



BAYONNE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Office of the Superintendent
669 AVENUE A
BAYONNE, NEW JERSEY 07002

JOHN J. NIESZ
Superintendent

Tel. (201) 858-5817
Fax (201) 858-6289

September, 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are excited to share that the Bayonne School District will be welcoming two specially trained therapy dogs to our schools this year. The therapy dogs, Mabel (A Golden Retriever Pyrenees mix) and Ernie (A Goldendoodle Puppy) will be visiting each of our 11 elementary schools and our high school as part of our ongoing efforts to support the emotional and social well-being of our students.

Research has shown that therapy dogs can provide numerous benefits, including reducing stress, improving mood, and fostering a more positive learning environment. Our therapy dogs have been carefully selected and trained to ensure they are well-suited for interacting with students in a safe and supportive manner.

We understand that some parents may have concerns or personal preferences regarding their child's interaction with therapy dogs. To respect these preferences, we are providing an opt-out capability. If you do not wish for your child to participate in activities involving the therapy dogs, please sign the form below and return it to your child's teacher.

If you agree with your child participating and interacting with Mabel and Ernie, no action is required on your part.

I, the undersigned, do not wish for my child _____ to participate in activities involving the therapy dogs.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we strive to enhance the well-being and happiness of our students

Sincerely,
John J. Niesz, *Superintendent*

Maureen Brown, *Principal of Culture & Climate*

We look forward to meeting your children!

Love,
Mable &



Ernie



"The Youth of Today. The Leaders of Tomorrow."