BERGENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NOT NOT NOT NOT SERVICE AND SERVICE SCHOOL DISTRICT NOT NOT NOT NOT SERVICE AND SERVICE AND

WINTER EDITION - FEBRUARY 2016



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FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

By Christopher M. Tully, Ed.S., Interim Superintendent of Schools



It's hard to believe that January has come and gone so quickly. We have all been working intensely to provide an outstanding education for the students of Bergenfield. Occasionally, however, it's a good idea to pause to assess how we are doing. Perhaps, this is a perfect time to take a moment to conduct a midyear review, as there is a great deal to acknowledge.

The Bergenfield Public School District continues to receive high marks in educational rankings. In December, we learned that we are now ranked 76th overall in the State of New Jersey out of over 600 other school districts. In Bergen County, we are ranked 14th

overall when compared to the 76 other Bergen County districts. While this illustrates that we are dedicated to continuous improvement, rest assured that we will continue to reach even higher.

In fact, despite being named the 2014-15 National Digital School Survey Winner, we continue to strive to bring state-of-the-art resources to our staff and students. We currently have a District Technology Committee that is developing a plan for implementing Google Applications for Education. These tools, available through Google, will allow us to continue to meet the educational technology needs of our students as they achieve 21st century learning skills. These skills are needed to be prepared for the rigors of college and careers for tomorrow.

We owe a huge debt of gratitude for our safety to local law enforcement officials, who continue to serve as exceptional partners for our district. In February, Bergenfield Public School District will be participating with the Bergenfield Police Department and other first responders in evening active shooter security drills. These drills keep the skills of our first responders and administrators sharp. This is another example of our community working together to provide a safe environment for our students and staff.

Another example of exceptional cooperation and due diligence is the development of the annual school budget. The 2016-17 budget process is underway and it's that time of year for school administrators to make budget presentations to our Board of Education during budget workshop meetings. The Board then works with administrators to finalize a budget that will meet the educational needs of all students in a fiscally responsible way. The 2016-17 Budget Presentation is scheduled for April 25th at 8PM in the front cafeteria of BHS.

For information on the budget and other topics, please be aware that the Bergenfield Board of Education continues to keep our community informed through our website and social media outlets. Please remember to visit our district homepage, www.bergenfield.org, and click on our Twitter, Facebook, and Google+ icons under the "Connect With Us" header. Be sure to click "follow" on those networks to receive notifications as they are released.















2016-17 Kindergarten Registration

The Bergenfield Public School District will be holding kindergarten registration for the 2016-17 School Year on February 23-26 from 9am to 3pm at Old South Presbyterian Church, located at 150 West Church Street—across the street from Cooper's Pond.

All children being registered for kindergarten must be five years of age on or before October 1, 2016. More information is available on the district's website at the link below, including all registration and immunization requirements.

Parents are asked to call Ms. Alice Nieves, District Registrar, at (201) 385-8600 ext. 1609 to schedule an appointment. In the event of inclement weather, we will follow the school schedule regarding any closings, delayed opening, or early dismissal. Such announcements will be posted on the district's website and the district Facebook and Twitter pages.

For more information, please visit: http://goo.gl/xDO0bL

DISTRICT NEWS

Children's Author Reads to Franklin Students



In December, Franklin School welcomed M. Tara Crowl—author of Eden's Wish. The book, published by Disney Hyperion, was read to students in grades 3–5. The students asked many questions of Ms. Crowl, while the author asked some of her own to the students. The author led the children in an in-depth discussion, helping them to identify key components to comprehension, such as identifying the main idea and point of view. The students were able to pre-purchase the book and Ms. Crowl autographed each child's copy! A special thanks to Mr. Olson for inviting the author to spend the day at Franklin School.

Radio Announcer Visits BHS



John Minko, WFAN Radio and St. John's University Basketball play-by-play announcer, recently met with BHS students to share his expertise in sports broadcasting. He provided tutelage, preparing students to become announcers for winter athletic contests. A BHS alumnus, Minko met with students in the TV Production studio, which he fondly remembered as the home economics room when Minko attended BHS in the sixties.

