

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



CHPS Weekly

District News for the week of December 11, 2015

The Season of Giving

UPCOMING
EVENTS

Our students, staff, faculty and parents all over the Cherry Hill Public Schools are demonstrating the spirit of giving this holiday season.

This is the time of year when all around us, there is talk of gifts. Advertisers ramp up campaigns encouraging us to want and to ask for material things. But in the Cherry Hill Public Schools, we prefer to emphasize the giving side of the holiday season. I've seen wonderful evidence of the spirit of giving as I've visited our schools and have checked in on social media this month.

In our elementary schools, the generosity of students, staff and parents has resulted in the donation of dozens of warm coats to children in need as well as food to families served by the South Jersey Food Bank and the Cherry Hill Food Pantry. Woodcrest Elementary surpassed their goal of raising \$1,000 for families in need by nearly 50 percent this month. The school celebrated with an assembly December 4. See the story below ("Woodcrest Raises Big Money, Principal Makes Big Style Change") for details on their achievement and Principal Jon Cohen's new, colorful hairstyle as a result! Johnson Elementary is accumulating families' and staff's spare change in their "Change Someone's Holiday" campaign, keeping track on the charts pictured above. And [Zone PTA](#) is collecting from all schools gift cards to be distributed to families in need during the holidays.

Our middle schools are giving their time and resources to help others as well. Beck Middle School is collecting coats for those in need. Carusi Middle School sponsored blood drive to help the American Red Cross shore up its life-saving supply for area hospitals and transfusion centers.

At the high schools, Cherry Hill High School West has just begun the "Rock Your Socks" initiative in partnership with the office of New Jersey Lieutenant Governor Kim Guadagno. "Rock Your Socks" calls on volunteers to buy socks for youth living at [Covenant House](#) and to wear crazy-patterned socks to show their support. Principal Dr. Kwame Morton "kicked off" the drive with [his challenge on Twitter](#). I have gladly accepted. Watch for more details on how the "Rock Your Socks" campaign is growing in the next issue of CHPS Weekly.

West Fall Show

The Outsiders

December 11 @ 7 pm

December 12 @ 2 pm &
7 pm

Cherry Hill High School
West

East Fall Show

The Tempest

December 11 & 12

@ 7:30 pm

Cherry Hill High School
East

BOE Action Meeting

December 22, 7 pm

Board Room,

Malberg Admin. Bldg.,
45 Ranoldo Terrace

Early Dismissal

December 23

Schools Closed

Winter Recess

December 24-January 3

Of course, I must commend our parent volunteers who are so generous with their time this season. From our "Secret Shop" volunteers at the elementary schools to our parent chaperones at our middle school dances to our high school booster groups handling various holiday fundraisers this time of year – your time is a gift well appreciated. It truly makes a positive and lasting difference in our students' experience at school.

Whatever holiday you celebrate this season, please remember to ask your children about the spirit of giving in their schools, and find out how you can be a part of it.

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.



Woodcrest
Raises Big
Money,
Principal Makes
Big Style



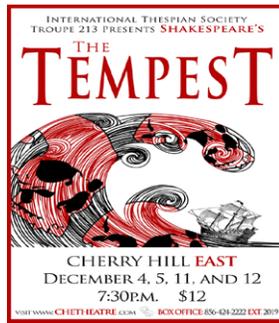
Cherry Hill East's
Aaron Groff Named
NJ.com's Olympic
Conference Runner of

Change

The Woodcrest PTA wanted to set an ambitious goal for a most important cause. To motivate the students about reaching the lofty goal of \$1,000 — to be raised in just 5 short school days — the PTA proposed that the principal, Mr. Cohen, consider participating in a stunt that would include shaving off his beard and donning a Mohawk-style hairdo.

Upon shattering their goal by nearly 50 percent with \$1,468, the school and PTA had a "shaving ceremony" on December 4. After allowing Mr. Cohen a few minutes to get over his "cold feet" (during which he left the APR and shaved off his mustache and beard), students cheered while volunteers shaved and styled his Mohawk. Students then dyed the style pink and "bedazzled" it with glitter.

There is still no word regarding how long Mr. Cohen plans to maintain the new hairstyle!



High School Fall Shows Bring Literature to Life

This weekend is the last chance to catch performances of the fall shows at Cherry Hill High Schools East and West.

Cherry Hill High School West presents *The Outsiders* on December 11 at 7 pm and December 12 at 2 pm and 7 pm.

Based on S.E. Hinton's coming of age novel, "The Outsiders" follows Ponyboy Curtis, a young greaser caught in the rivalry between his town's two high school social classes: the Greasers and the Socs. One night someone takes things too far and Ponyboy's world is turned upside down.

Admission is \$10 for adults and \$8 for students. For further information, call 856-663-8006 ext.1224. Advance tickets can be purchased at ShowTix4U.com or at the Box Office before the show.

Cherry Hill High School East presents one of Shakespeare's most beloved plays, *The Tempest*, in a new way. The production will include the use of film to bring a fresh take on sorceress Prospera's plot to reestablish herself as Duchess of Milan using

the Year for 2015

Congratulations to Cherry Hill East senior Aaron Groff, named [NJ.com's Olympic Conference Runner of the Year](http://NJ.com's) after a stellar career on the East Boys Cross Country Team.

Among Groff's achievements this year was breaking a course record at the Olympic Conference Championships at Rowan University with a winning time of 15:14. He also became the first Cherry Hill East boys' cross-country runner in 32 years to win an individual South Jersey sectional, winning the South Jersey Group IV championship. Groff also ran several personal record times throughout the season and qualified for and ran in the Nike Nationals in Portland, Oregon on December 5.

Groff will attend the University of Pennsylvania in the fall, where he will continue his running career. We wish him continued success!

illusion and magic.

Performances are
December 11 and 12 at
7:30 pm. Tickets are
\$12 and can be bought
at 856-424-2222 ext.
2019 or at the Box Office
an hour prior to the
performance.

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