



# MRESC

## MIDDLESEX REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION CALENDAR 2011-2012

### A Message From The Superintendent

Dear Parents, Guardians and Community Members:

Welcome back! As the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission begins its 34th year, our Board of Directors, staff members, students and family members have much to be excited about and grateful for. With the relocation of the Middlesex County Academy to our Piscataway campus; expansion of our Itinerant Program for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing; comprehensive revamping of programs offered through our Professional Development Academy; continued growth of our Cooperative Pricing Program (MRESC Co-op), and a sustained commitment to provide our staff members with the finest training anywhere, there are clearly many reasons for us to approach the 2011-2012 school year with enormous excitement and optimism. At the same time, we remain grateful to our growing list of supporters and elected officials who have responded to our efforts with increased fervor and generosity.

The philosophy of the MRESC includes continued growth, creation of new programs and services and recognizing the ever-changing needs of our constituent districts. We thank all of those districts who continue to place their confidence in us. Despite the difficult economy in which we operate, we admire those Boards of Education and Superintendents who truly place the needs of their students at the top of their list of priorities. How wonderful it is to work with colleagues who refuse to compromise when addressing student needs.



Mark J. Finkelstein

The MRESC is honored to have one of its own, Mrs. Terri Thompson of the Piscataway Regional Day School, selected as the Middlesex County Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Thompson, for over two decades, has stood for what our Commission is most proud of:

**Doing the right thing for our students!** She is a tireless, passionate child advocate who makes all of us proud to be in the wonderful profession of education.

Looking ahead, the MRESC remains optimistic that with the impending passage of shared services legislation, even greater fiscal and human resource efficiencies will be realized. Our goal is to ensure that all of our colleagues are provided the highest quality in programs at the most competitive cost available. After doing so, districts can continue to choose their service provider as they wish.

In closing, we annually survey our constituent districts to determine the value of our programs and services. Each year, survey responses indicate that districts are most pleased with our attention to customer service. This is an area which has been in the past and will remain in the future our priority. From our perspective, courtesy, respect and professionalism should be the norm, not the exception. Everyone associated with our Commission is viewed as a partner.

We hope that your goals and the goals of your students shall be exceeded during the coming school year!

Best Wishes,  
**Mark J. Finkelstein, Superintendent**

### Contents

- Message from Board President . . . . . 2
- Board of Directors Listing . . . . . 2
- The Academy Learning Center (ALC) . . . 4
- Bright Beginnings Learning Center (BBLC) . . . . . 6
- Center for Lifelong Learning (CLL) . . . . 8
- Middlesex County Academy (MCA) . . . 10
- NuView Academy . . . . . 12
- Piscataway Regional Day School (PRDS) . . . . 14
- Raritan Valley Academy (RVA) . . . . . 16
- Interim Alternative Educational Program . . . . . 18
- Co-op Pricing Program . . . . . 18
- Department of Nonpublic Services . . . 20
- Professional Development Academy . . 20
- Collaborative Educational Services, Charter School Services, Transportation Services, Partnerships for Children with Hearing Loss/Itinerant Services, Public Relations Services . . . . . Inside Back Cover
- MRESC Directory . . . . . Back Cover

Contact the Superintendent of Schools at:  
**(732) 777-9848, Ext. 3200 or**  
**E-Mail:**  
**mfinkelstein@mresc.k12.nj.us**

**PLEASE NOTE: Photographs and videos are frequently taken of children to illustrate school programs or for publicity purposes. Parents and guardians must notify building principals in writing if no pictures are desired.**

SEE THE BACK COVER FOR A COMPLETE DIRECTORY OF NAMES, ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS.

### Calendar-At-A-Glance

9/1	Staff Development
9/2	1st Day of School
9/5	Labor Day (Schools Closed)
9/15	Back-to-School Night - ALC/BBLC/CLL/MCA/NuView/PRDS/RVA
9/29-30	Rosh Hashanah (Schools Closed)
10/21	Staff Development (1/2 Day) - ALC/BBLC/CLL/MCA/NuView/PRDS/RVA
11/10-11	NJEA Convention (Schools Closed)
11/16-17	Parent/Teacher Conferences - ALC/BBLC/CLL/MCA/NuView/PRDS/RVA
11/24-25	Thanksgiving (Schools Closed)
12/2	Staff Development (1/2 Day) - MCA/NuView/RVA
12/26-30	Winter Recess (Schools Closed)
1/16	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Schools Closed)
1/27	Staff Development (1/2 Day) - ALC/BBLC/CLL/MCA/NuView/PRDS/RVA
2/10	Staff Development (1/2 Day) - MCA/NuView/RVA
2/20	President's Day (Schools Closed)
3/2	Staff Development (1/2 Day) - ALC/BBLC/CLL/MCA/NuView/PRDS/RVA
4/6-13	Spring Recess (Schools Closed)
4/18-19	Parent/Teacher Conferences - ALC/BBLC/CLL/MCA/NuView/PRDS/RVA
5/11	Staff Development (1/2 Day) - ALC/BBLC/CLL/MCA/NuView/PRDS/RVA
5/28	Memorial Day (Schools Closed)
6/15	Tentative Last Day

