



# Mannington Township School District

*"The Pride of Mannington"*

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*Dr. Loren Thomas*  
*Superintendent*

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*Principal*

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Parents, Staff, and Students,

As we complete the second marking period I feel as if the time has accelerated and before you know it we will be dismissing the students for summer recess. You know the saying, "Time flies when you are having fun." In my case, "Time flies when you are doing a job that you love."

As the year has progressed I have witnessed our students gaining more and more knowledge, the staff challenging the students and themselves to learn and teach new curriculum, and a climate that is both positive and educationally sound. Although our school is small by comparison to other schools I feel that it is a positive because our students get the attention they deserve and academic progress can be accelerated. I feel that our students have a connection to the staff and administration that is sometimes lacking in other school settings and impedes their ability to be comfortable and successful. As we continue to prepare the students for the NJASK that will be taking place in April and May I know our teachers feel the stress and pressure to adequately prepare our children. The amount of material and timeline makes our teaching staff remain extremely focused and maximize their instructional time in order to cover the material needed to be successful. Just recently the Mannington School was the only Kindergarten through Eighth grade district mentioned in Salem County for having a large percentage of students being successful in both the math and language arts. There have been several things within the building that I feel are going to contribute to the continued success of our students. In third grade the students have recently been introduced to a web based math program called IXL. This program has been utilized to supplement and reinforce concepts to the students both in class and at home and will be utilized over the summer to reinforce previous lessons and allow students to move forward with concepts and applications that aide them in future grade levels. The laptop cart that was purchased last year is being utilized by many classes involving different educational needs. Our updated math program for kindergarten through fifth grade will show it's dividends when the students take the NJASK. Even small things like our cafeteria serving Snapple under the advisement of our new formed Student Council or themed days that the students participate have created a positive climate by which our students feel a part of, and make them feel safe, secure, and motivated to learn. The staff continues to increase the teaching through ongoing professional development and constant collegiality both in and out of our building.

In closing, I feel very fortunate to be a part of what I consider one of the best schools in Salem County, South Jersey, and the state and invite anyone to witness the wonderful things that happen within the walls of the Mannington Township School. As we continue our journey together in your child's education please feel free to call or contact us with any questions you may have. I am a firm believer in communication, respect, and a proactive approach to your child's/children's education. Our mission is to give these students the educational foundation that will serve them today and tomorrow and give them the best opportunity to be successful behaviorally, physically, and socially. I wish you and your student a successful remainder of the school year!

Respectfully,  
Jack Swain  
Principal