



# LITTLE SILVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

124 Willow Drive, Little Silver, NJ 07739

Dr. Carolyn M. Kossack  
Superintendent of Schools

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August 24, 2012

Dear Parents,

As the summer is nearing its end, I want to extend a warm *Welcome Back* to all as we begin the 2012-2013 school year. As always, this has been a busy, but exciting, summer.

This year Little Silver welcomes a new Supervisor of Special Services - Ms. JoAnn Riley. We are fortunate to have Ms. Riley as part of our Administrative Team! Further, we have only a few new teaching staff members, most of whom previously served in long term leave positions and then were offered permanent positions in the district. New staff members include:

- Mrs. Allison Capone                      Fourth Grade Teacher
- Ms. Alyssa DelGuercio                  Fifth Grade Teacher
- Ms. Rachel Kurnit                        Third Grade Teacher
- Mrs. Meghan Moran                      Maternity leave replacement for Mrs. Latriano (Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>-Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>)
- Mr. Brent Shibla                         Maternity leave replacement for Mrs. Taylor (Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>-Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>)

We are pleased to have hired such a high caliber group of individuals who will enable the Little Silver School district to maintain our quality programs.

In addition to the new staff, we have some staff members who will be in a different assignment for the upcoming year. Those assignment changes include:

- Mrs. Carol Anderson                      Moving from Fourth Grade to Fifth Grade
- Mr. Ryan Hance                         Moving from Third Grade to Fourth Grade
- Ms. Cara McGuigan                       Moving from Special Education to Third Grade

We are excited about all of the new staff changes! Another change for the upcoming school year is the school hours. As indicated in my July 10<sup>th</sup> letter, the time difference at Markham Place will be nominal. In September, the start time will be 8:10 AM, with the first bell ringing at 8:07 AM. Dismissal time will remain the same – 3:00 PM. The Point Road schedule will be altered at both ends. Students will be gaining twenty additional minutes - ten extra minutes at both ends. The Point Road school day will now begin promptly at 8:05 AM and end at 2:55 PM.

As you know, the bridge construction on Seven Bridges Road is underway. We do not anticipate that this will significantly impact drop-off procedures at Point Road. Parents will continue to drop students off in the side lot at Point Road that abuts Seven Bridges Road. Therefore, police will allow vehicles to turn onto Seven Bridges and into the lot for drop-off purposes. ***No u-turns are permitted on Little Silver Point Road.*** Parents who pick up their children should park on Lippincott.

There is a pedestrian walkway on the existing bridge. A modular pedestrian bridge is in place but not yet open. That bridge will be functioning before the bridge is replaced. ***There will always be a pedestrian passage on either the existing bridge or the modular bridge.*** Therefore, if possible, parents are encouraged to walk with their children to school to avoid unnecessary traffic issues.



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We will continue to use the ***Two River Alert*** system to inform you of all emergency situations as well as non-emergency related events. This alert system is set up so you can either receive all information or only emergency phone call information (primarily snow closures). **PHONE CALLS WILL BE USED ONLY FOR EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.** All other communication will be via text messaging or emails. If you are already a registered user, you need not re-register. Parents who may be new residents can sign up for Two River Alert free of charge at the school district's homepage, the municipality's website, or [www.tworiveralert.com](http://www.tworiveralert.com). Once you log onto the site you can customize your subscriptions and choose the types of alerts you wish to receive. As noted above, ***phone calls will only be used for emergency situations.*** We will use text messaging and email alerts for a wide variety of communication including, but not limited to, upcoming events, club/sports cancellations, field trip information, etc. Please take this into consideration when customizing your subscription. Further, if information is sent to a particular grade level (i.e. memo to 7<sup>th</sup> grade parents regarding Camp Bernie trip) you will only receive it if you sign up for grade-specific alerts. **Communication from my office will be in the form of an alert which will direct you to the district's website to read my letters. Hard copies will not be sent home.**

On a final note, as summer draws to an end, I grow increasingly more excited about the start of the school year. Through the ongoing support of the Education Foundation of Little Silver (EFLS), eight more of our classrooms have been outfitted with Smart Boards and other technologies. As you know, we live in a world whereby our economy is driven by innovation and knowledge. As our country works to compete internationally in fiercely competitive marketplaces, our nation has set high academic standards for public school education and certainly for technology integration in the content areas. Our nation's leaders recognize that 21<sup>st</sup> Century education is the bedrock to our success in international competition. Your local tax dollars, coupled with the generosity of the EFLS, has enabled us to continue to put technology in the hands of the teachers and students.

Similarly, the unyielding support of our PTO is truly amazing! The Little Silver PTO supports numerous activities and programs that further enrich your children's education. They provide Cultural Arts programs for both schools; support teacher grant applications that enable our teachers to purchase a variety of materials to support instruction; and sponsor all of the field day and carnival barbeques, just to name a few. Most importantly, the PTO is always willing to support district initiatives in a variety of ways such as purchasing classroom libraries.

Again, I thank both the EFLS and the PTO for their continued support of our schools and programs. I look forward to seeing your children on September 6<sup>th</sup>. I am excited to begin the 2012-2013 school year, and I thank you for serving as our partners in education.

Welcome back!

Sincerely,

Carolyn M. Kossack  
Superintendent of Schools