# SEPTEMBER 2011

1

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>AUGUST 2011</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<b>OCTOBER 2011</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23/30 24/31 25 26 27 28 29			1  <b>Staff Development</b>	2  <b>1st Day of School</b>	3
4	5  <b>Labor Day (Schools Closed)</b>	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15  <b>Back-to-School Night - ALC/ BBLC/CLL/MCA/ NuView/PRDS/RVA</b>	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29  <b>ROSH HASHANAH (Schools Closed)</b>	30  <b>ROSH HASHANAH (Schools Closed)</b>	



### A Message From The Board President

Our students continue to be engaged and stimulated as a result of their ongoing exposure to thoughtful, innovative programming designed by Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission staff. The never-ending commitment of our administrators, supervisors, teachers, office staff, aides, volunteers, everyone associated with the Commission, is why we continue to enjoy a statewide reputation as the leader in meeting the needs of our students.

For example, earlier this year, the Rutgers' Mason Gross School of the Arts University Danceworks (UDW) touring student dance company not only performed "emotionally evocative choreography" at the Piscataway Regional Day School, but the dancers also took the time to engage students with participatory music movement workshops.

By the same token, Middlesex County Academy students had an extraordinary opportunity to be taught by one of the master poets and teachers in the country, Glenis Redmond. Ms. Redmond was in New Brunswick for three weeks as the State Theatre's Artist-In-Residence. During that time, Ms. Redmond, whose appearances range from National Public Radio programs and poetry festivals, to correctional institutions and universities, spent three mornings with MCA students, helping them get in touch with the power of poetry, in the capacity of both listener and writer.

Similarly, the Commission's collaboration with the Brick, New Jersey based Parents of Autistic Children (POAC), which provides services to autistic people of all ages, resulted in a free workshop for anyone in the school transportation industry. The workshop was effective in offering support and guidance by demonstrating effective techniques for strengthening communication with autistic students.

The Commission continues its growth and commitment to Shared Services, having further expanded the MRES Co-op, the largest Co-op in the state. Members participated in a Vendor Day recently, which not only offered exposure to existing and potential customers, but also demonstrated how

Co-op participation by educational institutions and municipalities of all sizes, can save taxpayer dollars and get the lowest price for various products and services from an established pool of vendors.

The Commission also demonstrated visible support for legislation that could have a positive impact on our ability to further expand Shared Services through testimony by our Superintendent before the Senate Education Committee. Our participation was indicative of our commitment to finding an effective balance between student and taxpayer needs.

While all of our teachers are special in their own right, we are particularly proud and happy this year for Terri Thompson, who teaches at PRDS, and was selected Middlesex County's 2011-12 Teacher of the Year. As a result of this honor, Terri is also among the 21 teachers across the state under consideration for the 2011-2012 New Jersey Teacher of the Year.

Additionally, the Commission continues to offer professional development opportunities in areas ranging from non-violent crisis intervention and behavior related topics, to effective inclusion of students with disabilities into the general education school setting. We are also striving to find opportunities to offer housing and support services to adults with serious disabilities. Servicing the needs of Charter and Nonpublic Schools is also an important part of our mission. All of these efforts contribute to our commitment of strengthening the educational community in New Jersey.

In closing, along with our staff, the Board of Directors of the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission remains determined to find new and innovative ways of enriching the lives of our specialized student population, and look forward to an outstanding 2011-2012 school year.

