

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



## CHPS WEEKLY

District News for the week ending April 20, 2018

# Worth the Wait

In today's society where information moves at lightning speed, having to wait for what we want can seem like a lot to ask. Although the pace of change may seem slow, good things are coming to the Cherry Hill Public Schools. **WE** know the results will be worth the wait.

A week ago today, we were enjoying unseasonably warm weather as many people rejoiced, "FINALLY, spring is here!" But by Saturday night, that joy turned to grumbles as the weather turned unseasonably cold again, with flooding rains on Monday and persistently chilly temperatures all week. It seems we've waited forever for the winter weather to be over! The good news? It will be - eventually. We just have to wait. The same holds true for some initiatives that will bring long-awaited change to the Cherry Hill Public Schools. These changes *will* happen. In fact, I am happy to share not only what some of our bigger changes will be, but *when* they will take place.

**Chinese as a World Language in our high schools:** This new addition to our curriculum will launch in September, for the 2018-2019 school year. We will be offering Chinese I A/H, for grades 9, 10, 11 and 12.

**B-teams in extra-curricular athletics in our middle schools:** For years, B-teams (or Junior Varsity teams) were unavailable in our middle schools due to budget restrictions. In September 2018, B-teams will be reinstated in middle school sports, giving more students the opportunity to play the sport of their choice on their school's team.

**Full-day kindergarten:** As a curriculum offering desired by the community, the Board of Education, CHPS administration and staff for more than 20 years, kindergarten became one our

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### [Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs](#)

April 20 @ 7:30 pm  
April 21 @ 2:30 & 7:30 pm  
Carusi Middle School

### [Coffee & Conversation with the Superintendent](#)

April 22 from 1-2:30 pm  
Beck Middle School  
950 Cropwell Road

### [Board of Education Action Meeting](#)

April 24 @ 7 pm  
Malberg Administration Building  
45 Ranoldo Terrace

### [Board of Education Policy & Legislation Committee Meeting](#)

April 30 @ 6 pm  
Malberg Administration Building  
45 Ranoldo Terrace

### [Board of Education Curriculum & Instruction Committee Meeting](#)

April 30 @ 7 pm  
Malberg Administration Building  
45 Ranoldo Terrace

### [Board of Education Business & Facilities Committee Meeting](#)

May 1 @ 7 pm

top priorities in the 2017 formulation of our long-range strategic plan. Although this plan was announced months ago, I am confirming that full-day kindergarten will be implemented in ALL of our elementary schools in September 2019. This implementation is part of our operating budget and will not be reliant on the bond referendum coming up for vote on October 2, 2018.

Speaking of the bond referendum, I have received some questions regarding when the full project list to be included in the bond will be set and publicized. While you can view our latest tentative list [on the district web site under the news item "Bond Referendum Presentation Shows Potential Projects for Each School."](#) we will be able to release our finalized list only after we receive approval from the state. We expect to receive this approval in late June or early July.

In the meantime, I strongly encourage you to stay engaged in communication with the district. My next [Coffee & Conversation](#) to discuss the bond is this Sunday, April 22 at Beck Middle School from 1-2:30 pm – bring your favorite beverage and your questions! I'll be holding my next Online Lunch on Thursday, April 26 at noon via our [live stream](#), where you may submit questions live. Be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#) if you don't already. Submit a question via our [Quick Question](#) portal. Above all, please remember: There is a "whisper-down-the-lane" effect with conversations on social media. The best source for information about the school district is the school district.

I will be attending Carusi & Company's production of *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* this weekend – I hope I'll see you there! I also hope you'll find time to relax and enjoy the company of those dear to you. Whomever you see, please share a kind word and a smile. Even though the weather still may be chilly, our interactions with one another can be warm!

