts Department Carl Gentry, Coordinator

As summer approaches, many parents ask their children's teachers what they can do over the vacation to help facilitate literacy. In addition, research states that students experience a loss in literacy skills if they don't put reading and writing into practice during the summer. Family literacy activities are highly beneficial for helping students to become better readers and writers. Therefore, I would like to inform readers about a wonderful website by Read, Write, Think, a division of the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) called *Summer Activities, Learning Beyond the Classroom*, and it can be found at <http://www.readwritethink.org/beyondtheclassroom/summer/>. It contains many useful middle-school age appropriate resources and activities presented by Read, Write, Think literacy experts. Here is a sampling of literacy activities that you and your child can explore as listed on the website:

[Explore Summers Past and Present](#)
Children think about their own

memories and answer questions before asking the same questions of someone older.

[Finding Poetry in Pleasure Reading](#)

Children will have fun as they write "found poems," poetic versions of the books and magazines they're already reading.

[Make a Magnetic Poetry Set](#)

Let children practice using different types of words in a fill-in-the-blank game before making their own list.

[A Trip to the Museum](#)

Whether your visit to a museum or art gallery is live or online, children can find inspiration for storytelling from paintings or other works of art.

[Celebrate Heroes](#)

Encourage children to think and write about what makes a hero and who their personal heroes might be.

[Comics and Graphic Novels](#)

After reading a book, help children create a comic book or cartoon version of major scenes from the story.

Other useful resources include young adult booklists, including outstanding

young adult literature, podcasts and videos, and writing "starter" activities such as the Mystery Cube and Letter Generator. Children can also keep a reading record and share their opinions. The following are some additional suggestions to encourage your reader:

- Parents can show their child that reading is fun by reading the same book. Discuss the book together.
- Encourage your child to read newspaper and magazine articles and discuss current events or sports with them.
- Visit the Public Library and book stores frequently with your child to find books that interest both of you.

Sixth-grade student, Cara Introcaso, is a winner in the 2008 Luna Kaufman Writing and Art Contest sponsored by The Center for Holocaust Studies at Brookdale Community College. She was presented with a \$50 United States Savings Bond for her winning poem entitled, "Remember the Times" and had her work honored in an awards assembly at the Center's Annual Colloquium. Congratulations, Cara!

2008 Thompson Girls Softball Team Coach: Ms. Vaccarella

The girl's softball team is made up of a talented mix of 7th and 8th graders who have a great personality, talent and work well together. They are motivated, talented and determined. Team captains were Lauren Hymanson, Allison Nolan and Deanna Gambino. We started off the season with a win against our rival Thorne and played competitively against Matawan and Hazlet. Our record stands undefeated with an 11-0 record.

I am extremely proud of all the girls who made this season successful. I wish those moving on to high school good luck and those returning next season to continue their efforts to improve their skills in order to have another great season. I am very proud to coach such a fine group of girls this season. Many thanks to my team managers, Julie Chenoweth and Gianna Fisher, who helped keep the book. Finally, thanks to all our fans, parents, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Houston and Mr. Baglivio who come to watch and support us at our home and away games.

The following girls are members of the Thompson Softball Team:

TEAM MANAGERS: Julie Chenoweth and Gianna Fisher

Erica Falvey – 3rd

Larisa Chiesa - SS

Kelsey Lawrence – 1st

Katie Henry - SS

Jill Troiano – P, OF

Megan Davidson - C

Tara Cangialosi – SS, OF

Abbey Schulz -P

Gabi Pirro – SS, OF

Marisa Capelli – 2nd

Allison Nolan - P

Maria Herring - LF

Deanna Gambino – P, OF

Juliette LaFerlita – 3rd

Lauren Hymanson – 2nd

Hope Nilson - SS

Gabby Tiziani - CF

Shannon Cotterell - C

Patrice Marcola - LF

Danielle Bardell - C

Tina Naha – 3rd

Taylor Landis - RF

Abby Tava - P

Casey Raguseo- 1st

Mathematics Department News Mr. Mark Sessa, Coordinator

The following students were the top finishers in the math contests:

CBA Math Contest: **Andrea D'Souza**, grade 8

Thompson finished 9th overall, Public School Div.

