

RUNNEMEDE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MARY E. VOLZ



509 W. THIRD AVENUE
RUNNEMEDE, NJ
08078-1299

(856) 931-5353
FAX (856) 931-1827

Steve Pili
Principal

Steve Maloney
Assistant Principal

May 21, 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are writing to inform you that effective May 22, 2026, students may no longer bring Orbeez, NeeDohs, or similar gel-filled sensory toys to school.

Recently, schools across the country have seen an increase in unsafe behaviors involving these items, including students intentionally breaking them open, throwing them, and in some cases ingesting them as part of social media trends and peer challenges.

Orbeez and similar water-absorbing beads can expand when swallowed and may pose choking hazards or cause internal medical complications. Nee-Dohs and other gel-filled toys can also become hazardous if punctured or misused. In addition to the safety risks, these items have increasingly become a distraction to the learning environment and have caused disruptions, damage, and messes throughout the school.

To help maintain a safe and focused school environment, the following expectations will be in place:

- Orbeez, NeeDohs, and similar gel-filled or squishy toys are prohibited at school.
- Students who bring these items to school will be required to turn them over to school staff and parents may be asked to pick them up.
- Repeated violations or misuse of these items may result in disciplinary consequences.
- The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or confiscated personal items brought from home.

We ask for your partnership in discussing the dangers of these items with your child and reinforcing the importance of making safe choices at school.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain a safe learning environment for all students.

Sincerely,

Volz Administration