

WELCOME TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT SERVICES

Winter Newsletter 2018

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Celebrations in Professional Development

We have already engaged in hundreds of hours of professional development! Please find some of the topics below:

- Assistive Technologies
- Building Positive Relationships
- Collaborative Problem Solving
- Co-Teaching
- Teaching to Strengths
- Design Loop
- Dialectical Behavior Therapy
- Differentiated Instruction
- Enhancing Student Engagement
- Executive Functioning in the Classroom
- Mindfulness
- Positive Behavior Supports
- Questioning Strategies
- Reading and Writing Strategies
- Social-Emotional Learning
- STEAM in the Classroom
- Transition to Life
- Vocational Programs
- ...and much, much more!

Homework 101

How many evenings do you arrive home with your children, feeling completely overwhelmed by the work you have ahead of you? By work, I mean homework! It can be so difficult to find meaning in the homework your children are assigned, when it feels like the last straw, each and every day. We understand! Homework does in fact serve many instructional purposes, none of which include creating more stress in your home.

Did you know Homework should serve one or more of three purposes?

1. Practice of a skill or skills;
2. Extension of learning;
3. Preparation for learning.

We believe that homework should:

- Provide meaningful practice in a subject area without creating unmanageable stress for you or your child;
- Allow your child to consider learning from the school day in ways that will help to deepen their understanding;
- Provide an opportunity to expand their knowledge, skills, and/or interest in a topic prior to arriving to class in a way that allows them to participate more fully in the learning.

How can we help you to make Homework more manageable?

Hopefully, we will first be able to help by telling you that you are not alone. Kids are tired after school, they are involved in so many after school activities that it is difficult to even begin to figure out how you can manage to find time to eat a family dinner and spend quality time catching up with your children. While we do not think children should be overbooked, we value the time spent in activities that are enjoyable and allow students to expand their interests and skills in fun ways. We should all be modeling living a balanced life for our children.

Next, you should know that we are listening. Last year the District conducted a survey through the Health and Wellness Committee, within which there were lots of questions about homework asked of teachers, students, and parents. The results of this survey helped us to continue our work in the District with teachers on making homework meaningful and manageable. It also prompted our first **Parent Academy on Homework** which will occur on **February 21, 2019** at **7:00 p.m.** in Riker Hill Elementary School for parents of students in grades K-5.

We hope to see you there!

Resources

[KidsHealth Top 10 Homework Tips](#)

[Scholastic 10 Tips for Homework Success](#)

[Homework Tips for Parents](#)



Livingston PUBLIC SCHOOLS

11 Foxcroft Drive - Livingston, New Jersey 07039

PARENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

NOVEMBER 2018

November 27th

Parent Book Club—*Parenting with Positive Behavior Support* for
Parents of Students with a Disability, **Grades 6—8**

Registration required

7:00—9:00 p.m.

Heritage Middle School Media Center

DECEMBER 2018

December 3rd

Parent Book Club, Night 2—*Parenting with Positive Behavior Support* for
Parents of Students with a Disability, **Grades K—5**

Registration required

7:00—8:00 p.m.

Heritage Middle School Media Center



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PARENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

JANUARY 2019

January 10th

PRIDE Parent Workshop
Exiting Evaluations: What to Expect?
2:00—3:00 p.m.
Burnet Hill Elementary School

January 24th

8th Grade Transition Night for
Parents of Students with a Disability
6:00—7:00 p.m.
Livingston High School Media Center

January 24th

8th to 9th Grade Orientation Program for
All Parents
7:00—9:00 p.m.
Livingston High School Auditorium and Breakout Classes

January 31st

“Hidden in Plain Sight” for
All Parents
Presented by the Center for Prevention and Counseling
7:00—8:30 p.m.
Livingston High School Auditorium

FEBRUARY 2019

February 7th

PRIDE Parent Workshop
Creating Behavior Charts for your Home
9:00—10:00 a.m.
Burnet Hill Elementary School

February 21st

Homework: Strategies for Parents
All Parents, Grades K—5
7:00—8:00 p.m.
Riker Hill Elementary School



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PARENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

MARCH 2019

March 4th

PRIDE Open House for Prospective Lottery Integrated Students

2:00—3:00 p.m.

Burnet Hill Elementary School

March 7th

PRIDE Parent Workshop

Physical and Sensory Activities for your Home

2:00—3:00 p.m.

Burnet Hill Elementary School

March 21st

Fairleigh Dickinson University,

Regional Office of Students with Disabilities presentation for

Parents of Students with a Disability

6:00—7:00 p.m.

Livingston High School Cafeteria

March 21st

College Admissions Panel for

All Parents

Livingston High School Auditorium, 7:00—9:00 p.m.

March 28th

“Supporting Children in Reducing Their Stress (and ours) in the Pursuit of Success” for

All Parents

Presented by Dr. Matt Bellace

7:00 p.m.

Heritage Middle School Auditorium



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PARENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

APRIL 2019

April 4th

PRIDE Parent Workshop
Preschool STEAM Exploration Activities for Home
9:00—10:00 a.m.
Burnet Hill Elementary School

April 11th

Post Secondary Support Programs Presentation for
Parents of Students with a Disability, ages 16-21
6:00—7:00 p.m.
Livingston High School Media Center

April 11th

Applying to College for
All Parents, Class of 2020
7:00—9:00 p.m.
Livingston High School Auditorium

April 25th

PRIDE Parent Workshop
Understanding Behaviors
7:00—8:00 p.m.
Burnet Hill Elementary School Media Center

April 25th

Livingston High School College, Career and Transition Fair
7:00—8:30 p.m.
LHS Fitness & Wellness Center/Auxiliary Gym



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PARENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

MAY 2019

May 9th

Managing Expectations of the Junior Year for
Parents of Students with a Disability, Class of 2021
6:00—7:00 p.m.
Livingston High School Media Center

May 9th

Overview of the Junior Year
All Parents, Class of 2021
7:00—9:00 p.m.
Livingston High School Auditorium

May 16th

PRIDE Parent Workshop
The Transition from PRIDE to Kindergarten
6:00—7:00 p.m.
Burnet Hill Elementary School



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PARENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

JUNE 2019

June 6th

Senior Awards and Scholarship Program

7:00—10:00 p.m.

Livingston High School Auditorium

June 12th

6th to 7th Grade Transition Night for
Parents of Students with a Disability

6:30—7:15 p.m.

Heritage Middle School Media Center

June 12th

6th to 7th Grade Transition Night for
All Parents

7:30 p.m.

Heritage Middle School Auditorium

June 13th

5th to 6th Grade Transition Night for
Parents of Students with a Disability

6:30—7:15 p.m.

Mount Pleasant Middle School Media Center

June 13th

5th to 6th Grade Transition Night for
All Parents

7:30 p.m.

Mount Pleasant Middle School Auditorium