



A Note
from the
Principal

Sue O'Shea,
Marvin School Principal
October Newsletter

Attendance:

- This week students who had **PERFECT ATTENDANCE** for the month of September are receiving a perfect attendance bracelet.
 - In your teacher assignment letter, I included a letter explaining how I was going to be focusing on attendance throughout the year and students who have perfect attendance – which includes no tardies (arriving to school after the morning announcements) and no early dismissals would be rewarded.
- Being present for the **ENTIRE** school day is extremely important to your child's learning.
 - A total of 312 students started out with perfect attendance, but 91 students were either late to school or left early.
 - October is a new month. All students have the opportunity to have perfect attendance!!!

Attendance PART TWO:

This week, chronically absent letters will be sent home to parents of children who have missed more than 10% of school

- Chronic absences are determined by the number of school days (opportunities to learn) by the number of absences a child has for the month.
 - What does this mean??? If your child was absent for three or more days during the month, your child was chronically absent!
- Again, each month is a new start as the number of school days increases.
 - Coming to school is important.
 - Any parent who receives two chronically absent letters will be asked to come to school to meet with the attendance team.

Testing

With the exception of one last test that will be administered to third grade students on October 2nd, all Beginning of Year (BOY) testing has been completed.

- The teachers are busy using this information to provide the appropriate instruction for your child.
- We are happy to be finished with testing and can now work on daily focused instruction.

Newsletter

- I have decided to try to go as green as possible. Last year I would send home the monthly newsletter to all parents in both English and Spanish.
 - This year I will be utilizing School Messenger to send home the newsletter.
 - The newsletter is also posted in the Marvin School website.
 - I have a list of parents who do not have access to email or the internet.
 - The newsletter is being printed and sent home to these families only.
 - After sending out last month's newsletter I found that many email addresses were **Blocked** and that meant the newsletter did not get to you.
 - I sent home a request to remove the block from the email. In the meantime, I have discovered that Blocked means that emails and messages from either myself or the school district went into your SPAM or JUNK files. Please be sure to allow emails from the Norwalk Public Schools and from the Marvin PTA and from me to enter your inbox. It is important to stay informed especially now that I am trying to go paper-free.

I need your help

- If you walk your dog at Marvin School – please be sure to pick up after it.
 - One of the best things about the location of Marvin is the wide open space we share with the dog park.
 - One of the worst things about the location of the school is the dog park.
 - Please remind anyone you know who walks their dog near the school to pick up after it!!
 - And this does not mean placing the waste inside the recyclable bins on the side of the school. ☹

Safety drills

- Each month we contact a variety of safety drills.
 - In September we had a fire drill as well as a lock down drill.
 - Your children did a fantastic job of staying calm and following the directions of their teachers during both drills.
 - Next month I will provide you with a list of the types of drills we do and explain what they are so if your children tell you about a lock down drill you know what they are talking about.

Just a reminder

- It is extremely important that you inform the school if your phone number, emergency contact person, or address changes during the school year. We need to be able to contact you at any time.