

MULLICA TOWNSHIP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

500 ELWOOD ROAD
HAMMONTON, NEW JERSEY 08037
(609) 561-3868

VISION STATEMENT

We recognize and nurture the **POTENTIAL** in all students: All students can learn!

We show **GRIT** and **PERSEVERANCE**: We can overcome any obstacles!

We act with **INTEGRITY**:

We always do the right thing because it's the right thing to do!

We value the academic and creative **STRENGTHS** in all students:

Students have many avenues to shine!!

We **RESPECT** ourselves, others, our school, and community:

We consider how our actions affect others!

We take **RESPONSIBILITY** for our actions:

We learn from our mistakes and grow as a result!

We are **READY** for any challenge: We feel safe and supported!

MISSION STATEMENT

In an effort to prepare students to be college and career ready, the mission of the Mullica Township School District is to celebrate diversity by creating an emotionally and behaviorally safe learning environment where academics and the arts are esteemed.

EARLY CHILDHOOD MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to create an emotionally safe and nurturing environment for students to develop and grow as a learner. Building on this social-emotional foundation, students will engage in purposeful play, guided exploration and developmentally appropriate instruction. We believe in partnering with families and the community to ensure a successful learning experience.

UPPER ELEMENTARY MISSION STATEMENT

In an effort to prepare students to be college and career ready, the mission of the Mullica Township School District is to celebrate diversity by creating an emotionally and behaviorally safe learning environment where academics and the arts are esteemed.

SCHOOL COLORS

Green & White

MASCOT

Coyotes

WELCOME

Welcome to Mullica Township Elementary School. All students attending the Mullica Township School are given the expectations and regulations as presented and explained in this handbook. This handbook is designed to provide parents and students with information regarding regulations and procedures followed by the school district. Students, you are responsible for the information found in this student handbook.

Throughout the school year, you have the responsibility to obey school regulations and the school authorities who enforce them. This responsibility extends to your conduct to and from school, as well as the building itself.

It is our hope that you will be proud of your school and that your experience here will be pleasant and rewarding.

TRIMESTER DATES

Trimesters:

Trimester 1: September 4th – December 5th
Trimester 2: December 8th – March 16th
Trimester 3: March 17th – Last Day of School

PARENT / TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent/Teacher conferences are held during the school year to discuss student's progress. Conferences may be set up at any time through the Guidance Office.

- November 3rd & 4th
- February 11th & 12th

ARRIVAL / DISMISSAL

The Mullica Township Board of Education requires that students be in attendance for the full day in order to benefit from the instructional program. Students who are late to school or leave early miss essential portions of the instructional program and create disruptions in the academic process for themselves and other students. Parents/guardians are to make every effort to schedule medical and dental appointments after school hours.

- Students are to arrive no earlier than 8:30 AM. No students will be permitted in the building or out of their vehicle before 8:30 am unless they are participating in a school activity, Morning ACES (grades 3 and 4) or are registered with the YMCA program.
- Students who are registered for the YMCA program may report to the school at 6:45 AM. The YMCA runs daily from 6:45 AM - 8:30 AM and from dismissal to 6:00 PM unless stated otherwise by the YMCA.
- Students in grades 3 and 4 who are registered for Morning ACES may report to the school at 7:30 AM. Morning ACES runs daily from 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM and dismissal to 6:25 PM unless stated otherwise by the program.
- Homeroom begins at 8:40 AM and ends at 8:49 AM. Any student arriving at or after 8:40 AM will be marked tardy. Excessive and/or unexcused tardiness may result in a disciplinary consequence.
- No students will be signed out after 2:45 PM on a full day or 12:30 PM on an early dismissal day.
- Afternoon ACES dismisses at 6:25 PM unless stated otherwise by the ACES program.
- Student dismissal is at 3:25 PM.

