

A message from the Assistant Superintendent, Cherry Hill Public Schools.



CHPS WEEKLY

District News for the week ending February 8, 2019

Keeping the "Backbone" Strong

Working together is what keeps the CHPS, and Cherry Hill, healthy and vibrant. **WE** encourage all to join us in our collaborative “workout” efforts!

I had the great pleasure of participating in events this week that involved collaboration – “meetings of the mind” in which ideas were exchanged, disagreements were volleyed respectfully and consensus was celebrated. Our successful school district is the backbone of our successful community. In so many ways, we continually work to strengthen ourselves as the community backbone, while remaining flexible – just as a backbone needs to be for optimal health. We welcome the community involvement – our “workout group,” so to speak – in keeping those efforts going in a positive, beneficial way.

Our first Community Forum, pictured above, regarding the next iteration of the Cherry Hill Public Schools Bond took place on Thursday evening, February 7. You may view a video of the forum on our [YouTube Channel](#). What sets this meeting, and the upcoming forums like it, apart from previous Bond meetings is its almost exclusively interactive format. Participants broke into small discussion groups where ideas were shared and points of view considered. Mrs. Judy Wilson facilitated these talks and the larger group discussions, beginning the process of collecting community feedback during the coming weeks as we move forward with new plans for the Bond. While the video format makes it impossible to capture the small group portion of the meeting, I encourage you to watch the opening and then the final 20 minutes. [Please sign](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Community Forum Regarding Bond Referendum

February 9 @ 11 am
Carusi Middle School
Media Center
[Please RSVP by February 5](#)

Board of Education Work Session

February 12 @ 7 pm
Malberg Administration Building
45 Ranoldo Terrace
[Agenda available online](#)

SCHOOLS CLOSED

February 15
Teacher In-Service Day
and
February 18
Presidents' Day

Community Forum Regarding Bond Referendum

February 21 @ 1 pm
Johnson Elementary School
Media Center
[Please RSVP by February 5](#)

**PHOTO ID WILL BE
REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION**

[Full Day Kindergarten
Community Information](#)

[up for one of the remaining four meetings](#) and make your voice heard. This is important work that will affect our students, families and entire community in the near and distant future.

Also this week was a visit with our students from the Rowan University Project IMPACT scholars. IMPACT's (Increasing Male Practitioners and Classroom Teachers) mission is to increase the representation of males from racially and ethnically diverse backgrounds in teaching and respond to persistent opportunity gaps faced by young men from diverse backgrounds. The IMPACT scholars spoke to a group of our high school students about the IMPACT participants' experiences in the program and the opportunity for incoming participants to embark on a teacher preparation program in early childhood, elementary, Master's of Teaching in English or Social Studies, or Master's in STEM Education. This is a continuing collaboration between CHPS and Rowan, and we look forward to watching the success of our students who become a part of Project IMPACT!

Connecting with us on social media is a great way to keep up with events like this as they happen! Please be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#). For keeping up to date with District and school events, be sure to download our free District app from the App Store or Google Play – then customize it to feed your school's information, in addition to District information, directly to you. Have a question for us that's also of interest to the larger community? Submit it via our [Quick Question](#) portal for a publicly posted answer!

Besides our community meetings, I hope you will take advantage of the wonderful shows and sports events at the secondary level of our schools! This weekend, Cherry Hill High School West presents the powerful docu-play *110 Stories* tonight at 7 pm and tomorrow at 7 pm. This show contains mature subject matter and strong language, as it takes the audience through 9/11, as told by those who were there. Audience members may stay after tonight's show for a talkback session with people who were at Ground Zero. West Theater also will collect at both the Friday and Saturday 7 pm shows donations for the [FeelGood Foundation](#), a non-profit that helps pay medical expenses for those affected by the conditions at Ground Zero. Tickets are available at the door or [online](#).

