

**UPPER DEERFIELD TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY BULLETIN
NOVEMBER 2018**

Thurs., 11/1	Grade 3 Trip to Adventure Aquarium
Fri., 11/2	Veteran's Breakfast at 8:15 (Woodruff School)
Sun., 11/4	Daylight Saving Time Ends (Turn clocks back 1 hour)
Mon., 11/5	PTO Meeting – 6:30 Seabrook Media Center
Wed., 11/7	Fall Picture Make ups for Woodruff and Moore Schools
Thurs., 11/8 Fri., 11/9	SCHOOL CLOSED – NJEA CONVENTION SCHOOL CLOSED – NJEA CONVENTION
Tues., 11/13	Marking Period 1 ends – Report Cards issued during Conferences
Wed., 11/14	Family Night
Thurs., 11/15	Parent/Teacher Conferences – 12:45 Dismissal District-Wide Evening Conferences 6 – 8 PM Seabrook School Fall Picture Make Up Day
Fri., 11/16	Parent/Teacher Conferences – 12:45 Dismissal District-Wide Day Conferences 1 -2:30
Mon., 11/19	Parent/Teacher Conferences – 12:45 Dismissal District-Wide Evening Conferences 6 – 8 PM
Tues., 11/20	Parent/Teacher Conferences – 12:45 Dismissal District-Wide Day Conferences 1 -2:30 Board of Education Meeting – 7PM
Wed., 11/21	Early Dismissal – 12:45 PM District Blue & Gold Day
Thurs., 11/22 Fri., 11/23	SCHOOL CLOSED – THANKSGIVING BREAK SCHOOL CLOSED – THANKSGIVING BREAK
Mon., 11/26	Woodruff School Club Pictures for Yearbook

Marking Period/Report Cards: The first marking period ends on November 7. Report cards will be issued at Parent Conferences November 15, 16, 19, and 20 which are as follows:

Thursday, November 15 - 6pm to 8pm.
Friday, November 16 – 1pm to 2:35pm
Monday, November 19 – 6pm to 8pm
Tuesday, November 20 – 1pm to 2:35pm

Schools Closed/Early Dismissal: Schools will still be closed on November 8 and November 9 for the NJEA Teacher Convention; and November 22 and 23 in observance of Thanksgiving. November 21 is an early dismissal day for students with dismissal at 12:45pm.

Family Night: Upper Deerfield Township School District recognizes the importance of family and spending time together. Each month we will designate one night as family night and no homework will be assigned in the district on these nights. For the month of November this night will be Wednesday, November 14. Mr. Lau and our ACE Music Program is sponsoring a Movie Night this evening as well so come out and relax while enjoying a movie.

Veterans Day: Veterans Day is being celebrated on November 11. Remember to thank our veterans this day for their service to our country. There will be activities in our instructional programming this month to commemorate our veterans for their service to our country. The Woodruff School will be honoring invited veteran guests with a Light Breakfast on Friday, November 2 beginning at 8:15 in the Woodruff School Cafeteria.

School Breakfast: Each day breakfast is available for all our students in our schools. Please make sure your child starts the day with breakfast either at home, or in our cafeterias in Moore, Seabrook, or Woodruff School. **Please note it is important to have your child to school on time as breakfast is served until 8:00am in all three schools to maximize the instructional time of the school day.**

School District Website: www.udts.org Visit the website for important announcements and information. You can put money in your child's lunch account, review board meeting notes, visit teacher webpages for information, and access your child's grades in the parent portal of the GENESIS program.

Election Day: Remember to vote on Tuesday, November 6. This election includes the school board elections along with the regularly scheduled elections.

Residency: Just a reminder if you are found to be a non-resident attending the Upper Deerfield Township Public Schools you will be subject to fines and tuition reimbursement to our district in accordance with state laws. This includes individuals attending on affidavit status as there are fines for the property owner or lease holder in addition to the non-resident student. We have had a few families who have been subject to fines, penalties and tuition cost reimbursement for failing to properly reside within the boundaries of Upper Deerfield and continue to investigate the residency situations of all by law.

Bus Safety:

- All students who ride the bus, as required by law, are to remain seated at all times with their seatbelts on. There are no exceptions and students who do not adhere to the bus rules and bus safety will be subject to disciplinary action which can include a loss of bus riding privileges.
- It is important for parents to be at the bus stop when the students are being returned from school after dismissal. When students have to be returned to school if there is no one to meet the student, the bus drivers are late for their other designated pick-up and return. If there is a regular occurrence of students being returned to our schools, bus privileges will be suspended and the student will be placed in our CER program for parent pick-up with the \$16 daily rate being applied as a charge to the parents/guardians.
- Students are reminded to arrive at their assigned bus stop and wait for the bus in an orderly manner. Running, pushing, playing games or doing something to put yourself or others in danger is prohibited and students violating this code of conduct will be subject to disciplinary action.

