

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



CHPS Weekly

District News for the week of October 16, 2015

Our Children in the Middle: 6th, 7th & 8th Grades

UPCOMING EVENTS

BOE Action Meeting
October 20, 7 pm,
Malberg Board Room, 45

We're taking a close look at the Middle School Years in the Cherry Hill Public Schools. Please let us know what you think!

My professional experience in education has allowed me to observe the incredible physical, emotional, and intellectual stages of development that children navigate from preschool through the completion of high school. This journey for children is marked by milestones and accomplishments, by growth spurts and emotional development, and in the varying levels of understanding and patience that are exhibited by family members. For many years, I have firmly believed that our children experience more physical and emotional changes during their middle school years than at any other time in their lives, except from birth to age 3.

The middle school years in Cherry Hill (6th, 7th & 8th grades) are nurtured within our three incredible middle schools – Beck, Carusi, and Rosa. (I had the pleasure of meeting with Rosa students recently, pictured above, and will do the same with Carusi and Beck students in the coming weeks.) The administrators, the teachers and other certificated staff members, and the support staff in these three schools are very special and dedicated individuals. Each school embodies an environment that has evolved to serve the unique needs of this developmental stage.

In April 2015, the middle school principals were tasked with forming a district wide committee to examine the middle school experience in Cherry Hill. When the committee held its initial, formative meeting in May 2015, nearly 30 people, representing each academic department and the each of the three PTAs, spent the day establishing norms and outlining their journey of examining the middle school experience in Cherry Hill. The committee has continued to meet and recently held four public forums to solicit input from the community at large regarding the middle school experience. In fact, you may still share your thoughts electronically until 5 pm, October 21, on our [Middle Level Survey](#). All answers are anonymous.

I am excited when I hear from the committee about their work. The members are inspired and passionate about middle level education. As they continue to look at our children's experience, they will begin to prepare recommendations regarding how to guide the development and improvement of our program. As a district, we are dedicated to engaging in a cycle of self-reflection and continuous improvement. I look forward to continued work of the committee and to seeing their

Ranoldo Terrace

Food Day

October 24, 11 am-2 pm,
Cherry Hill High School
East

[Click here for more information and to register.](#)

Cherry Hill High School West

Children's Show

Alice in Wonderland
October 30 @ 7 pm
October 31 @ 11 am &
3 pm
November 1 @ 1 pm

recommendations in May 2016.

It was my pleasure to join Mayor Cahn, the members of the Cherry Hill Town Council, the various municipal departments and the police and fire departments as they welcomed new members to our community. Our educational community is enlivened with each new student who enters one of our schools. I encourage you to engage with your neighbors, especially the new ones, and to be active members of the community – join the PTA! Check our [District Events Calendar](#) and come to a game, or a concert, or a show.

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.



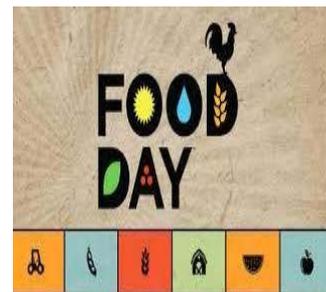
Video of the BOE Candidates' Forum Now Available for Viewing

With Election Day just less than 3 weeks away (on Tuesday, November 3), opportunities are available for community members to



CHPS to Contribute to Literacy Awareness & Guinness World Record

The Cherry Hill Public Schools will be part of "[Read Across the Globe](#)" on Monday, October 19, in which participants will raise



Great Free Workshops to Be Offered on Food Day

Saturday, October 24 will be a day devoted to fun, food and sustainability at Cherry Hill High School East, thanks to [Sustainable Cherry Hill's Food Day](#), from 11 am-2 pm. New

become more informed about the candidates for the Cherry Hill Board of Education.

One candidate is running for an unexpired term with one year remaining on it. Four other candidates are running for three open seats with full terms.

[A video of the Candidates' Forum](#), held on October 14, is now available on the District web site. The four candidates running for the three open seats -- Barry Dickinson, Fredrick Dande, Kathy Judge and Ken Tomlinson -- answered questions from the community during the 90-minute event.

[Also on the web site are the candidates' biographies, submitted by the candidates and listed in ballot order.](#)

awareness about the world literacy crisis and will attempt to set a new Guinness World Record for most children read to by an adult in 24 hours.

The book for the event -- chosen by the Points of Light and the Barbara Bush Literacy Foundation -- is *Farmer Will Allen and the Growing Table*, written by Jacqueline Briggs Martin and illustrated by Eric-Shabazz Larkin.

Surprisingly enough, the book is perfectly suited for the K-12 audience. "The story highlights a sense of community, the power that one person can make a change, themes of hope, diversity, creativity and the list goes on," says says Violeta Katsikis, District Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction for Cherry Hill Public Schools. Katsikis continues, "We're thrilled with the selection!"

Our participating schools will be:

Thomas Paine -- school wide

Carusi -- school wide

Beck -- 3 classes

Rosa -- 4 classes

West -- 4 classes

East -- 5 classes

Alternative High School -- school wide

workshops have been added:

Home Garden Sprouting (11 am): You don't need a green thumb to grow a home garden! Sprouting is a simple, affordable way to enjoy fresh organic veggies all year long! Get the 411 on the easy steps to sprouting. Presented by Patty Magnus of Sustainable Cherry Hill.

The Magic of Healthy, Sustainable Recipes (11:30 am): Discover the magical question that gets everyone enjoying a vegan meal and having fun in the kitchen. Learn how to create delicious, sustainable, healthful plant-based recipes. This presentation is for those who don't cook yet and those who love to cook! Presented by Anne Dinshah of American Vegan Society.

Fall in Love with Fair Trade Chocolate (1 pm): Discover the health benefits of fair trade chocolate and learn how to buy and use the right amounts of this delicious treat. Learn about fair trade and why it's important to sustaining the economic and cultures of people in developing countries, focusing on the Huichol Indians of Mexico. Presented by Marilyn Del Duca of SHAMAN Chocolates.

Additional Food Day Workshops:

Grow Your Own Health: 12:00 pm

Good Eats Teach - Veggiecation: 12:30 pm

Make it at Home - Kimchi

Volunteer readers will reach a total of 73 classes and 1,435 total students. Watch for photos from the event on Monday, October 19, on the District web site, <http://www.chclc.org/>, and on our social media accounts on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

Fermentation: 1:30pm

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