

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



CHPS WEEKLY

District News for the week ending November 30, 2018

Touching Base

School Conference Week is a crucial time for our families to have important conversations with their middle and elementary children's teachers.

This last week of November marked “Conference Week” in our middle and elementary schools. It’s a week that I always looked forward to as a parent when my children were younger, as an elementary and then middle school principal earlier in my career, and now as superintendent. The student led conference format we use in our elementary schools is fantastic outlet for student voice! In these interactions, such as the student led conference at Johnson Elementary, pictured above, students have the opportunity to contemplate their own part in their learning. They are able to lead the conversations with their both their parents and their teachers, to collaborate on solutions where challenges are present and to celebrate specific successes.

The insight and valuable feedback from conferences sets our students on a course for success as they move up through grade levels, and even through their high school careers. Conferences are one of the best ways for parents to touch base with their children’s teachers, to gain a better understanding of the hows and whys of their children’s school experience, and to forge a collaborative relationship with the teachers and the school district at large.

As we begin the busy month of December, please be sure to become as informed as you possibly can about what’s going on in the District, especially as we approach the December 11 Special Election for the Bond Referendum, with polls open that day from 3-8 pm and [vote by mail and early voting as options](#). As I have explained previously, bonds are a way for school districts to raise money – which they then must pay back over a period of years – typically to finance building projects or other capital projects. Although we and the administrators, Board of Education members, and concerned citizens of the community before us have vigorously sought the funding we are owed from the state for decades, our

UPCOMING EVENTS

Bond 2018 Community Info Session

December 2 from
1:30- 3 pm
Cherry Hill High School
West Media Center
2101 Chapel Ave.

Policy & Legislation Committee Meeting

December 3 @ 6 pm
Barclay Early Childhood
Center APR
1220 Winston Way

Curriculum & Instruction Committee Meeting

December 3 @ 7 pm
Barclay Early Childhood
Center APR
1220 Winston Way

Business & Facilities Committee Meeting

December 4 @ 6 pm
Henry C. Beck Middle
School Library/Media
Center
950 Cropwell Rd

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting

December 4 @ 7 pm
Henry C. Beck Middle
School Library/Media
Center
950 Cropwell Rd

Bond 2018

lack of state funding has forced us to make tough choices. We have chosen to maintain small classes, important programs and quality staff. What little money has been left, even after using grant funding, has not been enough to fully cover our needed facilities improvements. We continue to fight to secure our fair share of funding, but even when we finally receive the \$29 million we should annually, our needs will far exceed those funds. I encourage you to visit our [Bond 2018: Building a Solid Future page](#) on the District web site for information about the Bond, including a recently added link to [Bond Referendum project costs at a glance](#), as well as [projects listed by school](#), [frequently asked questions](#), and a [tax impact calculator](#) to estimate the effect of the Bond on your property taxes. The Bond 2018 page is updated regularly, so be sure to check back in the coming weeks for additional information. I also would be happy to speak to any group in the community, no matter how large or small, about the Bond. Please contact my administrative assistant, Janet Cohen, at jacohen@chclc.org to make arrangements.

You will find updates on all District happenings not only via this weekly e-newsletter, but by following us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#). Subscribe to our [YouTube Channel](#). Download the free District App from the App Store or Google Play. Attend our Board meetings listed at right and on the [District Events Calendar](#). Come out to the Bond 2018 Community Meetings, linked from the [Bond 2018 button](#) on the District web site. Please be sure to submit your questions to publicinfo@chclc.org, or via our [Quick Question portal](#). Questions and answers are posted for the public.

As many discussions regarding the Bond Referendum take place in our community, please remember to be kind and respectful of one another. Civil discourse should never devolve into personal attacks and insults. **WE** must model for our children the behavior they have modeled to help us to become a [National District of Character](#): Respect, Responsibility and Citizenship!

I wish you a relaxing weekend filled with kindness – both given and received.

Regards,

Community Info Session: "Bonding Over Breakfast" Sponsored by the Cherry Hill Education Association

December 8
Breakfast Buffet
from 9:30-11 am
Rosa Middle School
Media Center
485 Browning Lane

Sit & Chat Sessions with Dr. Meloche

December 8
11:30 am- 1 pm
Cherry Hill Public Library
1100 Kings Highway North

1:30-3 pm
Short Hills Deli
486 East Evesham Road

Sit & Chat Sessions with Dr. Meloche

December 9
9-10:30 am
Cherry Hill Health &
Racquet Club
1820 Old Cuthbert Road

11-12:30 pm JCC Lobby
1301 Springdale Road

1-2:30 pm Ponzio's Diner
7 West Route 70

SPECIAL ELECTION: BOND REFERENDUM

December 11 from 3-8 pm
[Cherry Hill Polling Places](#)
or [Vote By Mail](#)

Joe Meloche

Joe Meloche

Superintendent, Cherry Hill Public Schools



Folder Design Contest Open to All Fourth Graders

The Partnership for a Drug-Free New Jersey invites all fourth graders to enter the contest to design the organization's 2019 "Fun Things to Do Instead of Drugs" folder.

Rules and criteria for entries is available on the [Partnership for a Drug-Free New Jersey's web site](#). Submission deadline is December 8, 2018.



Vote by Mail Option Available for Special Election

Voters who cannot get to the polls from 3-8 pm for the December 11, 2018 Special Election for the [CHPS Bond Referendum](#) have the option of voting by mail.

[Vote by Mail applications are available online](#). According to the office of the County Clerk, applications must be received by the County Clerk no later than 7 days before the election, unless you apply in person or via an authorized messenger during County Clerk's office hours, but no later than 3 pm the day prior to the election.



Community Bulletin Board Offers Information on Community Activities and Programs

Be sure to click the [Community Bulletin Board link](#) at the bottom of the District website home page. You'll find information about after school programs, league sports, seminars, community events and other activities around Cherry Hill.

To post information on the Community Bulletin Board, please email the public information office at publicinfo@chclc.org



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