Safety Matters: Parents are reminded to adhere to the drop off and pick up zones at times of arrival (7:40 – 8:00) and dismissal (2:15). In addition, please do not block the parking lots by double parking or parking in the access lanes. There are parking spaces available during after school pick up and we ask that you please use them. We are looking into improving our parking areas in the future to provide for more parking. It is important to keep safety at the forefront. Blocking cars creates an unsafe situation and, in the event of an emergency, prevents responders from gaining access to our buildings. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Building Security and Safety: Please remember to sign in when entering the buildings and wear your visitor badge while visiting classrooms. In addition, in the event of an emergency, parents are reminded to refrain from coming to or calling the schools and the cell phone of your child. Our communication with the emergency responders – State Police; Upper Deerfield Emergency Management; County First Responders; and all emergency personnel needing access to our parking lots and buildings needs to be the priority. While we understand the concern, it is imperative that the responders are able to do their jobs as quickly and efficiently as they can during emergency situations. Time is of the essence and the fewer impediments the trained personnel have to deal with, the more effectively they can address the emergency and keep our students and staff safe.

Being at School: Regular attendance in school sets up a good pattern for your child's entire school career. Show him/her that school comes first by trying to only use days off for illnesses and family emergencies. Also, schedule routine doctor and dental appointments for after school or over school breaks.

Helping Your Child Improve Concentration: Looking for a fun way to improve your child's concentration? Try this quick game. The first player makes one motion, like clapping or spinning around. The second person copies him and adds another movement. Continue adding new motions until someone forgets the sequence. The last player to get it right starts a new game.

Complete Care: The Complete Care Clinic located in the William Morris Administration Building is available for routine office visits and other general health care. Consent to Treat Forms have been sent home for your review.

School Closing Information: As the weather is changing, it is important for your information to be updated in our system. The recent school closings due to the weather reminded us of the need to be prepared. Please assist the district by updating your contact information as we use the phone system to notify the parents and students of closing information. If you have an email address, please provide this information to us as well since we are looking to add this feature to our information system. In addition, 6ABC, NBC10, The Press of Atlantic City and our district website provide closing information as well.

Web Sites:

www.udts.org - School district website for calendars, events, portals, and other important information.

NetSmartzKids - Encourage your children to learn about Internet safety at this fun site: www.netsmartzkids.org

<http://www.wonderopolis.org/> Created by the National Center for Family Literacy, Wonderopolis focuses on subjects of which children are curious.

<https://www.mathpapa.com/> - a website that offers an algebra calculator to solve math and algebra problems step by step with lessons and practice to help master math.

<http://www.makemegenius.com/> - a free website that filled with videos that cover a variety of subjects, such as physics for kids, photosynthesis, the nervous system, solar system and electricity. All of the videos are kid-friendly and will keep even your youngest children interested from start to finish.

<https://www.funbrain.com/> a free website that caters to preschoolers through 8th graders.

International Children's Library: <http://en.childrenslibrary.org/>

Quotes Worth Quoting:

"Thanksgiving Day is a jewel, to set in the hearts of honest men; but be careful that you do not take the day, and leave out the gratitude." - E.P. Powell

"I would maintain that thanks are the highest form of thought, and that gratitude is happiness doubled by wonder." - G.K. Chesterton

"The unthankful heart discovers no mercies; but the thankful heart will find, in every hour, some heavenly blessings." - Henry Ward Beecher

Happy Thanksgiving!

We celebrate Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 22. There are many things that we face each day that bring many trials and tribulations to each of us which create difficulty in finding the things for which we should give thanks. When we worry too much about what may happen, we lose sight of what we have in front of us and forget to be grateful for that. We become so lost that we forget what someone did for us yesterday because we want more from them today. Take the time to reflect and regain your focus on Thanksgiving as it is much more than a day off to eat turkey and watch football. If you can take a minute or two on Thanksgiving Day, take some time to reflect and find something to give thanks and take time to relax and enjoy your family and friends. Time does not wait for anyone and it is in these moments that we can truly give thanks and feel blessed for that which we do have for if we have even the smallest of something, that is more than those who have nothing. Happy Thanksgiving to All.