

# ROBERT HUNTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



8 DAYTON ROAD  
FLEMINGTON, NEW JERSEY 08822

Mrs. Sherri Glaab  
Principal

Mrs. Jessica Braynor  
Vice Principal

Dear Robert Hunter families,

We are pleased to announce that certified therapy dogs will be visiting Robert Hunter School, beginning in April! Our program will consist of reading with Samoyed dogs, Molly and Maggie and brief classroom visits. Arlene Boulos, trained handler, looks forward to joining Robert Hunter School!

We are aware that some students have allergies, and we are working with our school nurse to take measures to minimize risks and exposure. Also, we realize that some students do not feel comfortable around dogs. Please be aware that no student is obligated to interact with Maggie or Molly when they visit RH. Should you have concerns and would prefer that your child not have any contact with our therapy dogs, please complete the **opt-out** form below.

Working with animals has been shown to benefit students in many ways including:

- Increasing levels of motivation
- Improved academic skills, including but not limited to reading fluency
- Helping to build trust and provide a sense of security
- The provision of unconditional acceptance
- Promoting character traits that include: caring, cooperation, empathy, gratitude, humanity, nurturance, patience, perseverance, respect, responsibility, self-control, self-esteem, and service.

We are very excited to provide our students with the opportunity to work with Molly and Maggie throughout the school year.

Should you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you,

Mrs. Glaab and Mrs. Braynor

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## 2021-2022 Therapy Dog Program Opt-Out

*I do **NOT** give permission for my child to work with a therapy dog at Robert Hunter School:*

Students Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Classroom Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Level: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_