ATTENDANCE

The Mullica Township Board of Education recognizes the educational significance of student attendance. NJAC 6:8-4, 2(d) legislates an attendance policy that requires student attendance on the days and hours that school is in session. In the event of an absence, students are responsible for making up any missed assignments.

Parents/guardians are requested to call the school (609-561-3868, ext. 150) prior to the start of the school day (by 8:30 AM to inform the school of their child's absence).

For the safety of our students, an automated phone call is generated by our student information system each time a student is tardy or absent. You may disregard this call if you are aware that your child is absent/tardy or if you have already reported the absence to the school.

ATTENDANCE AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR PARTICIPATION

When a student is absent from school for any reason, he/she is excluded from school property and is not able to attend any school activities, including practices and athletic events on the day the student is absent. Students will be denied participation in co-curricular activities if their attendance falls beyond the allotted 10 days of unexcused absences.

INTERNET, CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Internet:

The Mullica Township Board of Education has adopted a policy on the use of the Internet. The purpose of the system is to assist in preparing students for success in life and work in the 21st century by providing them with electronic access to a wide range of resources and information. Students must have a signed parental consent form to use Internet services. Use of the Internet will occur under the direct supervision of a staff member.

As outlined in Board policy and procedures on student rights and responsibilities, copies of which available on the school website, the following are not permitted:

- Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures
- Harassing, insulting, or attacking others
- Violating copyright laws
- Using another student's account
- Intentionally wasting limited resources
- Using obscene language
- Damaging computers, computer systems, or computer network
- Trespassing in another students' folder, work, or files
- Employing the network/computer for commercial purposes

Violations may result in loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action. Additional disciplinary action may be determined at the building level in line with existing practice regarding inappropriate language or behavior.

Cell Phones:

Though students are permitted to bring cell phones and other electronic equipment to school, their use during school hours is prohibited. All electronics, with the exception of school-issued Chromebooks, must be kept in backpacks and turned off during school hours. A student in possession of a cellular phone or other electronic device may be disciplined in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. Such equipment may be confiscated from a student. In emergency situations, students may use the office phones to contact parents or guardians. This rule may be revised with prior classroom teachers' approval.

Headphones:

Headphones are permitted to be in school for educational purposes only and require teacher permission for such use. Headphones (with wires or wireless) are not permitted to be visible in the hallways, or in students' ears when they are not using them for educational purposes. A student with headphones visible in the hallways may be disciplined.

Smartwatches:

Students are permitted to wear smartwatches to school, however, their use for anything other than checking the time is prohibited. A student caught texting or utilizing their smartwatch inappropriately at school may be disciplined according to the Code of Conduct.

Chromebooks:

Students should keep in mind that Chromebooks are provided by the school and loaned to him/her for the length of time that he/she attends Mullica Township School. While optional insurance **may** cover the cost of a lost, stolen, or damaged Chromebook, gross negligence and/or multiple damages incurred will result in a fine commensurate with the replacement item (examples: cracked screen/charger). Students are required to use their school-issued Chromebook case, be mindful of their Chromebook in their book bags and come to school each day with the device fully charged. Please see the "Chromebook Information" tab on the district website for more information.

MEDICATION

Any student who requires medication during school hours must:

1. Have medicine delivered to the school nurse in its original, labeled container by the Student's parent/guardian. Students may not deliver medicine to school. It is vitally important that this policy be followed to ensure the safety of all the students in the district.
2. Present a written consent form signed by the parent or legal guardian.
3. Have the prescribing physician complete the school district medication permission form.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

The following dress code was developed in consultation with staff members, parents, and students of this district.

A. General Rules

1. Students are expected to be clean and well groomed in their appearance.
2. Students are expected to avoid extremes in appearance that are so disruptive or distracting that the reaction of other students is disruptive to the educational process (administrative discretion).
3. Dress or grooming that jeopardizes the health and safety of the student or of other students, or is injurious to school property will not be permitted.

