

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





## CHPS WEEKLY

District News for the week ending March 9, 2018

## Systems & Process

Community involvement and input are key factors in

UPCOMING  
EVENTS

**the success of the Cherry Hill Public Schools. It's important to understand the framework through which one can become involved, as well as how decisions ultimately are made.**

As discussion continues regarding recent events – both local and national – initial decisions have been made and the first of many actions taken regarding security in our schools. More community members than ever in recent memory have attended [Board of Education](#) (BOE) meetings and [Coffee & Conversation meetings](#), and have emailed and called to voice their opinions, their concerns and their support.

One common refrain in all of this is: Are people being heard? I can answer that question with an unequivocal “Yes.” Everyone who brings concerns to the Board and/or administration is heard. Although protocol at all Board of Education meetings is to allow public comment, not Q&A, our Board members and administrators listen intently to those who speak. Detailed notes are taken and every Work Session and Action Meeting is [live streamed](#) and later archived on our [YouTube channel](#). We welcome the public to these and our BOE committee meetings, also open to the public and listed on our [District Events Calendar](#), with the exception of our Human Resources Committee. [Agendas for all meetings are posted in advance](#). And a great [FAQ document about how the Board operates](#) is available on the District web site, as are [Board member bios](#), the [BOE goals](#), and [policies for review](#).

Some community members who never before attended a Board of Education meeting have expressed frustration at not receiving responses from the Board during Public Comment. To allow for dialogue about safety and security, we have scheduled three evening Community Conversations, all at 7 pm, on March 15 at Beck Middle School, on March 20 at Carusi Middle School, and on March 28 at Rosa Middle School. I hope you will attend one or more.

In all areas of our schools – safety and security, curriculum, policies and procedures, student codes of conduct, human resources matters, parent involvement – decisions and changes are made after

## **Cherry Hill High School East Musical - *The Music Man***

March 9 & 10 @ 7:30 pm

March 11 @ 2 pm

## **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS**

March 11

Turn your clocks ahead 1 hour

## **Board of Education Work Session**

March 13 @ 7 pm

Malberg Administration Building  
45 Ranoldo Terrace

## **Coffee & Conversation with the Superintendent**

March 15 from 2-3:30 pm

Malberg Administration Building  
45 Ranoldo Terrace

## **Community Conversation: Safety & Security**

March 15 @ 7 pm

Beck Middle School Cafeteria  
950 Cropwell Rd.

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

March 16, 17 & 23 @ 7 pm

March 18 & 24 @ 2 pm

## **Coffee & Conversation with the Superintendent**

March 18 from 1-2:30 pm

Carusi Middle School  
315 Roosevelt Drive

## **Online Lunch with the Superintendent**

March 20

Noon

[Live streamed](#)

## **Community Conversation: Safety & Security**

March 20 @ 7pm

Carusi Middle School Cafeteria

careful consideration and in many cases, Board approval. If you are unsure of the process involved in a decision or change, please ask your building principal, a member of administration, or submit a [Quick Question via the portal on our web site](#). I strongly urge you not to rely on social media as your information source, unless it is the official social media from your school or the District. Information on social media tends to quickly devolve into distorted, “whisper-down-the-lane” tidbits.

I look forward to our upcoming conversations, which I have every confidence will be respectful and productive. Let’s all continue to be cognizant that words matter. We all have a choice about how we interact with one another. Let’s choose to be kind.

Regards,

*Joe Meloche*

Joe Meloche

Superintendent, Cherry Hill Public Schools

315 Roosevelt Drive

### **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

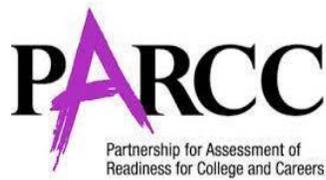


## East Jazz Band Wins Multiple Honors

Congratulations to the Cherry Hill High School East Jazz Band, pictured above, who took home multiple honors from the Jazz @ Lincoln Center Essentially Ellington Regional competition on March 6 at Temple University.

As one of 21 competing bands from around the Northeastern U.S., East took home awards for best rhythm section, a \$500 scholarship for junior Ben Kornak as "Outstanding Soloist" on drums, and honorable mention for Elizabeth Bishop on bass. The selective competition gives four section and three solo scholarship awards.

The contest sponsors also recommended East Jazz Band submit recordings to the national level Jazz @ Lincoln Center competition next season.



## 2018 PARCC Assessment Information 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.



## Earth Festival Offers Many Opportunities for Involvement

As St. Patrick's Day approaches, think about the 'green' in your lifestyle and community! The 9th Sustainable Cherry Hill Earth Festival is Saturday, April 28 at historic Croft Farm; 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

- Deadline is April 1st for students to enter and win prizes showing creative posters (elementary) and videos (middle/high school) displaying the festival theme: "Reduce Plastic – Fantastic!"
- Register for the Family Fun Bike Ride; starts at Croft Farm 8:30 a.m.
- Plant swap: bring outdoor perennials plants to the festival – take home new plants and get some gardening tips. No vines or invasive species, please
- Recycle depot: bring all those extra wire hangers, plastic shopping bags, gently used shoes and sneakers; all will be recycled, upcycled, or donated
- Donate non-perishable food to the Cherry Hill Food Pantry
- Enjoy two stages of local, free entertainment; crafts, family fun and healthy food for purchase.
- Volunteer at the festival – register and learn more at <http://www.sustainablecherryhill.org/>.

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