



Little Falls Township Public Schools

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The 2018-19 school year is a few days away, and we are thrilled with what this school year has in store for your children. School begins for all students on Thursday, September 6, 2018 and is a full session day. This year, we will focus on following our moral compass. We will encourage all members of our Little Falls Family to think and act with **EMPATHY and SINCERITY**. We will also expect that they be **WELL-MANNERED and NONJUDGEMENTAL**. For this reason, we have decided to use **Follow your moral compass** as our 2018-19 theme.

“One District...One Team...One Vision...Follow your moral compass”.

As I officially welcome back our returning families and extend a warm welcome to those who are new, I would like to share some important information about our upcoming school year.

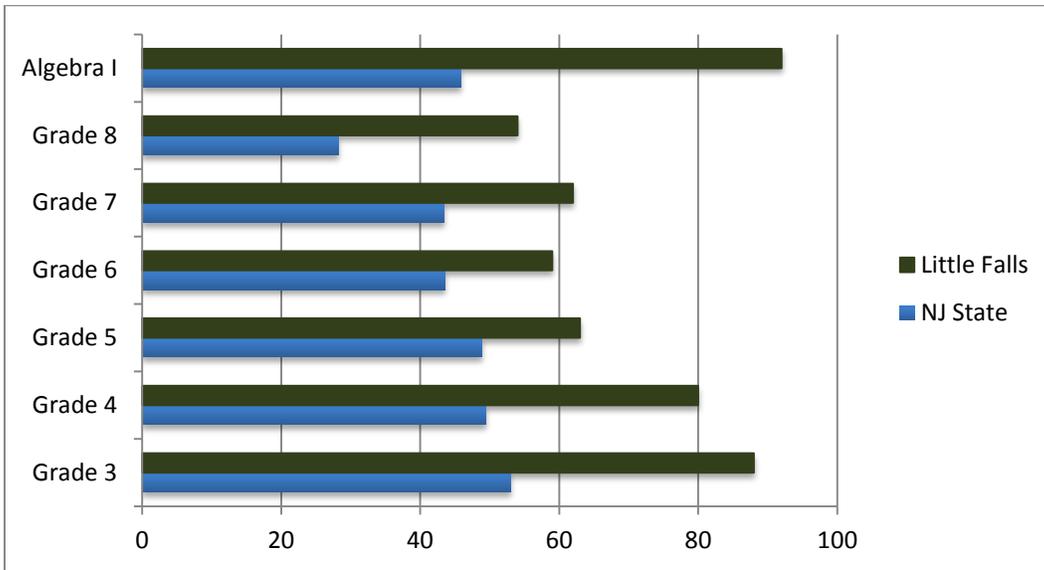
What will the 2018-19 school year bring:

- #1 Best Teachers in New Jersey – ranked by Niche.Com
- Air Conditioning in all 3 buildings – Thank You School #2/3 PTA & School #1 PTSA
- A new STEAM Lab at School #1 – Thank You LFEF
- Additional interior and exterior security cameras at all three schools
- Additional PA system speakers at all three buildings
- Emergency identification blue strobe lights at all three buildings
- LFPD substations at each school
- New furniture for all science classes at School #1
- 1:1 chrome books grades 3-8
- A new parking lot at School #2
- New sidewalks at School #2
- New guardrails at School #2
- New playground equipment at School #1
- New shaded area at School #1
- Enhanced wellness and mindfulness opportunities

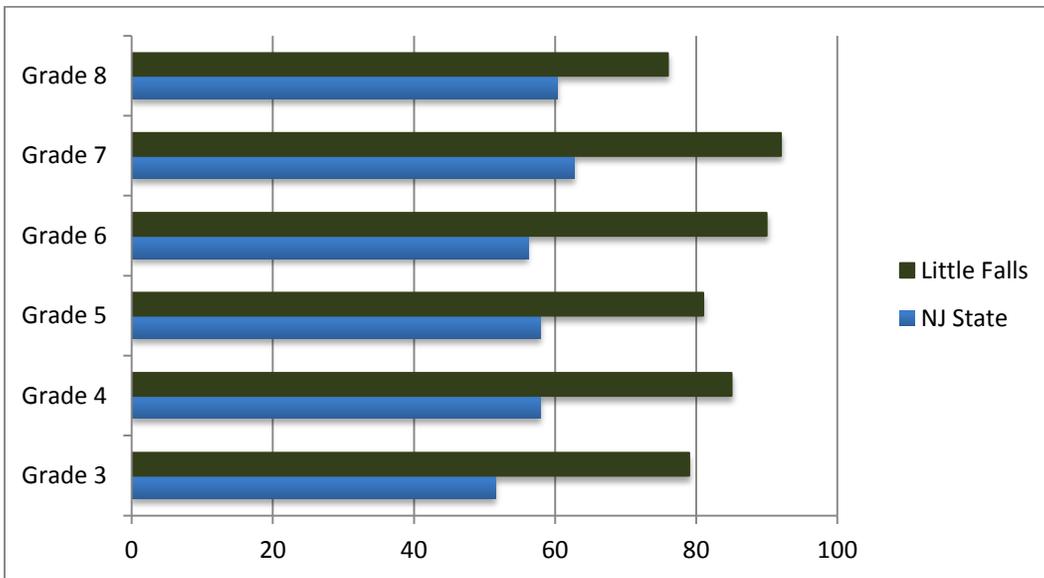
Test Sores:

The PARCC test data has arrived, and will be mailed to families this week. Little Falls has reason to celebrate. In all grade levels and content areas, we continue to perform well above the state. Our students have achieved significant gains, in Math and English Language Arts, as well as student scores moving from approaching expectations to meeting expectations and meeting expectations to exceeding expectations. *See below*

2018 Math PARCC result - % students meeting and exceeding expectations (scoring 4 or 5)



2018 ELA PARCC result - % students meeting and exceeding expectations (scoring 4 or 5)



A comprehensive Test Score analysis presentation will take place on September 18, 2018 during our regularly scheduled Board of Education meeting.