AMC-8 Contest: **Andrea D'Souza**, grade 8 & **Frank Tota**, grade 8 (tied)

American Scholastic Mathematics Contest: **Matt Littenberg**, grade 8

Thompson MS finished 18th out of 66 schools

The overall standings are:

1st **Matt Littenberg**

2nd **Andrea D'Souza**

3rd **Frank Tota**

4th **Brian George**

5th **Garrett Davey**

6th **Jerry Lunanuova**

7th **Billy Sansone**

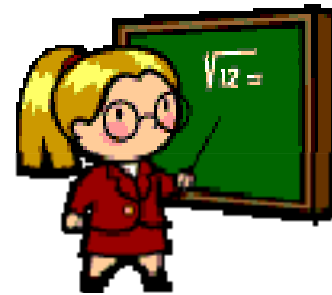
8th **Anthony Yang**

Samantha Peterson

9th **Sam Altland**

Claire Griffin

Will Mavrode



Thompson School Rules!!

Sigma Mathematics Contest: **Andrea D'Souza**, grade 8

Sam Altland, grade 7

Ryan McKinney, grade 6

Thompson MS finished 48th out of 180 schools

The overall results are:

Grade 8

1st **Andrea D'Souza**

2nd **Matt Littenberg**

3rd **Chris Daubert**

Frank Tota

4th **Brian George**

Grade 7

1st **Sam Altland**

2nd **Billy Sansone**

3rd **Alyssa Centagorda**

4th **Tommy DiMeo**

5th **Ryan Chasco**

Grade 6

1st **Ryan McKinney**

2nd **Alex Sundt**

3rd **Costa Costidas**

4th **Andre Le**

Julia Castellano

Guidance News

The guidance counselors have just completed the arduous task of facilitating the NJ ASK tests in the building. We want to thank our students and parents for the cooperation in this annual endeavor. According to the state, the results are due back in August at which time they will be mailed home.

Mr. Gomulka has been busy prepping the 8th graders for high school as well as getting set up for next year's incoming 6th graders.

There will be 5th grade orientation programs at Thompson during the school day on May 27th and 28th.

Mrs. Mason and Mr. Anderson are accumulating the various data to determine advanced placements in Language Arts and Mathematics for next year's 7th and 8th grades.

This year's NJ ASK test results will be mailed home in August.

By Mr. Jim Anderson

Looking ahead:

Students will find out their 2008-09 homerooms in Mr. Houston's summer mailing. (It usually arrives mid- to late August.) All students receive their full schedules in homeroom on the first day of school.

Lastly, Thompson community and I want to wish Mrs. Mason the best in her retirement. She will be missed by the students, parents and faculty members who had the opportunity to work with her.

Have a great summer and we will see everyone in September.

Science News

Submitted by Mrs. Jessurun

The science department at Thompson would like to thank the community for supporting us by passing the budget. We would like to extend our appreciation to the PFA for their generous science grants. Finally, we want all the parents of our students to know how much their support and assistance throughout the school year has been appreciated and helpful. We hope everyone has a pleasant and healthy summer and we look forward to seeing the students next fall.

Miss MacDonald's 6th and 8th grade classes are both exploring the world of chemistry. To jump start this unit, they conducted an ice cream lab. The students were able to explore how a liquid turns into a solid through freezing. The ice cream was a gummy treat too.

Mrs. Nelson's 8th grade classes will be exploring deep inside the Earth to discover how rocks and minerals are formed and how the Earth's crust is in constant motion. Her 7th grade classes are exploring space and will be focusing on one of the planets as part of a group project. Mrs. Nelson's 6th grade classes will be doing a lot of hands on experimentation as they delve into the world of forces and motion, relating concepts to their everyday lives.

Mrs. Van Fecthman's 7th graders are finishing their study of astronomy, launching rockets and making ice cream. The 8th graders will also make ice cream and study maps and the changing surface of Earth.

Mr. Jacoves students are learning about how they impact the environment and his 7th graders are studying the parts of the cell. Please look for his article on what the environmental club will be doing.

Mrs. Resnick's 6th graders are completing their study of microorganisms after growing and viewing them under the microscope. They will be doing many labs on forces and motion. Her 8th grade classes will be studying light and looking through spectrosopes. She has many labs planned.

Mrs. Jessurun's 6th grade classes have completed their projects on catapults and Rube Goldberg machines. They have done many labs on inclined planes, heat transfer, work and energy. They will be learning about microbes in the next book. The 8th graders have completed their study of light and sound with many hands-on experiments. Their last book will be on environmental science.

Mr. Newfeld's classes are completing their study of animals and will study astronomy. He has some sites that the children may want to visit on line.

