

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





CHPS WEEKLY

District News for the week ending January 26, 2018

Kindness: Accept the Challenge!

This week's Great Kindness Challenge can expand

UPCOMING
EVENTS

Coffee & Conversation

far beyond our 19 schools and just these 5 days. WE owe it to one another to commit to kindness, always.

This past week, January 22-26, was the annual [Great Kindness Challenge](#). Many of our schools, at all grade levels, participated with great enthusiasm. Students at Kingston Elementary collected money to donate to Puerto Rico to help with the challenges remaining from Hurricanes Irma and Maria. A. Russell Knight Elementary started a “kindness wave” of surprise tokens sent to adults which were then “paid forward” across the district. “Kindness tunnels” leading into schools (as pictured above), paper chains of kindness, positive Post-It notes, Crazy Hair Day (“Crazy for kindness”), Pajama Day (“Dreaming of Kindness”), the construction of “Kindness Quilts” and more at many other schools all demonstrated our students’ commitment to kindness.

The Great Kindness Challenge *is* great – It gives our students an opportunity to talk about and to focus on being kind. They participate in a week devoted to giving extra attention to how we interact with one another and how we speak, the words we choose to express ourselves. It’s wonderful that the kids are talking about it, but I encourage everybody, especially the adults, to talk about it as well. Kindness needs to be a priority for all of us in our everyday lives. One of the things I always try to include in this weekly letter is a reminder about being kind – sharing a kind word and a smile. Some of the challenges that our kids deal with, just before they arrive at school, leave little room for focusing on kindness. Yet so many of them still do. The difference that it makes if an adult or another student smiles back at them as they arrive is absolutely tremendous. As adults, we must remember that. The challenge that I offer you adults is to SMILE at people you come in contact with, and offer a kind word – not just in our schools, but in our neighborhoods and throughout our community.

Among the best parts of my job are the home visits I do throughout the year. As I speak to families, it’s clear that people come to Cherry Hill because of the schools, but they stay here because of what the community is. They stay because of the feeling of connectedness, because of the feeling of being valued and being a part of something larger than themselves and their family. We can all make those connections stronger. Speak kindly to the people you see. We are

[with the Superintendent](#)

January 28 from 1-2:30 pm
John A. Carusi Middle School
315 Roosevelt Drive

[Deadline to Submit Aramark Student Survey](#)

January 28

[Online Survey seeks feedback from middle and high school students](#)

["Still Climbing" - A Tribute to Black History Month](#)

February 3 @ 7 pm
Cherry Hill High School West

[Policy & Legislation Committee Meeting](#)

February 5 @ 6 pm
Malberg Administration Building

[Curriculum & Instruction Committee Meeting](#)

February 5 @ 7 pm
Malberg Administration Building

[Business & Facilities Committee Meeting](#)

February 6 @ 6 pm
Malberg Administration Building

[Board of Education Strategic Planning Committee Meeting](#)

February 6 @ 7 pm
Malberg Administration Building

[Board of Education Work Session](#)

February 13 @ 7 pm
Malberg Administration Building

[SCHOOLS CLOSED](#)

Presidents' Day Holiday
February 19

incredibly academically successful, but the character lessons we model are what our kids take with them and what will define us as a community.

Please stay connected with us through the [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) feeds from the District and your schools to see examples of Kindness Challenge activities and other happenings. Don't forget to check in with us on [YouTube](#), where you'll find my latest Online Lunch broadcast and our previously taped Board of Education meetings. Ask questions via the District web site Q&A portal, [Quick Question](#). And please remember, our Board Work Sessions and Action Meetings are open to the public and [broadcast live](#). All Board committee meetings, with the exception of Human Resources, are open to the public as well.

I thank you for your continued commitment to our schools and our community. **WE** can make a difference every day. I look forward to seeing you as I am out and about, and I will be sure to share a smile and a kind word!

Regards,

Joe Meloche

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Superintendent, Cherry Hill Public Schools



Rosa Art and Literary Magazine Earns National Award

Congratulations to the staff of Rosa International Middle School's Art and Literary Magazine for finishing second place in the nation among middle school art and literary magazines for the 2016-2017 school year from the American Scholastic Press Association. Under the direction of their adviser, Ms. Skye Silverstein, the 2016-2017 staff included:

Rachel Agosto-Ginsburg

Naomi Burgstein

Ishani Hirata-Chandran

Shivani Hirata-Chandran

Sera Ko

Abby MacCarthy

Kyra Reilly

Emma Ronge

Dominic Scott

Yaz Shaughnessy

Trey Shelton

Gary Yu

Additional artists were:

Abby Yu

Emily Haya

Gina Liu



2018 PARCC Assessment Information Now Available

The PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) assessment schedule is now set. Assessments will begin Tuesday, April 17, 2018 with high school testing. Middle school testing will begin Tuesday, April 24, and elementary school testing will begin Thursday, May 3.

[A full schedule, including make-up dates](#), is available on the District web site. Additionally, [high school graduation assessment requirements for the classes of 2016 through 2021 and beyond](#) are now available on the District web site.



Deadline for CHAACA Essay/Poster/Video Contest for Black History Month is February 2

The Cherry Hill African American Civic Association (CHAACA) is sponsoring an Essay/Poster/Video Contest for Black History Month 2018. The contest is open to all public school students in Cherry Hill, grades K through 12. The essay, poster or video must depict an African American who has or had a distinguished career in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics).

There are two sets of contest requirements: one tailored for grades K through 3 and the other for grades 4 through 12.

Three winners will be named in each of six categories. Each winner will receive a monetary prize.

Entrants must follow the [guidelines specified by CHAACA](#). Entries will be accepted until Friday, February 2, 2018. Winners will be recognized at the February 27 Board of Education Meeting. Entries will be displayed at the Cherry Hill Public Library and posted

Additional writers:

on the [CHPL web site](#).

Tiernan Dautle

Ananya Khedkar

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