



LINDENWOLD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING • 801 EGG HARBOR ROAD • LINDENWOLD, NJ • 08021

**KRISTIN P. O'NEIL,
ED.D.**

Superintendent of Schools

October 2024

Dear Lindenwold Families,

Recently, the District became aware of several concerning posts shared on a community Facebook page. While, as a general practice, the District does not respond to social media discussions, we feel it is important, at this time, to respond to these concerns since they focused on the health and safety of our children.

1. On Friday, it was brought to the District's attention that there was a post stating vaccinations were administered to students within one of our school buildings. Please be assured this did not happen. No child, at any time, received a vaccination, a flu shot, or any other medical procedure for which our school nurses are not authorized to administer.

However, during the week of 10/14/24, flu shots were offered to interested staff in each of our buildings. This was a free flu clinic available only to staff members.

2. Due to limited space in the District, School 5 currently houses one preschool classroom. Staff from our existing Preschool at 100 South Avenue were transferred to School 5 for this one year while we wait for our Early Childhood Center to open in September 2025. We were very fortunate to have been able to transfer existing Preschool Staff to School 5 who have familiarity with many of our students and families from previous school years. Several of our School 5 classrooms even have the good fortune to dismiss from the exterior of the building which does allow for our students to be dismissed directly to a verified or known adult. As you may imagine, we are all looking forward to September 2025 so we can all be together again under one roof.
3. On 10/17/24 a new substitute teacher left a classroom unsupervised during dismissal while escorting one of their students across the hallway. It is important to note, upon review of the video, the substitute teacher was out of the classroom for a duration of 20 seconds. Simultaneously, a student in the unsupervised classroom opened the door to a classmate's parent who was waiting for the class to dismiss. Leaving a classroom unsupervised is a breach in security and not an acceptable practice.

We are very grateful to the parent for alerting the District and administration to this breach in security protocol. This situation was addressed within the building, with the

substitute service contracted provider, and school administration took immediate steps to ensure this breach would not be repeated by another substitute new to the job. We are all extremely concerned with this situation and are committed to doing everything within our ability to rectify it from occurring a second time.

Please be assured security at all of our schools is taken very seriously. The District is committed to continually reviewing and adjusting our protocols to best meet the safety needs of our students and staff. I encourage all families to review the previously shared document which outlines all of our District security updates and safety procedures. This information can be found in the [2024 – 2025 District Safety Letter](#) and on our [School District Safety Webpage](#).

We encourage our families who wish to constructively unite together to do so in a way that works with the schools. Identifying parents and guardians willing to establish a 2024 – 2025 Home & School Association would be a great way to stay informed and make a positive impact on our entire school community. Families can also get involved in our Varsity Club to support our extra-curricular programming. The District welcomes families who embrace a supportive and beneficial partnership with the school. Feel free to reach out to me or your child's building Principal to be connected with other families wanting to get involved. On behalf of the District, I sincerely thank all of our families for their concern and support of all of our students and staff.

Sincerely,



Dr. Kristin P. O'Neil
Superintendent