**Dale Caldwell, Board President**



Mr. Dale Caldwell

### Board Of Directors

- Mr. Dale Caldwell, *President*
- Ms. Rosemary Walsh, *Vice President*
- Mr. Kevin Ahearn . . . . .Carteret
- To Be Determined . . . . .Cranbury
- Mr. Phillip Heiney . . . . .Dunellen
- Mrs. Kathleen Spiegler . . . .East Brunswick
- Dr. Richard O'Malley . . . . .Edison
- Dr. Frances Wood . . . . .Highland Park
- Dr. Gail Verona . . . . .Jamesburg
- Ms. Rose de Vries . . . . .Metuchen
- Ms. Rosemary Walsh . . . . .Middlesex
- Mr. Bill Petscavage . . . . .Milltown
- Ms. Amy Antelis . . . . .Monroe
- Mr. Dale Caldwell . . . . .New Brunswick
- Dr. Brian Zychowski . . . . .North Brunswick
- Ms. Ellen McDermott . . . . .Old Bridge
- To Be Determined . . . . .Perth Amboy
- Dr. Paula A.Y. Maas . . . . .Piscataway
- Dr. Frank Alfano . . . . .Sayreville
- Mr. Robert Sheedy . . . . .South Amboy
- Dr. Gary McCartney . . . . .South Brunswick
- Dr. Gary Bowen . . . . .South Plainfield
- Mr. Michael Pfister . . . . .South River
- Dr. Walter Uszenski . . . . .Spotswood
- Dr. John Crowe . . . . .Woodbridge
- Mr. Brian Loughlin . . . . .Middlesex County Vo.Tech.

# OCTOBER 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>SEPTEMBER 2011</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	<b>NOVEMBER 2011</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30					1
2	3	4  HSPA Regular Testing	5  HSPA Regular Testing	6  HSPA Regular Testing	7	8
9	10	11  HSPA Make-up Testing	12  HSPA Make-up Testing	13  HSPA Make-up Testing	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21  <sup>1/2</sup> Day Staff Development Early Dismissal – ALC/BBLC/CLL/MCA/ NuView/PRDS/RVA	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



### *The Academy Learning Center*

145 Pergola Avenue • Monroe Township, NJ 08831 • (732) 605-9100

**For Students Ages 3 - 21**

School Hours: 9:00 am - 2:30 pm

Dr. Erik Solberg, *Principal* • Ms. Stacy Rieger, *Vice Principal*

The Academy Learning Center offers two separate programs. *The Program for Students with Autism* is based on the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis. An intensive and individualized program is provided for all students in a 2:1 student to classroom staff ratio. The program has operated since 1996.

**Specialized program components include:**

- Individualized ABA instruction
- Data based programming
- ABLLS-R assessment and Verbal Behavior
- Integrated instruction with related services
- Community based job sampling
- AAC device evaluation and training
- Parent Training/Home Visits
- Functional training for independence

*The Program for Students with Multiple Disabilities* focuses on the development of independent functional skills in language, academic, social and vocational areas. The program has operated since 1992.

Student disabilities range from moderate to severe and include the areas of Cognitive, Neurological, Medical and Orthopedic disabilities.

**Specialized program components include:**

- Functional Academic Skills
- Small and Large Group Instruction
- AAC device evaluation and training
- Dysphagia Intervention
- Medical Monitoring/ Seizure Management
- Community based job sampling
- Parent Training/ Home Visits
- Functional training for independence

**The facility features:**

- Observation Rooms in Every Classroom
- A Spacious Gym
- Cafeteria
- OT/PT Room
- Activities of Daily Living Room
- Vocational Education Room
- Age Appropriate Playgrounds/ Exercise Areas
- Resource Center for Inservices and Parent Training ■







## Bright Beginnings Learning Center

1660 Stelton Road • Piscataway, NJ 08854 • (732) 339-9331

**For Students Ages 3 - 12**

School Hours: 9:00 am to 2:30 pm

Ms. Wendy Eaton, *Principal* • Ms. Cindy Borell, *Supervisor*

The Bright Beginnings Learning Center offers two separate programs. *The Program for Students with Autism* is based on the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis. An intensive and individualized program is provided for all students in a 2:1 student to classroom staff ratio. The program has operated since 1996.

### Specialized program components include:

- Data Based Instruction
- Integrated Instruction with Related Services
- Photographic Activity Schedules
- Augmentative/Assistive Communication
- Social Skills Training
- Discrete Trial Teaching
- Parent Training
- Adaptive Physical Education

*The Program for Students with Multiple Disabilities* focuses on the development of independent functional skills in language, academic, social and vocational areas. The program has operated since 1992. Student disabilities range from moderate to severe

and include the areas of Cognitive, Neurological, Medical and Orthopedic disabilities.