Pride Guide:

Last year, each family was given a Pride Guide. If you are in need of an additional copy or are new to our district and would like a hard copy please contact your Principal. The Pride Guide outlines expectations and provides common language for what it means to have Hornet Pride. In addition, the Pride Guide will also be housed on our website for your convenience. Each student and parent/guardian will be asked to sign and return a form acknowledging that they have read the guide.

2018-2019 Goals and Objectives:

After an in-depth analysis of both staff and student data by the District Evaluation Committee (DEAC), School Improvement Panels (ScIP), and Administrative Team, the 2018-19 Goals and Objectives have been developed. We use a pyramid approach, where Goals and Objectives are developed for the District first and then each school team develops their goals and objectives. This encourages a common vision, while allowing for individual implementation, activities, and rationale. Attached, please find a list of the district and school goals. The entire plan is posted on our main website under the “Goals and Objectives” tab.

The Administrative Team will be presenting the 2018-19 Goals and Objectives in their entirety during our September 18, 2018 Board of Education Meeting. The meeting will be held at School No. 1 at 7:00pm in the All Purpose Room. We hope to see you there.

Safety and Security:

We continue to work closely with the Little Falls Police Department to ensure the safety of our students and staff. Together with the LFPD, we engage in monthly security drills to be certain that staff and students are prepared for any type of emergency that may impact our buildings. Our new camera system, which was installed this summer, is interfaced with the LFPD. This allows the police department to have viewing access to all of our schools’ cameras. In addition, police substations are being set up in each school so that police officers are in and out of each of our schools daily. This is in addition to our community officer and the regular police walk-throughs. The LFPD is present daily at drop-off and pick-up at all schools which assists with traffic flow as well as providing proactive safety measures.

Communication:

In order to reduce the amount of paper used, we will continue to primarily send flyers home digitally. Posted on the left hand side of each school’s homepage of the website is a section labeled “Friday Folder”.

You have been asked to provide us with one or more telephone numbers and email addresses. Please make sure that your child’s main office(s) has your most recent information, as these tools are used not only to pass along daily information, but are also used for emergency situations.

Below are ways that you can stay connected with us:

Our App: Available on all smart devices – go to your app store and search **Little Falls Schools**.

Website: www.lfschools.org

Twitter: @LFschools
@LFSchool2
@LFSchool3
@LFSchool1

TIME SCHEDULE:

School 2

Early Morning Dropoff	8:15am
Full Day Preschool and K-2	9:00am – 3:20pm
AM Preschool	9:00am – 11:30am
PM Preschool	12:50pm – 3:20pm

School 3

Early Morning Dropoff	8:05am
Grades 3 & 4	8:45am – 3:05pm

School 1

Grades 5 – 8	8:28am – 2:57pm
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Below, please find a list of policies that are an important component of our vision. These policies can be found on our district website under the “Board of Education” tab at the top and then “BOE Bylaws and Policies” to the left. Our policies are designed to ensure an orderly environment, where students, staff, and those who are part of our academic community can be emotionally and physically safe. A comprehensive list of all policies is available on our website as well.

Policy Number	Policy Name
2361	Acceptable Use of Computer Networks/Computers and Resources
2260	Affirmative Action Program for School and Classroom Practices
5612	Assaults on District Board of Education Members or Employees
2423	Bilingual and ESL Education
6230	Budget Hearing
1523	Comprehensive Equity Plan
3126	District Mentoring Program
2610	Educational Program Evaluation
3283	Electronic Communications Between Teaching Staff Members and Students
4283	Electronic Communications Between Support Staff Members and Students
7441	Electronic Surveillance in School Buildings and on School Grounds
5500	Expectations for Pupil Conduct
5512	Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying
2415.03	Highly Qualified Teachers
2422	Health and Physical Education
5230	Late Arrival & Early Dismissal
5331	Management of Life – Threatening Allergies in Schools
2415	No Child Left Behind Programs
8760	Pupil Accident Insurance
8330	Student Records
8601	Pupil Supervision After School Dismissal
2415.05	Pupil Surveys, Analysis and/or Evaluations
1510	Americans with Disabilities Act
5613	Removal of Students for Assaults with Weapons Offenses
5611	Removal of Students for Firearms offenses
8540	School Nutrition Programs
7422	School Integrated Pest Management Plan

5751	Sexual Harassment
2460	Special Education
5600	Student Discipline / Code of Conduct
5350	Student Suicide Prevention
5530	Substance Abuse
2415.04	Title I District-Wide Parental Involvement
8600	Transportation
8467	Weapons

Please enjoy these last few days of summer vacation. I look forward to seeing you all after the Labor Day Holiday. Until then, be well and remember to follow your moral compass.

Best,



Tracey Marinelli
Superintendent of Schools