

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



Behind the Scenes

What **WE** are able to accomplish in the Cherry Hill Public Schools is dependent on a vast network of people and procedures which aren't generally visible on a daily basis. Let's not forget the important role of our "unsung heroes."

Happy spring! March 20 certainly didn't feel like the beginning of the new season, with the onset of our fourth nor'easter of the school year and the snow that forced us to close school on the 21st and open on a delayed schedule on the 22nd. This past week required a greater-than-usual level of preparedness, flexibility, patience and positivity. Thanks to an entire team of people behind the scenes, and the procedures they diligently followed, our snow day was a mere "blip" in the schedule and our schools opened on Thursday after a planned delay. This took coordination in decision-making with the Township and their diligent Public Works staff, as well as their emergency services personnel, and coordination in task accomplishment with our administrators and our dedicated, fast-acting buildings and grounds crews. As I drove around to all of our schools between 4:30 and 6 am on Thursday, I was struck by how seriously each person took his or her role in getting our schools reopened and – in the case of Cherry Hill High School East – getting our East seniors to their 3 am bus-loading time for their senior trip flight to Orlando! (A truly special thanks, on behalf of those seniors, to their parents for digging out at home to get your kids to the school on time!)

Witnessing this large team effort got me thinking

UPCOMING EVENTS

Cherry Hill High School West Musical - *The Phantom of the Opera*

March 23 @ 7 pm

March 18 & 24 @ 2 pm

Board of Education Action Meeting

March 27 @ 7 pm

Malberg Administration Building
45 Ranoldo Terrace

Community Conversation: Safety & Security

March 28 @ 7 pm

Rosa Middle School Cafeteria
485 Browning Lane

SCHOOLS CLOSED

March 30-April 8

Spring Break

Board of Education Committee of the Whole Meeting

April 10

Malberg Administration Building
45 Ranoldo Terrace

(This meeting replaces the C&I, P&L, B&F and Strategic Planning Committee meetings for the month of April)

about how such herculean efforts happen in our schools on a regular basis, without much public acknowledgement or fanfare. Also during the past few weeks have been the tremendously successful efforts of our students, staff and parent volunteers to produce professional-quality musicals – The Music Man at High School East and The Phantom of the Opera at High School West. While the shows themselves are spectacular, the work behind the scenes is what really makes them happen. The same is true for our Vex Robotics Teams, several of which from East will head to the World Championship next month. We have talented, committed people behind the scenes at all of our sporting events, at our PTA events and meetings, and in our advocacy groups such as Fair Funding for the Cherry Hill Schools. The hours of rehearsal and practice, the rides to and from events, the late meals and the early wake-ups all are integral to achieving and performing at the highest level.

Behind-the-scenes work is incredibly important as we move forward with many of our district initiatives. I encourage you to be a part of the discussion, share your voice and your perspective. Our next Community Conversation about Safety & Security is March 28 at 7 pm at Rosa Middle School. Our next Coffee & Conversation meeting to discuss the upcoming bond referendum is on April 14 at 9 am at Richard Stockton Elementary. These meetings follow a discussion format where your questions will be answered, all are welcome and encouraged to attend. If you are unable to attend and have questions of your own, please submit a [Quick Question via the portal on our web site](#). You may also tune in to my next “Online Lunch” at noon on April 26, [streaming live](#), where I take live questions and those submitted in advance via email to publicinfo@chclc.org. Please resist relying on social media as your source of information.

I wish you a relaxing, snow-free weekend! Please be sure to share a kind word and a smile as you are out and about. We all set the example for our children, every day.

Regards,

Joe Meloche

Joe Meloche



West and East Students Score Big at Coriell Science Fair

Congratulations to the students from Cherry Hill High Schools West, pictured above, and East who took home multiple awards on March 17 from the Coriell Science Fair at Camden County College.

From West: Alex Thai won First Place in Biochemistry and Wilson Wu took First Place in Botany. Tyler Edwards won First Place in Computer Science and Emily Santana earned First Place in Environmental Science, while Annaliese Frett took Third Place in the same category. In Microbiology, Luis Santiago took Second Place and Nicole Jimenez too Third Place. Noah Kress and Jack Zhang won Third Place in Team Projects. Additionally, Alex Thai, Ashraf Essa and Tyler Edwards won Special Awards with monetary prizes.

From East: In the Behavioral and Social Sciences Grades 9-10 category, First Place went to Alan Zheng; Second Place to Ishani Hirata-



2018 PARCC and General Assessment Information Available

The PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) assessment schedule is now set. Assessments will begin Monday, April 16, 2018 with high school testing. Middle school testing will begin Friday, April 20, and elementary school testing will begin Thursday, May 3. Middle school will test one unit per day. The elementary school schedule has been extended for two days.

[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, as is [a full calendar of all assessment dates](#).



Earth Festival Poster and Video Contest Deadline Approaching

Students in Camden County have until April 1st to enter the new "Reduce Plastic – Fantastic" poster and video contest at [Sustainable Cherry Hill's Earth Festival web site](#).

All 19 Cherry Hill Public Schools, as well as non-profit organizations and businesses will comprise more than 80 displays at the April 28th Sustainable Cherry Hill Earth Festival at historic Croft Farm from 10 am – 2 pm. This year's theme: "Reduce Plastic – Fantastic!" is part of with the global Earth Day Network theme to end plastic pollution.

Families, friends, and neighbors can enjoy:

- free tree seedling giveaway (while supply lasts); perennial plant swap, garden tips + rain barrel

Chandran; Third Place to Gianna Amato. First Place in the category for grades 11-12 went to Nashita Ali; Second Place went to Jacob Berkowitz. Erin Quay earned First Place in the Botony grades 11-12 category. Environmental Science grades 9-10 saw a First Place win by Rhea Sharma and Second Place by Adam Dalkilic. Ramya Kalyan place First in Medicine Health grades 9-10. The grades 11-13 Second and Third Place winners were Emily Tran and Ryan Cox, respectively. In the Zoology grades 9-10 category, Dominic Ottobre took Second Place and Dev Shah took Third. The Special Award of a Camden County College Full Scholarship was awarded to Ryan Cox.

First and Second Place winners will advance to the Delaware Valley Regional Science Fair on April 3-5. Continued success to all!

demonstration

- LourdesCare 8:15 am lawn yoga; 10:30 am chair yoga
- information about: recycling, composting, energy savings, home improvement ideas.
- Plastic bottle cap kiddie craft; My Gym moon bounce
- Healthy food choices for purchase
- Entertainment all day

[Also at the web site are links to join the Family Fun Bike Ride and volunteer at the Earth Festival.](#)

Adult volunteer supervisors are needed to help with:

- Training student volunteers (April 27th event)
- Event parking
- Vendor set-up
- Recycling, compost monitoring
- On-site art project
- Site break-down and cleanup

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