



MILDRED BARRY GARVIN SCHOOL
EAST ORANGE SCHOOL DISTRICT
"AS TIGERS WE ROAR. AS TIGERS WE SOAR"

Principal
Mrs. Ivy Peeples, BS. , MAT
Ivy.Peeples@eastorange.k12.nj.us

Dear Garvin Tiger Community:

Welcome to 2020-21!

As we plan for a beginning like no other we have seen in the past, our focus will still be to ensure that:

- **every child, every day is finding a way to feel connected,**
- **every child, every day is being challenged by new learnings and experiences,**
- **and every child, every day knows they have a champion they can turn to.**

Spring of 2020 has challenged staff and students to find a new normal for learning, connected us in new ways and required our champions to champion from afar. What I have most learned through this process is how much I appreciate the expertise our teachers bring to MBG, the ways in which our students continue to work hard to grow and overall, appreciation for the little things in life - giving a high five, a hug or being able to laugh out loud with many people around. What I MOST appreciate about MBG is how even under circumstances we have never experienced we are still a learning and caring community.

My name is Mrs. Ivy Peeples, Principal of Mildred Barry Garvin School welcome to another exciting year. I want to welcome returning Tigers and New Tigers as we work to merge our amazing third through fifth grade scholars from Gordon Parks. We are very motivated as we embark as a team to create significant growth in the academic, socio-emotional, and physical needs of our students. Together we will work to create a respectful, productive and engaging environment where staff, students and parents will work collaboratively to prepare the leaders of our next generation.

We are excited to share that the first month of school will require that staff leaders work from the school building, while student leaders work safely from home. This modification to our opening schedule will provide time for staff to properly learn home to navigate through many of the new technical platforms that the district has obtained. Additionally, it will provide staff leaders access to various forms of technology and material that can be utilized to create engaging virtual lessons.



1 Grove Place East Orange, New Jersey
P(973) 673-5410 F(973)266-5815





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Please refer to the information below so as to become acquainted with some of the important expectations pertaining to Mildred Barry Garvin:

- A) Parents/Guardians are expected to thoroughly review all packet information with their children, to ensure that everyone is clear on building level expectations. Additionally, all documents requiring signatures must be signed digitally. (The emergency contact document is of great importance.

[Student Acceptable Use Policy](#)
[Emergency Contact Form](#)

- B) We strongly encourage all parents/guardians to join and participate in our school's PTO, as well as various school-based programs that are facilitated throughout the year. Such participation assists us in ensuring that we are educating your child (ren) at the highest possible standards (further information regarding both PTO and school-based programs will be distributed throughout the school year).

- C) In an effort to instill school-wide pride and unity, our PTO and school staff expect that ALL Garvin Tigers will come to school on Monday through Friday wearing school uniforms. Uniforms consist of a white/yellow blouse or shirt to be worn with a navy blue skirt or pants. Please note that even on gym days, students are expected to wear the school uniform (i.e. navy sweatpants/shorts and a navy shirt). **When working on remote status, we ask that you ensure that students are still dressed in uniform attire, so that they acclimate to the practice of being physically and mentally prepared for school.** Please support us in this venture, as we fully expect 100% participation from all Mildred Barry Garvin Tigers!

- D) In the next few days please refer to the FOCUS Portal to obtain your homeroom teacher's name and student schedule. Also, if your student doesn't have a working device for remote learning, you can submit a request for a loaner device using the following link:

[Garvin Chromebook Request](#)

- E) The first day of school for staff will be Wednesday, September 2, 2020 and students will return on Tuesday, September 8, 2020. This will be a full remote learning day for students, beginning at 8:30 a.m. and ending at 2:55 p.m. If there is a modification made to the school schedule or district calendar, you will be notified promptly. Students will be working on a remote status until further notice.
- F) The Tiger Breakfast Buddy Program will take place on a daily basis when we transition from remote learning. This program will work to ensure that all students are able to



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receive a wholesome meal to begin their school day. Breakfast will be available each morning. Beginning at approximately 7:30a.m., all students will have the opportunity to eat breakfast in their designated classrooms until 8:50 a.m.

- G) When full remote learning ends, school lunch will be served each and every school day throughout the instructional year. Once parents have received the lunch application(s), they must complete it and return the application via google docs. Each child's status for lunch (either paying full price, reduced price, or free) will be determined by the District Business Office. If a child is going to bring his/her lunch to school, the parent/guardian is still required to complete and submit a lunch application. Parents/guardians must complete new lunch forms each year. **Finally, please note that sweets, cakes, cupcakes, the latter will only take place on designated Fridays, as to avoid ongoing interruptions in the instructional schedule. Additionally, microwave services are unavailable for students; therefore, teachers nor teacher assistants will be summoned to address meal concerns.** Your cooperation is greatly appreciated to ensure that all students are provided with similar nutritional meals on a daily basis.
- H) In an effort to address any questions that you may have, please note that we will be hosting a virtual Meet & Greet for parents/guardians on **Wednesday, September 2, 2020 @ 4:00pm and 6:00pm.** The zoom information will be posted on CLASSDOJO in the near future. Please do not share said information with anyone else.

We look forward to you and your students' participation in all our support programs, projects, and articulated programs with local universities. As we raise our expectations for student growth, let's support them with effective academic and behavioral interventions. We will also strive to use research-based strategies with a proven track record of success to address academic deficiencies.

Sincerely,
Ivy Peeples
Mrs. Ivy Peeples, Principal
IP/ksg



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