

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Community Members:

On behalf of *Horace Mann Elementary School* and the Cherry Hill School District, I am happy to share with you the New Jersey School Performance Report. It provides a method for tracking our school's progress toward New Jersey's Core Curriculum Content Standards.

At *Horace Mann Elementary School*, we use results from both formative and summative assessments to identify areas for growth and improvement. Student achievement cannot be defined solely by performance on standardized tests at the elementary level. Of equal importance are participation in classroom discussions and activities, a variety of performance assessments and participation in the arts, community service, and more. At *Horace Mann Elementary School*, we have established the following initiatives that help each and every student achieve:

1. We continue to actively stress character education among our students. Our school-based efforts center on three key character traits: respect, responsibility, and citizenship.
2. We continue to encourage and educate our students on the importance of sustainability to help them develop a deeper understand of the character traits through action. Students participate in Earth hours, Trashless Tuesdays, and maintenance of the Mann Teaching Farm to understand that each of them can make a difference.
3. We continue to model the critical skills of lifelong learning by participating in faculty book studies, a parent/counselor book study, and professional development opportunities. Our teachers stay at the forefront of educational research, allowing them to always give the students their very best.

There is a synergy that exists between the students, educators, parents, and community members of *Horace Mann Elementary School*. By integrating a challenging academic program and a successful character education program, we help students develop a passion for lifelong learning in critical aspects of their lives. Please contact the school to learn more about these initiatives or about any of the data in School Performance Report.

Sincerely,

Dr. Shilpa Davé
Principal