### Specialized program components include:

- Functional Academic Skills
- Small and Large Group Instruction
- Adaptive Equipment Assessment
- Dysphagia Intervention
- Medical Monitoring
- Seizure Management
- Pre-Vocational Training
- Adaptive Physical Education

### The facility features:

- Observation Rooms in Every Classroom
- A Spacious Gym
- Cafeteria
- OT/PT Room
- ADL Room
- Vocational Education Room
- Age Appropriate Playgrounds/ Exercise Areas
- Resource Center for Inservice and Parent Training ■



# DECEMBER 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>NOVEMBER 2011</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	<b>JANUARY 2012</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31			1	2  1/2 Day Staff Development Early Dismissal – MCA/NuView/RVA	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26  Winter Recess (Schools Closed)	27  Winter Recess (Schools Closed)	28  Winter Recess (Schools Closed)	29  Winter Recess (Schools Closed)	30  Winter Recess (Schools Closed)	31



## Center for Lifelong Learning

333 Cheesequake Road • Parlin, NJ 08859 • (732) 727-3736

**For Students Ages 3 - 21**

School Hours: 9:00 am to 2:30 pm

Mrs. Debra Nappi, *Principal* • Ms. Danielle Chryssikos, *Supervisor*

The Center for Lifelong Learning accommodates approximately 175 students and offers specialized classroom instruction based on the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis and/or Verbal Behavior for students with Autism and students with Multiple Disabilities, ages 3-21. Both programs involve parents in a collaborative partnership with school staff to provide a consistent approach to meeting students' educational and behavioral needs. Student disabilities range from moderate to severe and include the areas of autism, pervasive developmental disorders, and communication, physical, orthopedic and cognitive impairments.

### Specialized program components include:

- 2:1 Student Teacher Ratio-Program for Students with Autism
- 3:1 Student Teacher Ratio-Program for Students with Multiple Disabilities
- Direct Instruction Academic Programs
- Functional Academic Skills
- Data Based Instruction
- Total Communication

- Collaboration with Related Services
  - Photographic Activity Schedules
  - Consumer Skills
  - Community Based Instruction
  - Job Sampling
  - Structured Learning Environments
  - Dysphagia Intervention
  - Medical Monitoring
  - Seizure Management

### The facility features:

- Physical Therapy Rooms
- 24 Classrooms
- A Media Center
- Daily Living Skills Room
- A Spacious Gym
- Technology learning resources in every instructional area
- A Pre-Vocational Skills Classroom
- The David B. Crabel Pool & Fitness Center
- An Integral Garden

- A Community Center open to community members during non-school hours

The 85,000 square foot facility is one of the first New Jersey LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) schools. ■



# JANUARY 2012

9

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Schools Closed)	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 <sup>1/2</sup> Day Staff Development Early Dismissal – ALC/BBLC/CLL/MCA/ NuView/PRDS/RVA	28
29	30	31			<b>DECEMBER 2011</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<b>FEBRUARY 2012</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29



## Middlesex County Academy

1690 Stelton Road • Piscataway, NJ 08854 • (732) 317-0300

**For Students In Grades 7 - 12**

School Hours: 8:45 am to 2:15 pm

Mr. Arthur Francis, *Principal*

The Middlesex County Academy, relocated to our Piscataway campus, is a county-wide alternative education school designed to provide at-risk students and classified students the opportunity to complete their middle school and high school requirements in a supportive, individualized learning environment. Academy students are scheduled into an academic program that meets the credit requirements of their resident school district. In addition, specialized instructional approaches, supportive services, and opportunities for individualized self-pacing provide assistance to students in developing responsible patterns of behavior. The Academy staff is committed to high standards, is experienced, and certified to guide students in an environment that offers a sense of community. The program is approved by the New Jersey Department of Education.

### The program components include:

- Academic Programming
- Individual/Group Counseling
- Anger Management/Conflict Resolution Training

- Incentive Program
- Career Education
- Speakers' Forum
- Recreational Programming
- Shadowing/  
Mentorship Program
- Family Supportive Services
- Linkage with Middlesex County College and Rutgers University

Students attending the Academy are instructed through a variety of methods while earning credits in subject areas.

### These instructional methods include:

- Small Group or Individual Instruction
- Differentiated Instruction
- Cooperative Learning
- Computer Assisted Instruction
- Interdisciplinary Instruction

- Independent Study
- Hands-On Activities and Manipulatives
- Thinking Skills Development
- Alternative Forms of Instruction and Assessment ■



# FEBRUARY 2012

11

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 <b>1/2 Day Staff Development Early Dismissal – MCA/NuView/RVA</b>	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 <b>President's Day (Schools Closed)</b>	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29		<b>JANUARY 2012</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<b>MARCH 2012</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



## *NuView Academy*

1 Park Avenue • Piscataway, NJ 08854 • (732) 878-0070

**For Students Ages 5 - 21**

School Hours: 8:30 am to 2:15 pm

Mr. William Walsh, *Principal*

The NuView Academy provides a free, appropriate, public education (FAPE), in the least restrictive environment (LRE) for students exhibiting severe symptoms or diagnosis of Depression, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Conduct Disorder, Thought Disorder or Anxiety Disorder. This program is a collaboration between Princeton House and the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission which provides all education programming and coordinates all referral procedures. Princeton House provides the psychiatric and therapeutic components for reaching goals that will assure the success of the program. The program is offered 8:30 am - 2:15 pm, Monday through Friday, on a 48-week basis per school year.

