



TOMS RIVER REGIONAL SCHOOLS

MICHAEL CITTA

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

1144 Hooper Avenue, Toms River, NJ 08753

732-505-5500 Fax: 732-505-9330

Email: mcitta@trschoools.com

April 25, 2023

To our Toms River Regional Schools staff, parents, and families:

I'd like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank our district's bus drivers in celebration of National Bus Driver Appreciation Day.

One thing that has always resonated with me is the fact that, for the vast majority of our students, their bus driver is the first and last person they interact with each school day. That they are greeted with a friendly smile and sent home with a positive word is no small thing for our students. And it's *certainly* no small thing for our parents and families that our bus drivers are the people trusted to get our kids to school and back safely each and every day.

I am reminded time and time again about the impact our bus drivers have on our school communities, whether it's a parent telling me how much they love theirs, a teacher or administrator letting me know how quick decision making or thoughtful and empathetic words helped deescalate a potential issue, or my own personal interactions with one of our many proud and dedicated drivers.

Particularly at a time when good school bus drivers (like Jodi, center, and bus aide Darlene, right) are hard to find, I must express my sincere gratitude to our outstanding team of drivers, attendants, mechanics, and everyone working within our Transportation Department. Happy Bus Driver Appreciation Day, and thank you for always going the extra mile—often literally—for our students.



We couldn't do this without you.

Sincerely,

Michael Citta
Superintendent of Schools