

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



CHPS WEEKLY

District News for the week of February 5, 2016

WE Are
Cherry Hill
WE Are
Cherry Hill

Our cohesive community is the foundation of our success, now and in

UPCOMING
EVENTS

Black Broadway
Tulsa

the future.

One of the greatest gifts that educators receive on a daily basis is watching students connect with new information, sometimes referred to as the “Aha!” moment. Kindergarten students forming letters into words and words into sentences; Geometry students moving beyond the ‘given’ in a proof; a correct conjugation of *ir* in Spanish; and the revelation of who Saul Bellow modeled Henderson after as the Rain King. Moments such as these occur in our schools every day, and I am sure our families share the same moments at home and in the community.

I am proud to recognize these experiences and I believe that we should champion our student success every day. We must accept and own the responsibility to define success for our community. We must ensure that every day that we are present for our children, that we are making the right decisions for our children (event the difficult ones) and that we are sharing time with our children that is meaningful and connected.

We, as a community, must do this.

You may have noticed that our newsletter has changed recently, with the incorporation of “WE” in our heading – highlighting the “W” in purple for High School West and the “E” in red for High School East.

We are one community.

We are, one community.

We, are one community.

WE are Cherry Hill.

I am thrilled that we, through the work of the dedicated Zone PTA, through the many clubs and activities, the athletic teams, the music (as pictured above at Tuesday’s **WE** Are Music concert) and theater programs, and the annual Volley for Support, mutually engage in activities and events. This is one of the greatest parts of the community in which we reside.

I encourage everyone to see the performance of *Tulsa*, an original musical performed by a student

February 5 & 6, 7 pm,
Cherry Hill High
School West

[Board of Education Work Session](#)

February 9, 7 pm, Malberg
Board Room, 45 Ranoldo
Terrace

[Carusi Middle School 5th Grade Information Night](#)

February 10, 7 pm,
Carusi Middle School

[Beck Middle School 5th Grade Information Night](#)

February 11, 7 pm,
Beck Middle School

[SCHOOLS CLOSED](#)

February 12 - Teacher In-
Service

February 15

[Jazz Showcase](#)

February 17, 7 pm, Rosa
Middle School

[CHSEPTA](#)

February 18, 6:30-8:30 pm,
Kingston Elementary School

[SAT Makeup Test \(for Students Who Registered for January 23 Test\)](#)

February 20, 7:45 am
Cherry Hill High Schools
East & West

cast from both **W**est and **E**ast, tonight or tomorrow night at 7 pm at Cherry Hill West.

Regards,

Joe Meloche

Joseph Meloche

Superintendent, Cherry Hill Public Schools

P.S. Be sure to follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for the very latest happenings around the District. Our [District Events Calendar](#) on the District web site is a great resource for updates about upcoming events. [You'll find the 2015-2016 School Year "Overview" Calendar here](#). For events and activities in the Cherry Hill Community, check out our [Community Bulletin Board](#) on our [web site](#). And visit our [YouTube channel](#) for videos from around the District.



Cooper and Mann Elementary Schools Celebrate "Beautiful Oops"

Cooper Elementary and Mann Elementary guidance counselor Mrs. Sarah Thomas has implemented a creative way to teach the lesson of "making a mistake and turning it into something good" to all students at the schools.

Based on the book, [Beautiful Oops](#), the lessons began with a discussion about how everyone makes mistakes sometimes, and that mistakes can be an opportunity to learn and

SAT[®]

Important Information Regarding SAT Makeup Test February 20

The College Board has notified SAT supervisors of the procedure for taking the makeup test for the test canceled on January 23 and rescheduled for February 20 at both Cherry Hill High School East and Cherry Hill High School West.

Admission tickets are now available to be printed from the College Board web site. The



Where Are They Now?

When Tom Plummer (Cherry Hill West Class of '88, pictured above) thinks back on what he gained from his experience in the Cherry Hill Public Schools, at the top of his list is "character."

Mr. Plummer moved to Cherry Hill with his family when he was in fourth grade and attended Joyce Kilmer Elementary School and Brainerd Junior High School (now Carusi Middle School) before attending West. His

change what we do. Mrs. Thomas then read *Beautiful Oops* to the students. She describes what happened next in her blog:

After the first page almost every student was hooked – the younger students could not believe that I had purchased a book with a rip in it; I could see the “light bulb” go off for my older students when I turned from [ONE] ripped page to the next (there were many “aahs” and gasps).

After hearing the story, the students created their own "Beautiful Oops" art projects. Kindergarten and first grade students were given a torn piece of construction paper and were asked to draw a picture using the tears in the paper (there were many crowns, steps, bridges, and ocean scenes drawn).

Second and third grade students were each given a blank piece of paper and some construction paper. They were told that they needed to make a picture and try to fill their entire page using only the construction paper and glue sticks. The students created beautiful ripped paper pictures of animals, outdoor scenes, flags, and more.

The fourth grade students worked in groups to create a collective picture. Groups were each given one piece of paper and coloring supplies and had a set amount of time for each group member to contribute to the drawing.

Fifth grade students worked in pairs to create their own page in a Beautiful Oops class book. All students received a

ticket will NOT show the February 20 date, but instead will have the January 23 date. Also printed on the ticket will be a notation that this is a make-up date and special supervisor session. **Students will need to bring the new ticket with them to their testing site.**

IMPORTANT: Any student who cannot attend the makeup session should [call the College Board at one of their main offices](#) to arrange an individual test makeup date.

best memories, he says, involve his time in the West Marching Band. That experience included a great lesson in the importance of keeping one's word.

"I quit another band for a different school's musical production," he recalls. "Mr. Williams [a teacher at West] sat me down and lectured me that you never go back on a promise. Those words still drive my character."

Mr. Plummer calls the Marching Band and his time in Cherry Hill "the best environment imaginable."

"I met a core group of friends that I'm still close to even today," he says. "I met my best friend in the seventh grade. Now those friends have their kids in the Cherry Hill Public Schools. I find that to be amazing."

After graduating from West, Mr. Plummer got a degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering. A job at Lockheed Martin (then Martin Marrietta) in Moorestown followed.

"I moved around jobs doing different things figuring out what I liked," Mr. Plummer says. "That's what is great about working at a large company. There are dozens of career paths and over time you can hone in on what you want to do. Eventually I got into management and did that for 13 years."

During this time, Mr. Plummer recognized

Beautiful Oops sticker to show their participation in the project.

After all of the projects were complete, Mrs. Thomas displayed them on bulletin boards, such as the one pictured above, for all students to see. The valuable lesson for all: the ability to take a mistake, learn from it and try to turn it into something good.

computer security as an up-and-coming, important field.

"I learned everything I could and became a leader in that area," he says. "I was taken out of my management position and became a Cybersecurity Architect. Now I help drive cybersecurity across dozens of programs and have even helped shape some government policies."

Beyond his career accomplishments, Mr. Plummer notes that his wife and son "will always be the most important thing in the world."

His advice to students?
"First and foremost, do your best in school," he says.
"And the biggest advice: If you make a promise, always keep it!"

Interested in seeing someone you know profiled in "Where Are They Now?" Send a short bio and contact information to the [Public Information Office](#).