Session

February 19 from 7-9 am
Malberg Administration Building
45 Ranoldo Terrace

Full Day Kindergarten Community Information Session

February 20 from 7-9 pm
Jewish Community Center,
Social Hall 1301 Springdale
Road

Full Day Kindergarten Community Information Session

February 25 from 1-3 pm
Trinity Presbyterian Church,
Community Room 499 Marlton
Pike East

Community Forum Regarding Bond Referendum

February 25 @ 7 pm
Cherry Hill High School West
Media Center
[Please RSVP by February 5](#)

Board of Education Action Meeting

February 26 @ 7 pm
Malberg Administration Building
45 Ranoldo Terrace

Full Day Kindergarten Community Information Session

February 27 from 7-9 pm
Malberg Administration Building
45 Ranoldo Terrace

Community Forum Regarding Bond Referendum

March 10 @ 1 pm
Rosa Middle School Cafeteria
[Please RSVP by February 5](#)

Please be sure to say hello as you see me out and about at our Community Forums and other events. It's always my great pleasure to meet more of the members of [this wonderful community where I grew up and have come back to, to serve!](#)

Have a great weekend!

Justin Smith

Justin Smith

Assistant Superintendent, Cherry Hill Public Schools



Three CHPS Schools Receive Sustainable Jersey for Schools Grants

WE congratulate the three CHPS schools that were awarded substantial grants this week from Sustainable Jersey for Schools!

The Cherry Hill Alternative High School won a \$2,000 grant to fund the building of a butterfly garden. The butterfly garden will be an addition to the already prolific vegetable garden, which students at the high school installed five years ago and tend to each spring. The students have donated hundreds of pounds of produce from the garden to the Cherry Hill Food Pantry over the years.

The new butterfly garden will allow the students to increase the garden's pollinator population, thereby boosting the bounty the vegetable garden produces!



Dates for Kindergarten Registration and Middle School Open Enrollment Information Now Available

Kindergarten and first grade registration (for children entering public school for the first time) for the 2019-2020 school year will begin on February 1, 2019. Children must be five years old on or before October 1, 2019 in order to be eligible for kindergarten. [Dates for registration at specific schools, as well as information on the registration process, are available online.](#)

[Dates and times for the CHPS Middle School Information Nights for 5th graders and their parents, as well as information on Middle School Open Enrollment, also are now available online.](#)



Enrollment for Summer Enrichment Camp Program Now Open

Enrollment is now open for the CHPS Summer Enrichment Camp Program, which will run from June 24 through August 15, 2019 (closed July 4) for children who will enter grades 1 through 6 in September 2019.

Please note: the camp is not open on Fridays, as the school district is closed on Fridays during the summer.

Non-resident employees of the Cherry Hill Board of Education may enroll their children in the camp.

Deadline to enroll is March 29, 2019. Camp Information Flyer, Registration/Deposit form, the "Important Registration Information"

Bret Harte Elementary School also won a \$2,000 grant as the result of a student proposal to do away with disposable lunch trays at the school. Jonah Wallach, pictured above, wrote a letter to Principal Dr. Neil Burti, stating, " I believe Bret Harte should use non-disposable lunch trays. It would make our planet a better, more beautiful place. It could also save many endangered species of animals. It's time to make an impact on the world."

Bret Harte's grant will fund reusable lunch trays for the entire school.

Kingston Elementary was awarded a \$10,000 grant to create an outdoor classroom.

The project includes partnerships with Sustainable Camden County, Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge, Cherry Hill Public Library and Cherry Hill Education Association. The classroom will include raised garden beds, flexible seating, a mindfulness area and permanent stations providing information on local plants, trees and animals.

The concept for this project crystallized this year when Alex Caputo, a former Kingston student, donated several repurposed, decorated electrical spools to serve as outdoor tables. Alexa's idea for this Girl Scout Gold Service Project was based on her experiences and her belief that she would have benefited from an alternate classroom. "For Alexa and all of the students at Kingston School who love to be outdoors," says Kingston Principal Dr. Bill Marble, "Kingston will now have a room with a view and a breeze."

pages, the camp shirt form, the behavior management policy, and the appropriate payment form are available for downloading from the [District web site](#), or contact the STEP Office for forms and assistance. Telephone: 856-429-6564 ext. 2. Fax: 856-429-8246. E-mail: EKlitz@chclc.org
NGauntt@chclc.org

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