B. Prohibited Clothing and Articles

The following garments and articles are prohibited in school and at school-sponsored events:

1. Tank tops of any kind
2. Extremely low-cut, tight fitting or transparent clothes, bare midriffs, or suggestive clothing
3. Skirts, dresses, or pants that end higher than mid-thigh
4. Shorts that end higher than mid-thigh
5. Outdoor jackets, coats or hats worn in the building/classroom
6. Bare feet, unsafe footwear, cleated shoes, or footwear that is intended for the beach; shoes should have a back or back strap
7. Patches, decorations, or T-shirts that are offensive or obscene (administrative discretion)
8. Undershirts (underwear) worn without an outer shirt, or boxer shorts worn as outerwear
9. Pants worn far below the waist
10. Clothing that is overly soiled, torn, worn, frayed, or defaced
11. Non-prescriptive sunglasses, glazed, or tinted glasses; except as prescribed by the student's doctor
12. Sleepwear (pajamas)

- 13. Torn or frayed jeans
- 14. Jewelry that is distracting or dangerous (No spikes, pins etc.)

BUS TRANSPORTATION

Students may only ride their assigned bus. Students are not permitted to ride another student's bus. Students are expected to exhibit appropriate bus behavior. A student who receives a bus write-up will be referred to the principal for further disciplinary action. Consequences issued will be in line with the school discipline code. Continuous offenses may result in bus exclusion.

A. Rules & Regulations for Bus Students

- The discipline code of conduct will be enforced on the bus.
- Students are to keep the bus clean.
- Students are to keep their head, hands, and feet inside the bus.
- Students should not eat food, candy or chew gum on the bus.
- When the driver assigns special seats, children should accept them without argument.
- There is to be no standing or walking while the bus is in motion.
- Younger children waiting at a bus stop should be allowed to enter the bus first.
- Children must get on and off the bus at the assigned stop only and cross the street in front of the bus.
- Safe and orderly behavior is expected on the way to and from the bus stop and while waiting for the bus.

GRADES

Parents and students have the ability to track grades through the OnCourse Parent Portal. Grades should be checked frequently.

The academic subjects of reading, language, math, science, and social studies are graded according to the following scale:

A = excellent	D = below average
B = above average	F = failure
C = average	I = incomplete

All specials courses are graded according to the following scale:

O = outstanding	N = needs improvement
S = satisfactory	U = unsatisfactory (equivalent to failure)
P = pass	F = fail
I = incomplete	

HONOR ROLL

After each trimester, students attaining the criteria noted below achieve honor roll status.

"A" Honor Roll Requirements

- "A" in all subject areas
- "O" (Outstanding) or "S" (Satisfactory) grades in all special areas

"A-B" Honor Roll Requirements

- "A" or "B" in all subject areas
- "O" (Outstanding) or "S" (Satisfactory) grades in all special areas

RETENTION POLICY

Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and pupils shall be regularly informed during the school year of the pupil's progress toward meeting promotion standards. A teacher who determines that a pupil's progress may not be sufficient to meet promotion standards shall notify the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and the pupil, and offer immediate consultation to the pupil's parent(s) or legal guardian(s).

SCHOOL CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS, ACTIVITIES

Students at the elementary school level have the opportunity to participate in various extra-curricular activities, all of which are noted below. Attendance at meetings is critical; therefore, students need to decide which activity is most important to them and limit their activity selection. All activities require that a student not fail more than one (1) subject, not be absent ten (10) or more unexcused days, and maintain a good discipline record.

ACES (3rd & 4th Grades) Band (4th Grade) Student Council Drama

GUIDANCE

The guidance department provides assistance to the students in the following areas, but not limited to:

- Social/Emotional counseling
- Group counseling or individual counseling
- Crisis counseling and referrals

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSINGS

The school will attempt to notify all families of school closings, delayed openings, or early dismissals via an automated phone message system and/or via email. Please make sure your contact information is up-to-date to ensure you receive the information. You may update contact information directly on the OnCourse Connect Parent Portal.