

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



CHPS WEEKLY

The Opposite of "Groundhog Day"

Today is Groundhog Day, but life in the Cherry Hill Public Schools in no way mirrors the movie of the same name from the '90s!

Happy Groundhog Day! Now that the groundhog has seen his shadow, we can all prepare for six more weeks of winter (if you take his word for it). Groundhog Day is a silly tradition, in no way based in science, but it's one that certainly gets people talking every year!

The phrase "Groundhog Day" has, for many of us, become synonymous with the feeling that we are doing the same thing over and over again – based on the 1993 movie Groundhog Day, starring Bill Murray. Murray plays a hapless TV weatherman who becomes stuck in a time warp and continually relives the monotony of covering Groundhog Day, until he starts making the right decisions in life. Living a "Groundhog Day" life is something most of us would rather avoid. Fortunately, we in the Cherry Hill Public Schools work *not* to become stuck in a "Groundhog Day" pattern!

This year has brought – and will continue to bring – changes making each day in the CHPS quite the opposite of Groundhog Day! Here are just a few examples:

UPCOMING EVENTS

Coffee & Conversation with the Superintendent

February 3 from 9-10:30 am

Horace Mann Elementary School
150 Walt Whitman Blvd

"Still Climbing" - A Tribute to Black History Month

February 3 from 2- 6 pm

Cherry Hill High School West
Tickets \$5 at the door

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

- The Cherry Hill High School East and West African American Culture Clubs will present “Still Climbing – A Tribute to Black History Month,” tomorrow, February 3, at Cherry Hill High School West at 2 pm. This new program will feature student performances in the auditorium and a vendor expo in the atrium. It promises to be a profound event, and I hope to see you there.
- Our new online pre-registration system for first-time registrants to kindergarten and first grade is up and running. [This new, paperless procedure is available on the District web site.](#) We’ve already gotten feedback from parents expressing their appreciation for this streamlined, convenient process.
- Our new Mandarin World Language class is set to debut in the fall of 2018 at high schools East and West. We are thrilled to be expanding our high school world language program with the addition of Mandarin. This pilot program is an amazing opportunity for our students at both high schools to branch out from the Eurocentric languages we have always offered.
- [The CHPS 2020: A Clear Vision for the Future](#) plan has been adopted by the Board of Education and will serve as a guide for what we will include in our bond referendum, set for public vote in a special election on October 2, 2018. The specific items to be included in the bond referendum will be announced in March.

We will continue to bring you news about changes and updates in our schools, whether curricular, extracurricular, physical (changes to our buildings and facilities) or related to policies and procedures. Please stay connected with us through the [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) feeds from the District and your schools. 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 helping to keep our schools vibrant and ever-changing. Change and growth are essential for us to continue educating our children to prepare them for the world they will face upon graduation from high

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

school. I encourage you to help make that world a more welcoming one every day with a kind word or a smile. Choose happy each morning, as I do! We shape the world of the future by what we do right now, and our children are always watching. Let's conduct ourselves with kindness.

Regards,

Joe Meloche

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Superintendent, Cherry Hill Public Schools



East Instrumentalists Named to All State and All South Jersey Ensembles

Congratulations to the [Cherry Hill High School East musicians](#) selected by audition to the New Jersey All State and All South Jersey Band and Orchestra Ensembles!



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 TODAY, 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 on the [CHPL web site](#).

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