*Clinical Support Services* provide to all students the emotional and behavioral support needed to address those issues that ensure all students fully benefit from instruction and learn to effectively make decisions and problem solve.

### **Academic Program/Curricula Offerings include:**

#### *Primary/Elementary Community (Grades K-4):*

Language Arts Literacy (Including English grammar, spelling, handwriting, reading), Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Health & Physical Education, Visual Arts, Technology, Social Skills and group counseling. Opportunities for remediation are available in the Core Content areas based on students' need and the IEP.

#### *Middle/High School Community (Grades 5-12):*

Language Arts Literacy, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Health & Physical Education, World Language (Spanish), Career Education, Visual Arts, Technology, Social Skills and group counseling. Opportunities for remediation are available in the Core Content areas based on students' need and the IEP.

Additionally, NuView provides individual & group counseling to all students. ■



# MARCH 2012

13

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>FEBRUARY 2012</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	<b>APRIL 2012</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30			1	2	3
4	5	6  <b>HSPA Regular Testing</b>	7  <b>HSPA Regular Testing</b>	8  <b>HSPA Regular Testing</b>	9  <b>1/2 Day Staff Development Early Dismissal – ALC/BBLC/CLL/MCA/ NuView/PRDS/RVA</b>	10
11	12	13  <b>HSPA Make-up Testing</b>	14  <b>HSPA Make-up Testing</b>	15  <b>HSPA Make-up Testing</b>	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



### *Piscataway Regional Day School*

1670 Stelton Road • Piscataway, NJ 08854 • (732) 985-8752

**For Students Ages 13 - 21**

School Hours: 9:00 am to 2:30 pm

Ms. Toba Knobel, *Principal* • Ms. Phyllis DeLucia, *Vice Principal*

The Piscataway Regional Day School offers two specialized programs. *The Program for Students with Multiple Disabilities* focuses on the development of independent functional skills in language, academic, social and vocational areas. The program has operated since 1984. Student disabilities range from moderate to severe and include the areas of Cognitive, Neurological, Medical and Orthopedic disabilities.

**Specialized program components include:**

- Functional Academic Skills
- Functional Communication Training
- Dysphagia Intervention/Medical Monitoring/Seizure Management
- Community Based Instruction
- Career Awareness and Training
- Transition Planning
- Consumer Skills

*The Program for Students with Autism* is based on the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis. An intensive and individualized program is provided for all students in a 2:1 student to classroom staff ratio. The program has operated since 1996.

**Specialized program components include:**

- Discrete Trial Teaching
- Verbal Behavior Classification System
- Data Based Instruction
- Integrated Instruction with Related Services
- Visual Strategies
- Home Visits
- Community Based Instruction
- Career Awareness and Training
- Transition Planning
- Consumer Skills
- Functional Behavior Assessment
- Augmentative/Alternative Communication Strategies

**The facility features:**

- Classrooms equipped with student-centered technology
- Media centers with Interactive Technology for student use
- Student-operated full service café
- Occupational/Physical Therapy Room
- Spacious Gym

- Cafeteria
- Vocational Education Room
- Outdoor play/exercise areas
- Resource Center for in-service and parent training ■



# APRIL 2012

15

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6 <b>Spring Recess (Schools Closed)</b>	7
8	9 <b>Spring Recess (Schools Closed)</b>	10 <b>Spring Recess (Schools Closed)</b>	11 <b>Spring Recess (Schools Closed)</b>	12 <b>Spring Recess (Schools Closed)</b>	13 <b>Spring Recess (Schools Closed)</b>	14
15	16	17	18 <b>Parent/ Teacher Conferences - Early Dismissal - ALC/BBLC/CLL/MCA/ NuView/PRDS/RVA</b>	19 <b>Parent/ Teacher Conferences - Early Dismissal - ALC/BBLC/CLL/MCA/ NuView/PRDS/RVA</b>	20	21
22	23 <b>NJ ASK 7 &amp; 8 Regular Testing</b>	24 <b>NJ ASK 7 &amp; 8 Regular Testing</b>	25 <b>NJ ASK 7 &amp; 8 Regular Testing</b>	26 <b>NJ ASK 7 &amp; 8 Regular Testing</b>	27	28
29	30 <b>NJ ASK 5 &amp; 6 Regular Testing  NJ ASK 7 &amp; 8 Make-up Testing</b>				<b>MARCH 2012</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<b>MAY 2012</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



### Raritan Valley Academy

1690 Stelton Road • Piscataway, NJ 08854 • (732) 777-9860

**For Students Ages 5 - 21**

School Hours: 8:15 am to 1:45 pm

Ms. Tia LaPiana, *Principal*

The Raritan Valley Academy provides a “school within a school” design for students with behavioral, learning and/or language disabilities within three (3) communities.

