

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



# CHPS WEEKLY

District News for the week ending October 6, 2017

# Hispanic Heritage Month, and Lessons in Respect

**CHPS students led the way this week in learning from one another. WE are great collaborators!**

Today was a day I look forward to every year: the Latinos at West Hispanic Heritage Tour. Each year, during Hispanic Heritage Month, the Cherry Hill High School West students who comprise the Latinos at West club visit several of our elementary schools and one of our middle schools with a performance of songs, dances and brief lessons about various Hispanic cultures. This year, students at Rosa International Middle School as well as James Johnson, A. Russell Knight and Joyce Kilmer Elementary Schools, were treated to the vibrant, interactive assembly. Performances ranged from traditional dances in traditional costumes to the modern “Mi Gente” Grand Finale (you may view a snippet of this on the [CHPS Instagram feed](#)).

It is always wonderful to see the enthusiasm with which our younger students greet the Hispanic Heritage Tour. Their delight in participating in some of the dancing – along with some brave teachers and administrators – and their appreciation for the lessons imparted by the older students is a good reminder of how all us can embrace new experiences and learn from one another. The Latinos at West students, pictured above, introduced their Grand Finale by holding up single-word signs indicative of what the club stands for and works to communicate. These words, in Spanish and English, included “friendship,” “peace,” “music,” “pride” and “love” – all applicable to anyone who strives for a life with meaning, a life well lived.

Next Friday, October 13, Latinos at West is hosting a family night fundraiser. Every year in the fall, Cherry Hill High School West hosts Noche Latina to unite and celebrate the people of the West Latino community. The club this year has expanded the effort to include a show to raise funds for victims of

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### SCHOOLS CLOSED

Oct 9

### Board of Education Candidates Forum

Oct 11 @ 7 pm (doors open @ 6:30 pm)

Rosa International Middle School

[Candidate Biographies](#)

### Saturday Coffee with the Superintendent

Oct 14 @ 9-10:30 am

Bret Harte Elementary School

### Board of Education Action Meeting

Oct 17 @ 7 pm

Malberg Administration Building, 45 Ranoldo Terrace

### Community Meeting - CHPS 2020

Oct 18 @ 7 pm

Cherry Hill High School East Little Theater

natural disasters in Latin America. Attendees are asked to bring any Latin dish or NON-ALCOHOLIC drink so that all can enjoy traditional Latin food during a reception at the end of the performances. I thoroughly enjoy Noche Latina every year and I encourage everyone to participate!

Today also wraps up the Week of Respect in our schools. Our students learned and demonstrated respect in a myriad of ways, including wearing blue shirts on Monday to promote an anti-bullying message, attending assemblies about the appropriate use of social media, and learning through doing with lessons about nonverbal cues, empathy and kindness. Even though this week was designated to pay special attention to respecting one another, I know that our staff, students and I will continue to carry out the lessons learned. We will continue to find new ways to conduct ourselves respectfully in all situations.

There will be much respectful discussion in the year ahead, as we work on the strategic planning process and the formation of the September 2018 bond referendum. Please be a part of the discussion! Attend our [Community Conversation meetings](#), Board of Education Meetings and PTA meetings, all listed on the [District web site](#) and your school's web site.

Be sure to stay in touch through all of our communication platforms: [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#) and the free Cherry Hill Public Schools App, available on the App Store and Google Play!

I wish all of our students and their families a relaxing long weekend, as schools will be closed on Monday, October 9, for our Teacher In-Service Day. Be kind to one another, and find ways to spread that kindness to others as you are out and about. Nice matters, every day and in every way.

Perhaps I will see you this evening at the Greek Agora Festival to enjoy the food, music and festivities. Or, join me tomorrow afternoon for the HS East vs. HS West boys soccer game. The game will begin at 2 pm on the turf at HS East.

I look forward to seeing our students again on Tuesday, October 10!

Regards,



## Kingston Alumnus Completes Buddy Bench Project at Kingston Elementary School

Julia McLaughlin, Kingston Elementary School graduate and current 7th grader at Rosa International Middle School, saw her efforts pay off at the beginning of the school year to bring a Buddy Bench to Kingston.

Julia raised money on her own, then worked in partnership with Girl Scout Troop 352 to give a legacy gift to the school. Julia McLaughlin, seated at the right of the bench, is pictured with her sister Tristyn, standing at right, and with Julia L. and Alyssa C., seated at left and center. Behind them are the Kingston 5th Grade Peer Leaders, who will turn-key the bench to all Kingston students.



## Do Your Back-to-School Paperwork Online!

### Reminder to Fill Out Online Paperwork

Parents who have not yet done so are reminded to complete important beginning-of-the-year "paperwork" on the [Parents portal](#) of the District web site to ensure all student information is up-to-date.

Out-of-date information could mean you will not receive emergency communications from your child's school or from the District.

The [Parents portal](#) includes full, step-by-step instructions for this process, with links applicable to your child's or children's grade level(s).

Families unable to complete this process online may pick up paper forms at the main office of their school(s). Please complete this important information as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact the main office of your child's school.



## 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 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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