Regards,

*Joe Meloche*

Joe Meloche

Superintendent, Cherry Hill Public Schools

Malberg Administration  
Building  
45 Ranoldo Terrace

**Board of Education  
Strategic Planning  
Committee Meeting**

May 1 @ 7 pm

Malberg Administration  
Building  
45 Ranoldo Terrace

**Board of Education Work  
Session**

May 8 @ 7 pm

Malberg Administration  
Building  
45 Ranoldo Terrace



## East's Stay Tuned Vocal Group to Compete in National Championship Finals

Congratulations to Cherry Hill High School East's a cappella group, Stay Tuned, pictured above, for being accepted to compete *tonight*, April 20, 2018 in the International Championship of High School A Cappella (ICHSA) National Championship Finals competition for the second year in a row!

Qualification required first place in the Mid-Atlantic Quarter and Semi-final rounds. They will be performing with the top nine a cappella groups from across the nation at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall in New York City. They will be competing against groups from California, Wisconsin, Virginia, Oregon, Ohio, Massachusetts, Texas, and Georgia.

Wishing great success to Stay Tuned Members:

Courtney Bird  
Abby Calisterio  
Alicia Cosenza  
Sarah Craig  
Allison Donahue  
Jackson Feudtner  
Evey Grika  
Arienne Martin  
Kevin Naddeo  
Maddy Nilsen  
Ben Paris  
Marco Porras  
Kathryn Quay

## SupportMusic Brought to you by The NAMM Foundation 2018 Merit Award

### Rosa Music Department Wins 4th SupportMusic Merit Award

Congratulations to Rosa International Middle School, which for the fourth year in a row, has been honored with the SupportMusic Merit Award from The NAMM Foundation for its outstanding commitment to music education. Rosa is one of only 135 schools across the country to receive this honor.

The SupportMusic Merit Award recognizes individual schools that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students.

To qualify for the SupportMusic Merit Award, Rosa answered detailed questions about funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program, and community music-making programs.

"Our students here at Rosa benefit tremendously from our rich music program guided by Sue Mark, Scott Graser, and Jack Murtha," says Assistant Principal Mr. George Zografos. "These three exceptional educators not only teach music skills, they teach life lessons to help our students become better individuals who have a positive impact on



### Earth Festival Just One Week Away

While the official celebration is April 22, join South Jersey's largest celebration Saturday, April 28 for the **9<sup>th</sup> Sustainable Cherry Hill Earth Festival**, 10 am at historic Croft Farm on Bortons Mill Road. (Family bike ride at 8 am.)

All 19 Cherry Hill Public Schools, as well as non-profit organizations and businesses, will comprise more than 90 displays. Enjoy photo ops with our high school mascots Westley the Lion (West) and Crimson the Cougar (East).

Here are other events taking place April 28<sup>th</sup>:

- **Reduce Plastic – Fantastic!**  
Drop off plastic shopping bags for recycling and **plastic bottle caps** for a kiddie craft; also drop off: rechargeable batteries; wire hangers, gently used shoes.
- **Refill your reusable bottle at NJ American's Puddles truck;** please – no single-use plastic water bottles.
- Pick up Cherry Hill Township free lawn/leaf paper bags + recycling information
- BIKE to Croft Farm – Free bike valet parking
- **'Warm-Up:'** FREE 8:30 am lawn yoga; 10:30 chair yoga. Bring your mat or chair; sessions are all-weather.
- **Donate:** Cherry Hill Food Pantry: non-perishable food; Cherry Hill Library booth:

Harrison Smith  
Claire Tremper  
Nik Vasiliadis  
Harrison Yang  
Thomas Zieger

society.”

gently used books

- **Plant swap:** bring your wrapped, labeled garden **perennials** and take home new varieties. Master Gardener and Horticultural Society advice.
- **Celebrate** with two stages of free entertainment – **Phillie Phanatic** (lunch hour);
- **Enjoy** Flying Fish local beer – with ID
- **Visit Cherry Hill’s Art Blooms** – last weekend at the Arts Center (closes April 28).

Festival information is available at <http://www.sustainablecherryhill.org/>

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