The program is committed to providing an environment that enables special needs students with emotional and behavioral disabilities to achieve individualized academic excellence. An exemplary behavior modification program provides students with the tools needed to improve their self-esteem, develop individual responsibility and evolve into productive members of society. The following academic programs are offered:

- **Elementary Community** — (Grades K-4)  
Language Arts, English, Spelling, Handwriting, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education, Health, Reading and Computer Science.
- **Middle Community** — (Grades 5-9)  
Language Arts, Reading, English Literature, Classic Composition Novels, General Mathematics, Pre-Algebra, Science, Social Studies and History, Physical Education, Health, Art, and Computer Science.
- **Upper Community** — (Grades 9-12)  
English, Algebra, Mathematics, Basic Geometry, U.S. History/World History, Government, Civics/Economics, Earth/

### Innovations Program At Raritan Valley Academy

The RVA INNOVATIONS Program is for student’s ages 5-21 with mild to moderate levels of cognitive impairment who also present with emotional and/or behavioral disabilities. Students in the INNOVATIONS program tend to have higher social skills and awareness levels than typical students attending out-of-district schools for those with multiple disabilities and/or autism. INNOVATIONS students also tend to have significantly lower academic skills than the average student with emotional and/or behavioral disabilities who are enrolled in an out-of-district placement.

Programmatically, INNOVATIONS student academic needs, including significant academic delays, are addressed through small group

instruction. Related services are provided according to the students IEP. Pre-vocational training, job sampling and community-based instructional opportunities are offered based on an assessment of the student’s preferences and abilities. Students also earn rewards and privileges based on RVA’s behavioral approach, in addition to participating in a supportive, therapeutic school community with appropriately identified peers.

A comprehensive offering of Clinical Support Services, including individual and group counseling, along with Post-Secondary Transition Planning, such as Job Sampling and Work Study Programs, are also offered. ■

Physical/Life Science, Physical Education, Health Education, Career Education.

In addition, *Clinical Support Services* provide to all students the emotional and behavioral support needed to address those issues to ensure that all students fully benefit from instruction and learn to effectively make decisions and problem solve.

**Services include:**

- Individual Counseling
- Group Counseling
- Life Skills Courses
- Anger Management
- Career Exploration
- Responsible Parenting ■



# MAY 2012

17

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 NJ ASK 5 & 6 Regular Testing NJ ASK 7 & 8 Make-up Testing	2 NJ ASK 5 & 6 Regular Testing NJ ASK 7 & 8 Make-up Testing	3 NJ ASK 5 & 6 Regular Testing NJ ASK 7 & 8 Make-up Testing	4 NJ ASK 7 & 8 Make-up Testing	5
6	7 NJ ASK 3 & 4 Regular Testing NJ ASK 5 & 6 Make-up Testing	8 NJ ASK 3 & 4 Regular Testing NJ ASK 5 & 6 Make-up Testing	9 NJ ASK 3 & 4 Regular Testing NJ ASK 5 & 6 Make-up Testing	10 NJ ASK 3 & 4 Regular Testing NJ ASK 5 & 6 Make-up Testing	11 NJ ASK 5 & 6 Make-up Testing  1/2 Day Staff Development Early Dismissal – ALC/BBLC/CLL/MCA/ NuView/PRDS/RVA	12
13	14 NJ ASK 3 & 4 Make-up Testing	15 NJ Biology Competence Test (NJBCT) NJ ASK 3 & 4 Make-up Testing	16 NJ Biology Competence Test (NJBCT) NJ ASK 3 & 4 Make-up Testing	17 NJ Biology Competence Test (NJBCT) Make-up NJ ASK 3 & 4 Make-up Testing	18 NJ Biology Competence Test (NJBCT) Make-up NJ ASK 3 & 4 Make-up Testing	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Memorial Day (Schools Closed)	29	30	31	<b>APRIL 2012</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	<b>JUNE 2012</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30



### *Interim Alternative Educational Program*

1690 Stelton Road • Piscataway, NJ 08854 • **(732) 777-9860**

**For Students Ages 5 - 21**

School Hours: 2:30 pm to 6:30 pm

Mr. Richard Grillo, *Head Teacher*

The Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission's Interim Alternative Educational Program (IAEP) is a county-wide program designed to provide learning disabled and/or at risk students the opportunity to continue their educational program in a supportive, individualized learning environment for not more than a 45-day period. The program is designed to enable a student to continue to participate in the general curriculum, although in another setting, and to continue to receive services including those described in the student's current IEP. This will enable the student to meet the goals included in the IEP.

