

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



Social Media, Social Responsibility

Social media was in the spotlight this week, with events that serve as catalysts for us to examine its role in our everyday lives.

Before today, Friday, March 15, one of the biggest news stories this week was the shutdown of the social media platforms Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp for hours at locations all around the world, including Cherry Hill. It caused frustration for us in the Cherry Hill Public Schools, as the District, our principals and many of our sports teams, clubs and PTAs use social media in all of its forms to communicate to the community multiple times a day. The news media covered public reaction ranging from outrage to anxiety to relief – the system shutdown was a wakeup call to many of us about our reliance on social media not only as a communications tool, but as an all-too-easy way to “check out” of our present surroundings, to seek praise and validation, or to put off doing more productive, meaningful tasks.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Board of Education Special Action/Work Session

March 19 @ 7 pm
Malberg Administration Building
45 Ranoldo Terrace
REPLACES 3/12 WORK
SESSION

[Agenda available online](#)

Cherry Hill High School West Spring Musical

Chicago - High School Edition
March 22, 23, 29 & 30 @ 7 pm
March 24 & 30 @ 2 pm

[Tickets available online](#)

Board of Education Action Meeting

Then, this morning, we heard the terrible news about the attack on two mosques in the New Zealand city of Christchurch, including the fact that the shooter live streamed the shooting via Facebook. (Facebook has removed the video.) As a District, we stand in support of all of those hurt by the tragedy, worldwide and here in Cherry Hill.

When we as a District began to use social media in 2013 by setting up a [CHPS Facebook page](#), it was with the intent to use it for good: to disseminate good news about our students' accomplishments; to alert the community to issues and advocacy; to announce important events and meetings; and to answer pertinent, respectful questions. The same has been true for our other social media platforms, [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#). We believe most in our community use social media for positive reasons as well. But it's worth re-examining how we engage on social media, how our children see us use it, and how they are using it as well.

Our children's appropriate, responsible, emotionally healthy use of social media will be addressed as part of two programs in April. The first is "[This Life Counts \(TLC\)](#)," a suicide awareness and prevention program for tweens, teens and parents, sponsored by Samost Jewish Family & Children's Service, the Cherry Hill Public Schools, and the Cherry Hill Police Department on April 10 at 7 pm in the Cherry Hill High School East Auditorium. The other is the [Parent University & Resource Fair](#) on April 15 from 6-8:30 pm at the Malberg Administration Building. Topics at the Resource Fair will include Cyber Safety and Digital Addiction. Both events are free.

As you seek information about the District, please keep in mind that social media is not the only source for what's happening. Our [District web site](#) is a great resource for up-to-date information. For events of interest in the larger Cherry Hill community, check our [Community Bulletin Board](#). If you haven't already, 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!

I'm excited for the March 22 opening night of Cherry Hill High School West's production of *Chicago – High*

March 26 @ 7 pm
Malberg Administration Building
45 Ranoldo Terrace

[Policy & Legislation Committee Meeting](#)

April 1 @ 6 pm
Horace Mann Elementary School
Media Center
150 Walt Whitman Blvd.

[Curriculum & Instruction Committee Meeting](#)

April 1 @ 7 pm
Horace Mann Elementary School
Media Center
150 Walt Whitman Blvd.

[Business & Facilities Committee Meeting](#)

April 2 @ 6 pm
Thomas Paine Elementary
School Media Center
4001 Church Road

[Strategic Planning Committee Meeting](#)

April 2 @ 7 pm
Thomas Paine Elementary
School Media Center
4001 Church Road

School Edition at 7 pm. Additional shows will run March 23, 29 and 30 at 7 pm and March 24 and 30 at 2 pm. [Tickets are available online](#) or at the box office before each show.

I wish you a relaxing weekend. Spring is in the air!

Justin Smith

Justin Smith

Assistant Superintendent, Cherry Hill Public Schools



Cherry Hill East Jazz Band Earns Top Honors at Jazz Festival

Congratulations to the Cherry Hill High School East Jazz Band, who on Thursday, March 14 at the 40th Annual Pennsbury Jazz Festival received an overall Superior rating and the following awards:

Best Rhythm Section.

Outstanding musician: Ben Kornak, drums. Ben was awarded a \$100 scholarship.

Overall Best soloist of the night: Patrick Kelly, alto saxophone.

This follows last week's Jazz at Lincoln Center Regional Essentially Ellington Jazz Festival held at Temple



Registration for 2019-2020 SACC Opens March 20

Registration for the 2019-2020 school year's School-Age Child Care (SACC) program will open on March 20, 2019. Registration will be available on www.chclc.org

SACC is available at all K-5 schools, with Before Care from 7-8:45 am and After Care from 3:30-6 pm, Monday through Friday when school is in session. SACC offers a variety of age-appropriate activities for all participating students.

The registration deadline is July 1, 2019. Space is guaranteed for those families in good financial standing. The completed registration packet, along with a \$30 Registration Fee is payable at Registration. September



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.

University, in which Patrick Kelly earned a soloist honorable mention award and Ben Kornak won a \$1,000 soloist scholarship award to Temple University.

Congratulations to all!

tuition is due by August 1, 2019.

For additional SACC information, please call (856) 429-6564 and press 4.

Deadline to enroll is March 29, 2019. Camp Information Flyer, Registration/Deposit form, the "Important Registration Information" 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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Cherry Hill Public Schools | 45 Ranoldo Terrace, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034 | 856-429-5600