Exemplary Educator Honored



Mrs. Susan Baez of the BHS English Department was recently honored by the New Jersey Department of Education's Exemplary Secondary Educator Recognition Program. Mrs. Baez was selected for displaying effective results in the classroom, providing a model of excellence and inspiration, and for demonstrating a long-range potential for professional and policy leadership. Last year, Mrs. Baez was recognized as BHS Teacher of the Year.

The Science of Plastics



RWB's 6th grade science classes recently participated in the PlastiVan Program, which explores the chemistry, manufacturing, and application of plastics. The hands-on program increased knowledge of the contributions that plastics make to modern life. Many objects were dissected for a better understanding of the innovation and engineering that goes into products we use daily.

A GIANT Surprise



This fall, several members of the New York Giants visited RWB 6th and 7th graders during physical education classes. As a follow-up to NFL Play 60, which the school participated in last spring, the Giants came back to promote their Hometown Huddle Project. The team donated exercise equipment that will be used to enhance the school's fitness program.



DISTRICT IN NEWS

Hoover School Third Grader Achieves National Honor Roll



Hoover School 3rd grader Harlon Sprague achieved National Honor Roll in the 2015 Noetic Learning Math Contest—a title awarded to the top 10% of participating students across the country. The Noetic Learning Math Contest is a national mathematics contest for elementary and middle school students. Its goal is to encourage an interest in math, develop problem solving skills, and inspire students to excel in math. More than 21,000 students representing 602 schools across the country took part in the contest.

In addition, 20 Bergenfield students received National Honorable Mention, which is awarded to the top 50%. Honorees include: Shamrudha Balamurugan, Lanz Sandoval, Nicolas Cardona, Puhalenthi Ramesh Vidhya, Kevin Cabuyao, Monisha Khatri, Haley Hernandez, Trianha Puente, Jeremiah Magnaye, Michael De Rosa Jr., Nitya Malhotra, Eryn Argonza, Megan Santos, Amaya Baez, Stefan John, and Frederick Vasquez.

New Jersey Coach of the Year



Marty Rivard, Bergenfield High School Boys Basketball Coach, was named 2015 New Jersey State Coach of the Year by the National Federation of High School Sports. Rivard led the team to its first State Championship Title in 70 years last season, and he currently holds the Bergen County record for wins.

Student Honored by Faculty



BHS Freshman Shaniya Binns was selected by 9th Grade Academy teachers for the Great Bear Citizen Award for marking period one. She was recognized by the faculty for her outstanding behavior—notably her respect, cooperation, and compassion for others. As a result of the award, Shaniya received a free breakfast.

Essay Earns First Prize



Emily Hughes, 8th grader at RWB, was the first place winner in Optimum Community's 8th Annual Hispanic Heritage Month Essay Contest. The Tri-State contest prompted entrants to write an essay about a Latino with whom they would like to spend a day. Emily chose Pope Francis as the subject of her essay. Optimum awarded Emily with a new laptop at a December ceremony held in her honor.



Lending a Helping Hand



Franklin School's Helping Hands Club made approximately 1,100 loom band bracelets for underprivileged children. These bracelets will be delivered to children in Guatemala and Jamaica by Dr. Jaime Golub, a local dentist who travels around the globe providing free care to children who have no access to dental care.



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FEBRUARY 2016 DISTRICT NEWS

District Central Administration

Mr. Christopher M. Tully, Interim Superintendent of Schools Mrs. Mary Anne DeVivio, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum Dr. Frank V. Auriemma, Interim Director of Personnel Dr. Mark Hayes, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Board of Education

Dr. Joseph Amara, President Mrs. Eileen Ryder, Vice-President Mr. Mark D'Esposito Mr. Ralph Messina





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Mr. Anthony Cortez



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