In addition, this specialized program includes services and modifications designed to address inappropriate behavior so that it does not reoccur.

**Program components include:**

- Academic Programming
- Individual/Group Counseling
- Anger Management/Conflict Resolution Training
- Community-Based Service Opportunities
- Incentive Program
- Family Support Services

Students attending the IAEP are instructed through a variety of methods while earning credits in subject areas.

**Instructional methods include:**

- Small Group, Individual and Interdisciplinary Instruction
- Cooperative Learning
- Computer-Assisted Instruction
- Independent Study
- Hands-On Activities and Manipulatives
- Thinking Skills Development ■

### *Co-op Pricing Program*

1660 Stelton Road

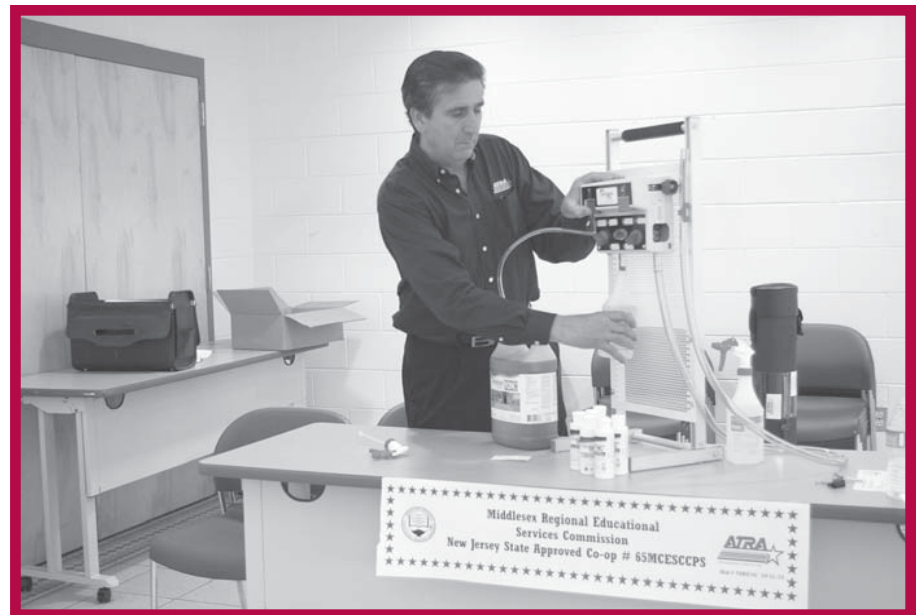
Piscataway, NJ 08854

**(732) 777-9848, Ext. 3120**

Mr. Patrick Moran, *Business Administrator*

The MRESC Co-op Pricing Program is a New Jersey state approved Co-op, and purchases are determined by surveying its membership to identify which items are most needed. Purchases range from natural gas and electricity, to transportation vehicles, office and custodial supplies, playground equipment, computers and furniture.

Being part of the MRESC Co-op increases buying power, which results in savings for taxpayers when districts and municipalities make purchases. The program is the largest of its kind in New Jersey, and includes approximately 300 school districts and municipalities from all 21 counties. There is no fee or obligation to join the program. ■



# JUNE 2012

19

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>MAY 2012</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	<b>JULY 2012</b> S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31				1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	Tentative Last Day Of School	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



### Department Of Nonpublic School Services

1660 Stelton Road • Piscataway, NJ 08854

Ms. Linda Lewis, *Director* • **(732) 777-9848, Ext. 3220**

Ms. Fredrika Schwerin, *Supervisor* • **(732) 777-9848, Ext. 3090**

Ms. Barbara Pezzuto, *Supervisor* • **(732) 777-9848, Ext. 6570**

The Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission’s Department of Nonpublic School Services operates in accordance with Public Law 192-193, passed by the New Jersey State Legislature in 1977. Under this statute, the Department offers the following specific auxiliary and remedial services to eligible New Jersey students attending nonpublic schools:

#### Chapter 192 Services

- Compensatory Education
- English-as-a-Second Language
- Home Instruction

#### Chapter 193 Services

- Child Study Team Assessment
- Supplementary Instruction
- Speech Correction

In addition, operating under the auspices of the MRES SC, through the Department of Nonpublic School Services, the County Diagnostic Educational Commission offers a multi-disciplinary team of professionals who help districts develop individual programs which address students’ individual needs by providing them with the following services and expertise:

