

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



CHPS Weekly

District News for the week of November 13, 2015

Veterans' Day:

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Johnson Elementary](#)

Honoring Those Who Have Served

This week, students of every age throughout the Cherry Hill Public Schools honored the men and women who have served our country.

During the fall, I look forward to November 11, Veterans' Day, as an opportunity to pause and thank the members of our armed services who chose to serve and protect our freedoms. It is an honor for me to visit our schools and see the creative ways in which our students, staff and administrators recognize and thank our veterans. It's a time when students can learn about history from those who lived it. They learn about the many forms service takes within the military – not just fighting battles, but helping communities during times of crisis, providing medical care and participating in rescue missions, just to name a few.

Veterans visited several of our schools this week to describe their work during eras as recent as the War in Iraq to as far back as World War II. They spoke about working on submarines, working as medics, pilots and attorneys. They spoke about what they universally described as the hardest part of their jobs in the military: being away from their families. At J.F. Cooper Elementary School, pictured above, each member of the military who spoke at a school-wide assembly had ties to a student at the school, whether as a parent, grandparent, aunt or uncle. This personal connection resonated with me, as I understand the importance of family and the desire to be with them while following a professional calling. As we thank our military service people, it's important to remember to thank their family members. Their sacrifices in the name of service are great.

More details about the various ways our schools marked Veterans' Day may be found in the story in the left column below this letter. If you would like to contribute to next year's Veterans' Day events, I encourage you contact your building principal.

Holiday Bazaar

November 14,
9 am-3:30 pm

CHSEPTA Meeting

November 19
6:30-7 pm - General Meeting
7-8:30 pm - Guest Speaker Cindy Conley, MS BCBA First Children's Services: "Behavior Basics from Breakfast to Bedtime"

BOE Action Meeting

November 24, 7 pm
Board Room,
Malberg Admin. Bldg.,
45 Ranoldo Terrace

Early Dismissal for All Students

November 25

East vs. West Football Game

November 25, 7 pm @
Jonas Morris Football Stadium

Schools Closed

November 26 & 27

We can all accept the challenge and the responsibility to serve our community. In some way, each one of us makes a commitment to our schoolmates and neighbors to take care of the community, to be kind and to be respectful, and to honor those who dedicate their lives to service.

To our veterans and their families, a heartfelt thank you.

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.



Veterans Visit CHPS

During the week of November 9, to mark Veterans' Day, our schools welcomed veterans so our students could thank them for their service and learn about history from those who have lived it.

J.F. Cooper Elementary



East Student Wins Top Honor in WHY Youth Media Awards

Congratulations to Cherry Hill High School East senior Madeline Bowne, who earned first place in the 2015 WHY Youth Media Awards for her documentary "Student Loan Debt: A Burden on America's Scholars." Madeline says she chose the topic because "the



Where Are They Now?

Miami news anchor Rick Folbaum (CH West '87) is quite sure his current success is linked to his Cherry Hill education. "Students in the Cherry Hill Public School system should know they are being very well prepared for the world that awaits them,"

was one of the schools honored by the presence of six veterans at a school-wide assembly, as described in Dr. Meloche's letter above.

At John A. Carusi Middle School on November 10, veterans, including those pictured above, visited to share stories and information with students. The veterans attended classes with students and hosted presentations throughout the school day.

Students were able to thank the veterans throughout the day and gain better insight through their varied experiences. Students decorated the Carusi library with handwritten thank-you cards as part of a reception for their guests.



The students were so excited that the full Carusi band, pictured above, played to provide a heroes' welcome for the honored guests.

At Woodcrest Elementary School, students wrote

student loan debt crisis is an issue that will directly impact me and many of my peers."

While students are well aware that college degrees allow people to have a much higher earning potential, Madeline explains, the debt they incur for that education can follow them into their adult lives.

"Students must be careful that their investment is sound," she says. "I decided to make a documentary about this topic because I wanted to learn how to make a fiscally responsible college decision."

WHYY is airing Madeline's documentary on *Anthology*, a new show airing on the first Friday of the month at 5 pm and Sunday nights at 12:30 am. The documentary also is available for viewing on [YouTube](#).

This is Madeline's second award from WHYY. She also won third place in the WHYY 2011 Youth Media Awards for her music video "Perfect Child." She is a five-time winner in C-SPAN's national StudentCam Competition.

Madeline intends to study digital media design engineering in college. "After college, I would love to pursue digital media design, video graphics/special effects, computer graphics, animation, digital film making, or documentary production," she says.

Madeline credits Mr. Marc Pierlott, her junior year economics teacher, with helping develop the documentary. "He has been supportive since 8th grade, when I had him for Humanities at Carusi. For my documentary on student loan debt, he agreed to have a classroom debate on the Bennett Hypothesis," she says. "During the debate,

he says. Mr. Folbaum, pictured above during one of his reports from Cuba in August, anchors the 5 pm and 11 pm newscasts at [CBS Miami](#).

"Ms. Celeste McMenamin [at West] taught the first journalism class I ever took," he recalls. "I credit her with providing me the foundation I needed to eventually pursue a career in the field. She was also the faculty adviser for the school newspaper, *The Lion's Roar*, which you could say was my first job in the business. Mr. Joe Gellura had a huge impact, as director of the school musicals. And Mr. Walter Bellfield was one of the toughest teachers I've ever had. He fostered in me a love of American history that I'll cherish for the rest of my life."

A Cherry Hill native, Mr. Folbaum attended Coles School for grades K through 3, just before the school closed. He then attended Joyce Kilmer Elementary for grades 4 through 6, and moved on to Brainerd Junior High (now Carusi) for 7th and 8th grades.

His favorite memories from the Cherry Hill Schools, he says, "would have to be my involvement with the West theater department. I performed in many different shows throughout my four years there. But I'm most proud of playing Danny Zucko in *Grease* my senior year.

Upon graduating from West, Mr. Folbaum wanted to pursue a career path that would blend his love of performing with his passion

thank-you letters to veterans in the Cherry Hill community. Teachers at James Johnson Elementary School, as pictured below, enhanced Veterans' Day discussions by dressing in patriotic outfits.



We thank all of the veterans who visited our schools and look forward to welcoming them -- and other veterans -- to our Veterans' Day programs next year.

students discussed the validity of Bennett's theory that federal aid and loans actually drive up the price of college."

More examples of Madeline's work are available on her web site, madelinebowne.com

for politics and current events. He decided that broadcast journalism was a good fit. "That wound up being my major at Syracuse University," he says.

Mr. Folbaum and his wife, Kelcey, are the proud parents of five young kids. "We still have lots of family and friends in Cherry Hill and love our summer time trips to Margate," he says. "Go Eagles!"

What advice would he give to current students in the Cherry Hill Public Schools?

"I tried to take advantage of all the extracurricular activities at West that most interested me; from the school paper, to the theater program, to the swim team," he recalls. "I'd encourage students today to identify what they're passionate about and dive in to the after-school programs that allow them to nurture that. That's what I did, and it's working out great."

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