

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



# CHPS WEEKLY

District News for the week ending September 8, 2017

# A Year of Opportunities

Our schools are the perfect place to lend your energy and talents!

What a great start we've had to the 2017-2018 school year! I was delighted to visit many schools on opening day, September 5, and many more on the subsequent days this week. There is always an electricity in the air when school starts – the excitement of our staff and our students is palpable. Our teachers and administrators are modeling positivity, kindness and perseverance to our students, and we have immediately seen proof that these actions are contagious. Good attitudes beget more good attitudes. Kind words and deeds are “paid forward.” Examples of grit and determination are admired and emulated.

I'd like to invite all of our parents and community members to “catch” this contagion by becoming involved in our school community. Opportunities abound no matter how limited your time:

- Join your PTA. The PTAs are the heartbeat of our schools. They are a great source of information about what's happening in the school building and in the District at large. They provide an opportunity for parents to share ideas, concerns, fundraising (emphasis on “fun”), community outreach and support. Even if you can't attend every meeting, I highly recommend that you join.
- Join the booster groups for your child's activities. At the high school level, this is crucial. Never be shy about joining a booster group! These groups provide great support for our student athletes, musicians, theater performers and more.
- Attend our community meetings – or view them on our live stream! Our Board Work Sessions, Action Meetings and Committee Meetings (except the Human Resource Committee) are open to the public

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Saturday Coffee with the Superintendent**

Sept 9 @ 9-10:30 am  
J.F. Cooper Elementary  
School

### **Board of Education Work Session**

Sept 12 @ 7 pm  
Malberg Administration  
Building, 45 Ranoldo  
Terrace

### **National Character Day**

September 13  
Events and celebrations  
related to character in all of  
our schools on this day and  
throughout September,  
"Character Month"

### **SCHOOLS CLOSED**

Sept. 21 & 22

### **Board of Education Action Meeting**

Sept 26 @ 7 pm  
Malberg Administration  
Building, 45 Ranoldo  
Terrace

and listed on our [District Events Calendar](#). The public is encouraged to attend – public comment sessions are offered at all of these meetings as well. If you can't attend, watch online on our [live stream](#). And please join us for our series of community meetings related to our CHPS 2020 long-range strategic plan and the upcoming 2018 bond referendum. These meetings have started with the “Saturday Coffee with the Superintendent” series listed on the [District Events Calendar](#) and have expanded to Sunday Afternoon Coffee meetings as well as additional Community Conversations.

- Join the grassroots efforts of the [Fair Funding for Cherry Hill Schools](#) committee, a hardworking group of parents committed to restoring the state funding owed to our schools for the past nine years.

Our wonderful schools are a direct reflection of our wonderful families. Your involvement is key to our success and our improvement. I hope many of you will bring your coffee or favorite beverage and join me tomorrow, September 9, from 9-10:30 am at Cooper Elementary School for our next “Saturday Coffee with the Superintendent,” where we'll discuss the CHPS 2020 plan and the upcoming 2018 bond referendum. If you can't make it tomorrow, please mark your calendar for one or more of our future meetings, listed on the [District Events Calendar](#)!

Stay in touch by downloading our free District App from Google Play or the App Store. Be sure to follow us on social media – [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#). Tell your friends to [subscribe to this newsletter](#)!

We'll be sharing opportunities for outreach via our CHPS Cares initiative throughout the school year. The first of these efforts was “[Team up for Texas](#)” today. **WE** as a community will be making a difference all year for those in need.

Please continue to spread kindness, no matter how small the gesture!

Regards,

*Joe Meloche*

Joe Meloche

Superintendent, Cherry Hill Public Schools



## Time to Get or Renew Your Library Card

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month. The [Cherry Hill Public Library](#) (CHPL) invites you to the library anytime to sign up for or renew your library card.

In addition to CHPL's physical resources (including books, DVDs and events) the library offers a wealth of digital and online resources to card holders – many of which can be accessed from home.

The library staff urges all Cherry Hill students to visit the Cherry Hill Public Library, get (or renew) their card and see what the library has to offer!



## Bus Delays Likely in Coming Weeks

As with the beginning of every school year, we ask that you please be patient the first few days of school, when bus drivers are familiarizing themselves with the bus routes and pickups and dropoffs will likely run late.

This year will be particularly challenging for drivers whose routes coincide with the extensive road construction on Chapel Ave. west, traveling toward Merchantville. The construction project is expected to continue through the month of November. Delays are very likely for the duration of the project.

Additionally, PSE&G began repairing gas lines on Haddonfield Road between Dudley and Princeton Avenues on September 5. This work is likely to cause traffic delays. The work will be conducted around the clock and is expected to last three weeks.

We thank you in advance for your understanding of these challenges.



## Holiday Child Care Available to all CHPS Elementary Students

The Cherry Hill Public Schools offers child care through the Student Enrichment Program (STEP) for all CHPS elementary school students when school is closed for certain holidays. **Children do not have to attend School Aged Child Care (SACC) to attend STEP Holiday Child Care.**

STEP Holiday Child Care is open from 7 am to 6 pm for the holidays of September 21 and 22; October 9; November 9 & 10; February 16; March 16; and April 2-6.

You must register your child in the STEP office at Cooper Elementary School, 1960 Greentree Road, no later than 5 business days prior to the date(s) you select.

Details and registration forms are available on the [STEP Holiday Child Care page of the District web site](#).

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