- Child Study Team Services
- Psychological Services
- Learning Disability Teacher Consultant Services
- School Social Worker Consultant Services
- Psychiatric Services
- Neurological Services
- Speech and Language Services
- Occupational Therapy Evaluations
- Physical Therapy Evaluations
- Augmentative Evaluations ■

### Professional Development Academy

1690 Stelton Road • Piscataway, NJ 08854

Mr. Gary Molenaar, *Asst. Supt.* • **(732) 777-9848, Ext. 3230**

The Professional Development Academy (PDA) enjoys a strong reputation as a provider of high quality staff development and community programs. Our presenters share extensive knowledge of best practices in curriculum content and are committed to extending learning beyond the specific program experience. The PDA programs meet or exceed established federal, state, and professional guidelines for staff development.

A sample of general classroom topics includes:

- Learning Communities
- Collaborative Teaching
- Mediating Student Conflict
- Brain Based Multi Sensory Reading and Literacy Strategies
- Centers in The Elementary Classroom

Additionally, the 2011-2012 PDA Catalogue offers an expanded selection of on-site programs and technical assistance to assist districts with the provision of K-12 inclusion and special education programs, including a new online library of webinars.

A sample of specialized population topics includes:

- Topics in Transition Planning for Students with Disabilities
- Defusing Power Struggles
- Non-Violent Crisis Intervention
- Increasing On-Task Performance
- Helping Emotionally Challenged Students Engage Positively
- Developing Behavior Intervention Plans for Students with Autism

The complete 2011-2012 PDA Catalogue can be reviewed online at: [www.mresc.k12.nj.us/pda](http://www.mresc.k12.nj.us/pda). ■



### *Collaborative Educational Services*

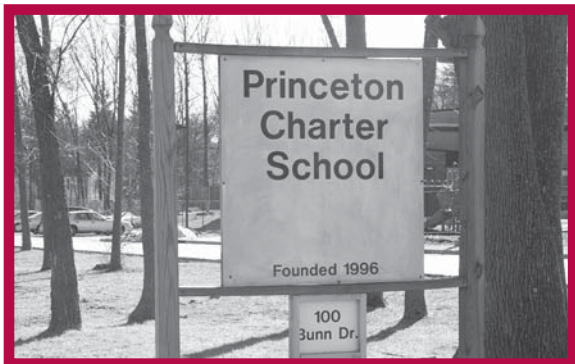
1660 Stelton Road • Piscataway, NJ 08854  
Mr. Mark J. Finkelstein, Superintendent...**(732) 777-9848, Ext. 3200**

The Collaborative Educational Services program offers an alternative to high cost tuition by establishing and implementing full service classes for students with severe disabilities within local districts. CES also offers consultation services to local districts to develop programs to return students to their district schools from costly private placements. CES also offers specialized technical training and assistance for staff members by experienced, hands-on Commission staff with a high level of expertise working with special needs students. ■

### *Charter School Services*

1660 Stelton Road • Piscataway, NJ 08854  
Mrs. Linda Lewis, Director, Department of Nonpublic Services.....**(732) 745-5300, Ext. 4338**

The MRESC provides the same scope and level of quality services to Charter Schools as it does to Public and Non-Public Schools. Services range from coordination of special education programs and staffing, to help with transportation needs and technical assistance with state monitoring. ■



### *Coordinated Transportation Services*

1660 Stelton Road • Piscataway, NJ 08854  
Ms. Cassie Salter, Coordinator.....**(732) 777-9848, Ext. 3350**

The Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission provides coordinated transportation for special, public, nonpublic and vocational-technical educational programs. With over 550 transportation routes presently being administered which serve in excess of 6,500 students, the Commission has become a reliable service provider looked favorably upon by parents and districts alike for its caring, safety and punctuality. ■

### *Partnerships for Children with Hearing Loss/Itinerant Services*

P.O. Box 535 • Trenton, NJ 08625-0535  
Ms. Susan L. Preston, Coordinator.....**(609) 530-3114**

The focus of this program is to collaborate with resident school districts, families and state agencies to create positive learning communities that enable children who are deaf and hard of hearing to realize their highest potential. MRESC provides a variety of support through the utilization of certified Teachers of the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing with experience in the unique communication needs of students with hearing loss. ■

### *Public Relations Services*

1660 Stelton Road • Piscataway, NJ 08854  
Mr. Mark Finkelstein, Superintendent.....**(732) 777-9848, Ext. 3200**

The MRESC offers districts and municipalities support in meeting their communication needs. Public Relations services include newsletters and brochures, video production, media relations, surveys, speechwriting, and voter education campaigns. ■