

# CHERRY HILL PUBLIC SCHOOLS



## CHPS Weekly

District News for the week of March 6, 2015

## PARCC Testing: Week One

After much preparation, discussion and press coverage, the Cherry Hill Public Schools launched its first round of PARCC testing this week.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Cherry Hill High  
School East's  
Production of  
*Anything Goes*

March 6 & 7, 7:30 pm  
March 8, 2 pm

PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) testing began Tuesday, March 3, 2015, one day later than anticipated after a 2-hour delayed school opening on Monday, March 2. PARCC has been the topic of intense discussion – among residents of the Cherry Hill community, the state of New Jersey and the nation at large. These benchmark assessments, chosen by nine other states in addition to New Jersey, required a great deal of preparation by students, teachers, administrators and our technical staff. Our first day of testing went well, with positive attitudes among the fifth, eighth and eleventh graders tested. Technological glitches arose as expected, but they were few.

The student participation rates for taking the PARCC assessments on March 3 were as follows:

- Elementary School students: 91 percent
- Middle School students: 82 percent
- High School students: 27 percent

We would like to thank all of the people who put in countless hours over the past year-and-a-half making sure the entire District was ready for PARCC. From the technology requirements to scheduling, staffing and student preparedness, our teams rose to the challenge.

[You may view the PARCC testing schedules -- revised to accommodate this week's snow days -- for the coming weeks by clicking here.](#)

We'll be offering the third part of our PARCC Primer Series, "What PARCC Means," on April 21 and 23. This session will discuss how the data from PARCC will be used, and what it means in terms of assessing student learning and determining future curriculum. You may view [previous PARCC Primer Series materials by clicking here](#). A video of [Part 2 of the Series, "How It's Done," can be viewed by clicking here](#).

To keep up with our district news, including the departments in our former "e-news" – Up Front, District News, School News, Upcoming Events and Community News - [please click here](#). Check our [Activities Calendar](#) on the [District web site](#) for updates about upcoming events and follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). You'll find the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 District Calendars [here](#). And visit our

### [Cherry Hill High School West Dance Recital](#)

March 6, 7 pm

### [Daylight Savings Time Begins](#)

March 8 - set clocks ahead 1 hour

### [BOE Work Session](#)

March 10, 7 pm

### [Beck Middle School's \*Alice in Wonderland, Jr\*](#)

March 13 & 14, 7 pm

March 15, 2 pm

### [Rosa Middle School's \*Seussical, Jr\*](#)

March 13, 7:30 pm

March 14, 1 pm & 7:30pm

### [Cherry Hill High School West's Production of \*Disney's Mary Poppins\*](#)

March 20, 21, 27 & 28, 7 pm

March 22 & 28, 2 pm

March 22 - Character Breakfast, 11:30 am

[YouTube channel](#) for videos from around the District.

And please continue to [send us any news](#) about what's happening in the District.

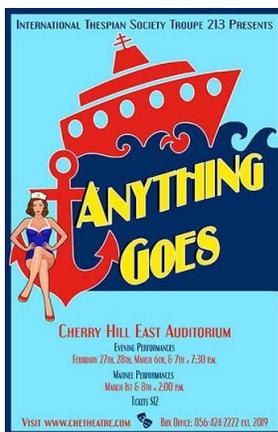
Don't forget: Daylight Savings Time begins this Sunday, March 8 – be sure to set your clocks one hour ahead!

Sincerely,



Maureen Reusche, Ed. D.

Superintendent



## The Shows Are On!

Although the week's weather resulted in school being closed both Thursday, March 5 and Friday, March 6, with the majority of weekend activities canceled, both Cherry Hill East's production of *Anything Goes* and Cherry Hill West's Dance Recital will



## East Vex Robotics Wins State Championship, Moves on to Worlds

Cherry Hill High School East's Vex Robotics "F Team" won the New Jersey State Championship on Saturday, February 28, 2015. The team also received the



## Where Are They Now?

Eliana Roth may be a very recent grad of Cherry Hill High School West ('13), but she'll be finishing up her Bachelor of Science degree by the end of 2015. Along the way, Ms. Roth, pictured above, has cultivated a huge talent for

go on as scheduled.

*Anything Goes* is in its final run this weekend, with shows tonight, March 6, at 7:30 pm (white cast) and again March 7 at 7:30 pm (red cast) and March 8 at 2 pm (white cast). Tickets are still available for \$12 at the door.

The West Dance Recital will take place tonight, March 6, at 7 pm.

Break a leg to all performers at both schools!

Excellence Award, given to best overall robot at the tournament.

The top 40 robots in the state competed at the State Championship. The F Team's first place status means they will compete at the World Championship, held in Louisville, Kentucky in April. The team from East will compete against about 450 other high school teams from more than 20 countries worldwide.

Congratulations to the entire team and their adviser, Mr. Joe Dilks. Continued success to all at the World Championship!

synchronized skating, in which she and her team recently won their sixth consecutive National Championship and will compete at the International Skating Union World Synchronized Skating Championships in Ontario, Canada, in April.

A Cherry Hill student from kindergarten through twelfth grade, first at Bret Harte Elementary, then at Rosa International Middle School before Cherry Hill West, Ms. Roth has been skating for nearly as long as she's been a student. Starting when she was just six years old, Ms. Roth says, "I immediately fell in love with the sport." Five years later, in 2006, Ms. Roth tried Synchronized Skating and moved up through increasing difficulty levels in the sport. By age 14, she became an international competitor on Team USA. Ms. Roth and her team appeared on Good Morning America and the Today Show, as well as in newspapers and magazines. "My high school teachers and peers knew me as the Team USA figure skater who would frequently miss weeks of school at a time," she recalls. Still, she managed to earn good grades and take AP classes, eventually earning a spot at Boston University, where she majors in Psychology and minors in Education.

Ms. Roth now skates for the Haydenettes, a prestigious synchronized figure skating team based out of Lexington, Mass. This year, the International Olympic Committee will decide whether to admit synchronized skating into the 2018 Winter Olympic Games. "My team is anxiously waiting for the announcement," she says.

Ms. Roth says her best memories of the Cherry Hill Public Schools are those in the classroom. "I felt that my teachers genuinely cared about my development as a young adult and didn't just see me as another student," she recalls. "I admire my high school AP Statistics teacher, Mr. Drury, for his love for teaching and his students. At the end of each year, he promised to take out to dinner the students who received a 4 or 5 on the AP test. That dinner is one of my favorite memories as a student, because it truly reminds me of how proud I was to accomplish my academic goals with the support of exceptional teachers."

Following her graduation from Boston University in the fall of 2015, Ms. Roth plans to apply to law schools in the Boston area to pursue her goal of working as a special education lawyer. She also hopes to continue skating as a Haydenette for several years after

graduation and to join them in skating in the 2018 Winter Olympic Games, if the sport is admitted.

Her advice to current students? “Strive to make schooling meaningful,” she says. “Students will find schooling more meaningful if they can discover the meaning behind what they are learning.” And, Ms. Roth says, participate in non-academic activities – whether those are sports or the arts, affiliated with school or not – to build friendships and development life skills that will help inside and outside the classroom.

*Interested in seeing someone you know featured in Where Are They Now? [Send us a brief description and contact information.](#)*

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