

# CHERRY HILL PUBLIC SCHOOLS



## CHPS Weekly

District News for the week of January 9, 2015

## New Year, New Opportunities

The New Year brings with it not only a change in the date, but it also brings new faces and events to the Cherry Hill Public Schools.

While we're only a week into 2015, we're nearly mid-way through the school year. Our students and staff now have the opportunity to look ahead with renewed energy following

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### High School Visitation Nights

January 28

Cherry Hill West: 7 pm

February 5

Winter Recess. Not only have we turned over our calendar pages to a new year, but we now see some new faces in various positions on the Cherry Hill Board of Education after the Reorganization Meeting, held on January 6. Carol Matlack, former Board of Education Vice President (pictured in the photo below, left), now holds the office of President of the BOE. Read more in the story below (left) about the other BOE members sworn in at the Reorganization Meeting. Coincidentally, January is Board of Education Recognition Month. We thank our Board members, all volunteers, for their service.

Also new this year, the Cherry Hill Public Schools is expanding our Martin Luther King Day of Service outreach at the invitation of Town Council. Donations for local charities are being accepted now. Volunteers will be needed on the MLK Day of Service, January 19, between 10 am and 2 pm to sort items at Cherry Hill High School West. Opportunities abound throughout the community contribute to the planned service efforts. You may find [more information about the Martin Luther King Day of Service by clicking here.](#)

The start of 2015 means our eighth grade and fifth grade students begin thinking about which school they would like to attend for the 2015-2016 school year. Our eighth graders are beginning their visits to the high schools this month. Dates and times for these information sessions are listed in the "Upcoming Events" column at right. Dates for the middle school visitation sessions, which will take place in February for our fifth graders, also are listed at right.

Students at the high school level will have the opportunity to sign up for new classes added to our 2015-2016 curriculum. Some examples of our new classes include: Introduction to Computer Programming, a Common Core Elective for students who have successfully completed Algebra 2; Dynamics of Health Care and Society, an elective available to students in grades 10, 11 and 12; and Sustainable Design 1: An Introduction to Sustainability and Design Fundamentals, a Unique Elective at Cherry Hill West for students in grades 9 and 10.

Be sure to read the latest installment of our monthly feature, "Where Are They Now?" below (right) and [send us your nomination](#) of a Cherry Hill alumnus to profile in a future

Cherry Hill East: 7 pm

## **5th Grade Information Nights**

February 3, 7 pm  
Rosa (West side students & parents)

February 4, 7 pm  
Rosa (East side students & parents)

February 10, 7 pm  
Carusi

February 17, 7 pm  
Beck

## **PARCC Primer Series, Part II - How It's Done**

Cherry Hill West: February  
3, 7 pm

Cherry Hill East: February  
4, 7 pm

issue.

Please continue to [email](#) us about the accomplishments of the students and staff of the Cherry Hill Schools. All of our district news, including the departments in our former “e-news” – Up Front, District News, School News, Upcoming Events and Community News - is available [by clicking here](#). Check our [Activities Calendar](#) on the [District web site](#) for updates about upcoming events and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) for the latest District information. You'll find the 2015-2016 District Calendar here. For easy access to all of the media listed above, be sure to download our free [District App](#). And visit our [YouTube channel](#) for videos from around the District.

Happy New Year!



Maureen Reusche, Ed. D.

Superintendent



### **BOE Reorganization Brings New Faces to Board Positions**

Following the November 2014 elections, three school board members were sworn in on January 6, 2015. Carol Matlack, pictured above, was reelected to her seat. On January 6, she was nominated, approved and sworn in as the new Board of Education President. Mrs. Matlack replaces outgoing BOE



### **January 5, 2105 Named "Janet McGrath Day"**

Beck Middle School math teacher Janet McGrath received a surprise visit January 5 from Mayor Chuck Cahn, who presented her with a proclamation naming the day "Janet McGrath Day."

Mrs. McGrath recently earned the New Jersey Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST). Certified in middle school mathematics



### **Where Are They Now?**

When Michael Mandel, 2001 graduate of Cherry Hill High School West, was a little kid going to private school, he thought he would grow up to be a lawyer. But the elective business courses he took as a high school student at Cherry Hill West, along with involvement in DECA, spurred his interest in becoming an entrepreneur.

President Kathy Judge, whose term ended. Also sworn in were Eric Goodwin, who was reelected to his seat, and Lisa Saidel, who was elected to the seat vacated by Seth Klukoff.

Elliott Roth was nominated, approved and sworn in as BOE Vice President, filling the seat vacated by Mrs. Matlack.

and science, as well as in elementary education, Mrs. McGrath is known for integrating science into math.

She now will move on to consideration for the PAEMST national award.

The Presidential Awards for Excellence in Math and Science program is operated by the National Science Foundation (NSF). Since its inception in 1983, PAEMST has recognized more than 3,000 outstanding math and science teachers nationally, including 60 in New Jersey. National winners are recognized in a program in Washington, DC, and receive a \$10,000 grant from the NSF.

Mandel now is the co-founder and CEO of CompStak, a company that serves as a marketplace for the exchange of lease comparables in real estate. CompStak provides hard-to-find, difficult to compile data for use in the commercial real estate business. Its clients include brokers, investors, appraiser, asset managers and economists.

Prior to starting this multi-state corporation, Mr. Mandel went to Babson College outside of Boston. "Babson is known for entrepreneurship," Mr. Mandel explains. "I knew I wanted to start my own business, but I didn't know what it would be."

Mr. Mandel took a job at a New York City music production company right out of college and worked in branding. "The company developed the Yahoo 'yodel,'" he says, referring to the well known search engine company. After a year there, followed by 5 1/2 years as a real estate broker, Mr. Mandel started CompStak.

Mr. Mandel recalls his time at West fondly, and advises current students to take advantage of opportunities outside of their core coursework. He adds that extracurriculars are valuable for developing both friendships and interpersonal skills for working with others.

"Focus on what you like to do, and get on a path that leads toward doing that for your career," Mr. Mandel advises.

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