

A message from Dr. Joseph Meloche, Superintendent, Cherry Hill Public Schools.



CHPS WEEKLY

District News for the week ending April 28, 2017

Work and Fun for the Greater Good

Great events this weekend offer fun for the whole family while benefiting our community beyond measure.

This last weekend in April brings us not only beautiful, summer-like weather, but an opportunity to participate in events that have become part of the fabric of our community.

On Saturday, April 29, [Sustainable Cherry Hill](http://www.sustainablecherryhill.org/) presents the 8th Annual Earth Festival at Croft Farm from 10 am-2 pm. This event is near and dear to us in the Cherry Hill Schools, as all 19 of our schools participate with displays that demonstrate the work they do in sustainability throughout the school year. (Sharp Elementary's display from last year is pictured above.) Many of the displays are interactive. The creativity and passion our students and staff bring to this work is inspiring to us all. The festival also will feature multiple student musical acts and other talents. There are vendors from various organizations and businesses related to sustainability, as well as great food and opportunities to drop off items for recycling. [You can find a full list on Sustainable Cherry Hill's web site.](#) And be ready to take pictures with our own mascots – Westley the Lion from Cherry Hill High School West and Crimson the Cougar from Cherry Hill High School East! This is an incredible event to attend – bring a neighbor or a friend!

On your way to or from the Earth Festival, be sure to stop by the Jones Gym parking lot at Cherry Hill High School West for the Community Wide Yard Sale. Purchasing items from the sale not only fulfills the “reuse, repurpose, recycle” credo of sustainable living, but also contributes to Cherry Hill West’s Project Graduation. Project Graduation is an event that offers a safe celebration all night long after our graduation ceremonies – one for East and one for West. The Yard Sale is just one fundraising effort that helps make Project Graduation a night to remember for our graduates.

I urge you cap off your weekend with the 10th Anniversary performance of another fantastic

Sustainable Cherry Hill Earth Festival

April 29, 10 am-2 pm @ Croft Farm; details at

<http://www.sustainablecherryhill.org/>

Dancing with the Cherry Hill Stars

April 30, 7 pm @ Cherry Hill High School West

[Tickets available online.](#)

Board of Education Committee Meetings

Policy & Legislation: May 1

@ 6 pm, Malberg Administration Building Board Room, 45 Ranoldo Terrace

Curriculum & Instruction:

May 1 @ 7 pm, Malberg Administration Building Board Room, 45 Ranoldo Terrace

Business & Facilities: May 2 @ 6 pm, Malberg Administration Building Board Room, 45 Ranoldo Terrace

Strategic Planning: May 2

@ 7:30 pm, Malberg Administration Building Board Room, 45 Ranoldo Terrace

Board of Education Budget Adoption Meeting

May 2 @ 7 pm, Malberg Administration Building Board Room, 45 Ranoldo Terrace

Board of Education Work Session

May 9 @ 7 pm, Malberg Administration Building Board Room, 45 Ranoldo Terrace

Board of Education Action Meeting

May 23 @ 7 pm, Malberg Administration Building Board Room, 45 Ranoldo Terrace

fundraiser, the [Cherry Hill Education Foundation's](#) production of Dancing with the Cherry Hill Stars on Sunday, April 30 at 7 pm at Cherry Hill High School West. [Voting is already underway online](#). The show will include command performances from dancers who have participated during the past nine years. As always, the Cherry Hill High School East pit orchestra will accompany the dancers. I'm honored to serve as one of the judges this year! I'm told [just a few tickets are left and are available online](#) – as always, all proceeds benefit the students of the Cherry Hill Public Schools. This year, the foundation reached the \$1 million mark in donations since it was founded in 2007. We are incredibly grateful for their support over years!

Beyond participating in these meaningful events this weekend, please participate in our schools and the District at large. Have a question and believe others would like to know the answer as well? Ask it through our "[Quick Question](#)" portal on the District web site. Be sure to stay informed by following us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). If you haven't already, download our free District App from Google Play or the App Store. Come to our Board of Education meetings, listed on the [District Events Calendar](#), or watch the BOE Action Meetings online. And catch up on my "Online Lunch" broadcasts from this year, archived on our [YouTube channel](#).

I hope to see you at the Earth Festival on Saturday and/or Dancing with the Cherry Hill Stars on Sunday!

Regards,

Joseph N. Meloche

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Superintendent, Cherry Hill Public Schools



Cherry Hill High School West Students Talk to



Middle and Elementary Schools' PARCC



Eastside Named

Kilmer Students about Dangers of Smoking

Four Junior Cherry Hill High School West students on April 19 presented an inspiring and educational presentation to the fourth grade classes at Kilmer Elementary School as part of a service learning project that Mrs. Heather Esposito assigned in her 3A English class.

The purpose of the project was to have the high school students consider a social problem of importance and to try to inform and make a real difference in their community. After much consideration, research, and teamwork, these four students, Carolina Marro, Maria Vyzaniaris, Hikal Mazahra and Robert Blecha, pictured above, enthusiastically decided they wanted to teach elementary students about the dangers of smoking.

Using examples from what they have learned and witnessed among their peers, the West students created an informative lesson that the fourth graders were excited to hear.

Assessments Continue

[Middle and elementary school PARCC assessments are now underway.](#)

The Assessment Office offers a [Learning Heroes Guide, "Get Ready for the Test" for parents in anticipation of the upcoming PARCC assessments](#). This one-page guide was developed by Scholastic in partnership with the National PTA.

Important new graduation requirements for the class of 2021 pertain to 8th grade students currently enrolled in as Algebra I PARCC-eligible course. [Please click here for details on requirements for 8th grade Algebra I students.](#)

AS a reminder, the State Board of Education has approved updated state regulations for the high school graduation assessments requirements in both English language arts (ELA) and mathematics for the Classes of 2017 through 2021, and beyond. [Click here for details on these new regulations, which include the fact that the Class of 2020 is required to sit for the PARCC assessment in order to graduate.](#)

[A parents' guide to accessibility for English Learners taking the PARCC assessment is available by clicking here.](#)

Additionally, improvements have been made to this year's PARCC assessment. [Click here to see a chart of the improvements.](#)

Parents concerned about PARCC accessibility are encouraged to refer to the brochure, [Expanding Access: Accessibility Features and Accommodations for Students with Disabilities in PARCC Assessments—A Parent's](#)

Most Outstanding High School Newspaper for 2nd Year in a Row

Congratulations to the staff of Eastside, Cherry Hill East's student newspaper, for being named the Most Outstanding High School Newspaper in America by the American Scholastic Press Association for the second year in a row.

East was one of 17 schools this year to earn the distinction. The paper scored a 970 out of 1,000 on the ASPA rubric to win First Place with Special Merit as well. The "50 Years" pages throughout the year earned Eastside the distinction of "Best Special Content."

The following 20 students were named to the National Scholastic Press Association Journalism Honor Roll: Ilana Arougheti, Kaitlyn Boyle, Kevin Chen, Sari Cohen, Elissa Cohen, Ashley Cooper, Jennifer Dong, Eric First, Jared Fisch, Gabriella Friedman, Brooke Greenberg, Drew Hoffman, Nafessa Jaigirdar, Joe Levin, Asher Maitin, Sara Messinger, Jenna Myers, Ezra Nugiel, Hope Rosenblatt and Louis Zimmermann.

Eastside's [special Earth Day issue](#), pictured above, was published on Friday, April 22, 2017.

[Guide.](#)

The Cherry Hill Public Schools Assessment Office also offers [an FAQ document to answer common questions about the PARCC assessment process.](#) All parents are encouraged to read this FAQ.

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