



Middletown Township Public Schools

Thorne Middle School
70 Murphy Road
Port Monmouth, NJ 07758
(732) 787-1220

District Website: www.middletownk12.org

Mary Ellen Walker, Superintendent

Shannon Smith, Principal

James Homiak, Assistant Principal

2021-2022 Academic Year

Dear Parents & Guardians,

The *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)* was passed by the U.S. Congress and signed into law on December 10, 2015. The ESSA replaces the *No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)* and is the latest reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

Although *NCLB* was designed to make changes in teaching and learning in order to increase students' academic achievement, the Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) provision under *NCLB* was eliminated from the ESSA. Despite this fact, all educators in New Jersey still are required to hold the appropriate state certificate/license for their given position.

Under the ESSA, all schools receiving Title I funds must inform parents of their right to ask schools about the professional qualifications of their child's teachers and paraprofessionals. Our school receives Title I funding and we are happy to share this information with you upon your request.

New Jersey has some of the most qualified teachers in the country, and we are extremely proud of the quality of the teaching staff in the Middletown Township Public Schools. All our regular teachers have college degrees and many have advanced degrees. In addition, every teacher continues learning through professional development activities and our teachers are evaluated each year to make sure that their teaching skills remain at the highest possible level.

I encourage you to support your child's education and communicate with your child's teacher(s) on a regular basis. For more information on *ESSA*, and the role of parents, please visit the United States Department of Education's (USDE) website at <http://www.ed.gov/essa>

By partnering, families and educators can provide your child with the best education possible. Attached to this letter is our annual compact. Please review and return to the school.

Yours in education,

Shannon Smith

Mrs. Shannon Smith

“Fairness is giving a child what he/she needs, not treating them all the same.”

A Student-Focused Community



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2021-2022 School-Parent Compact

Thorne Middle School, and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the State's high standards. This school-parent compact is in effect during the 2021-2022 school year.

Thorne Middle School will:

1. Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards as follows:
 - a. Personalized learning opportunities
 - b. BOE approved curriculum implementation
 - c. Offer extra support as outlined by individual teachers
 - d. Offer intervention and G&T programs where applicable
 - e. Assess student achievement regularly
2. Provide parents with frequent reports on their children's progress. Specifically, the school will provide reports as follows:
 - a. Report cards
 - b. IEP & 504 annual review meetings
 - c. I&RS meetings based on student needs
3. Provide parents reasonable access to staff. Specifically, staff will be available for consultation with parents as follows:
 - a. Via email with a 24 hour response rate
 - b. Via phone call and in-person meeting as mutually scheduled
4. Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and to observe classroom activities.

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Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

I realize that my child's school years are very important. I also understand that my participation in my child's education will help his/her attitude and achievement. Therefore, I agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability.

We, as parents, will support our children’s learning in the following ways:

- Monitoring attendance
- Making sure my child gets to school on time each day
- Making sure that classroom extensions/homework are completed
- Give my child a quiet place to read/work.
- Monitoring screen time of their children
- Volunteering in my school when available
- Participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to my children’s education
- Promoting positive use of my child’s extracurricular time
- Staying informed about my child’s education and communicating with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school or the school district either received by my child, email, or by mail and responding, as appropriate

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Student Responsibilities

As a student, I know my education is important to me. It will help me become a better person. I know my parents/guardians want to help me, but I am the one who has to do the work. Therefore, I agree to do the following:

- Do my class work on time.
- Be at school on time unless I am sick.
- Be responsible for my own behavior.
- Pay attention and do my work.
- Participate in virtual learning activities

Student Name: _____

Grade: 6 7 8

Student Signature

Date

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Title I Annual Parent Meeting

October 7, 2021 @ 4:30 PM

Thorne Middle School Cafeteria

Please join us as we provide information to parents about Title I, Part A of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)*. Title I is the federal program that allocates funding to local school districts to improve the academic achievement of low performing students, particularly in English Language Arts and/ or Math. At this meeting, we will talk about our Title I program in addition to the following items:

- How your child was identified for Title I services
- The assessments we use and what they mean
- How we will help your child meet state proficiency goals
- Activities that you can do at home to help your child succeed
- How you can be involved in the Title I program at school
- District and School-Level Parental Involvement Policies
- School-Parent Compact

We look forward to seeing you at the meeting!