Graduation 2008

Commencement for your son/daughter is approaching and we are planning to make it a memorable occasion. Your cooperation is needed in the following guidelines listed below:

COMMENCEMENT:

Where:	<i>Brookdale Community College Gymnasium</i>
When:	<i>June 18, 2008</i>
Time:	<i>2:30 PM</i>

ADMISSION:

- 1. Each eighth grade student will be entitled to five invitations. The invitation serves as a ticket .*
- 2. If more than five invitations are needed, please send a written request to the main office by May 30.*
- 3. Younger children must be seated with you.*
- 4. Admission to the ceremony is tightly controlled to ensure seats for parents and relatives.*

DRESS CODE:

- 1. The boys will wear a shirt and tie, dress pants and shoes. (NO sandals, flip-flops, sneakers, etc.)*
- 2. The girls will wear an appropriate dress and shoes. (NO sandals, flip-flops, sneakers etc.)*
- 3. Students are not to chew gum or talk once the processional starts.*
- 4. Girls will wear the white collar with their gown.*

CEREMONY:

- 1. Commencement will be held at Brookdale Community College gymnasium.
Students will report to Brookdale at 2:00 PM sharp.*
- 2. The ceremony will last approximately one and a quarter hours.*
- 3. Please hold applause until all names are called.*
- 4. Please note that the gym **is** air-conditioned.*

PARTICIPANTS:

- 1. Students who have completed requirements and have attended all rehearsals will participate in the ceremony.*
- 2. Students who are uncooperative during rehearsal or prior to the ceremony will be awarded their diplomas privately.*
- 3. Students who are late in reporting on the day of commencement may **not be** permitted to participate. Thank you for your cooperation.*
- 4. Students must have turned in all Board of Education property, i.e. books, locks etc. or pay for such items (checks made payable to Thompson Middle School).*
- 5. If for some good reason your child cannot attend this ceremony please advise me in writing.*

Patrick C. Houston, Principal

MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL CALENDAR 2008/2009

September (20 / 18)	1 Schools Closed-Labor Day 2 Professional Day/First Day for Staff 3 Professional Day for Staff 4 First Day for Students 30 Schools Closed-Holiday
October (22 / 21)	9 School Closed-Holiday 20 Schools Closed-Professional Day for Staff
November (14 / 14)	4 Schools Closed-Election Day 6 Schools Closed-NJEA Convention 7 Schools Closed-NJEA Convention 11 Schools Closed-Veterans Day 20-25 Early Dismissal-Elementary Conferences (K-5 only) 26 Early Dismissal-Thanksgiving Day Recess 27-28 Schools Closed-Thanksgiving Recess
December (17 / 17)	23 Early Dismissal-Winter Recess Begins
January (19 / 19)	5 Schools Reopen 19 Schools Closed-Martin Luther King Jr. Day
February (19 / 18)	9 Schools Closed- Professional Day for Staff 16 Schools Closed-Presidents. Day
March (22 / 22)	
April (16 /16)	3 Schools Close at End of Day-Spring Recess 14 Schools Reopen
May (20 / 20)	25 Schools Closed-Memorial Day
June (18 / 17)	23 Last Day for Students 24 School Closed-Last Day for Teachers

Total Possible # of Days (Teachers/Students): 187/182

M.P. 1	Elementary Sept. 4 . Nov. 10 (42 days) Secondary Sept. 4 . Nov. 13 (44 days)
M.P. 2	Elementary Nov. 12 . Jan. 29 (46 days) Secondary Nov. 14 . Jan. 29 (44 days) Elementary Conferences Nov. 20 (evening), 21, 24, 25 Mid-Term Exams (HS only): Jan. 30, Feb. 2, 3, 4
M.P. 3	Elementary Jan. 30 . Apr. 3 (44 days) Secondary Feb. 5 . Apr. 17 (44 days)
M.P. 4	Elementary Apr. 14 . June 16 (45 days) Secondary Apr. 20 . June 17 (42 days) Final Exams (HS only): June 18, 19, 22, 23 (Seniors: June 17, 18, 19, 22)

NOTE: Two (2) emergency days are included. Additional emergency closing days will be rescheduled by the Board of Education to reach a minimum of one hundred eighty (180) days for students. Any changes to the school calendar(s) will be at the discretion of the Board of Education. The list of religious holidays will be forwarded when received from the State Department of Education. Should staff absent themselves from scheduled day(s) for State holiday(s), they will make up the day(s) as assigned by the Administration, during the winter or spring breaks.