

Volume 8, Issue 1

November 2013

Our Schools

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF WHIPPANY AND CEDAR KNOLLS, NJ



HANOVER TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Excellence in



A Message From the Superintendent

Attaining a level of excellence takes great effort. Maintaining excellence for an extended period of time is impressive. Several ongoing examples of excellence are reflected on the cover of this month's edition of the "Excellence in Our Schools" newsletter. After almost 50 years of hosting plays, concerts, assembly programs, and graduation ceremonies, the auditorium of Memorial Junior School underwent a major transformation this summer. Special recognition goes to members of the Board of Education, fundraising chair Jen Adkins, Buildings and Grounds Supervisor Roy Aull, and many in our school community for their support and generosity in making this dream a reality. A full list of donors is listed in this newsletter.

Continuing the excellence, in late October, 180 sixth graders, fifty parent volunteers, and twenty faculty members participated in the annual three day sixth grade outdoor education experience held at Fairview Lake YMCA Camp in Stillwater, New Jersey. Students at Memorial have been participating in this educational program for over fifty years.

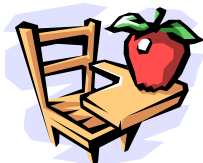
Finally, the enthusiasm of the staff at Salem Drive School celebrating Halloween is only rivaled by the dedication they, and all of our district employees put into educating our students every day, as together we continue to be "A Community That Inspires Excellence." As always, thank you for your ongoing support of our schools.

Scott R. Pepper, Superintendent of Schools

Editor: Donna Majdosz, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

2012-2013 Teachers of the Year

- **Pictured on the Cover (clockwise from the top):**
 1. "Superheroes of Salem Drive" The staff at Salem Drive School got into the Halloween spirit by dressing up as Superheroes.
 2. The Memorial Junior School Auditorium Renovation Project was completed over the summer, and a ribbon cutting ceremony was held on September 26, 2013.
 3. Pictured is the newly renovated Memorial Junior School auditorium.
 4. Sixth graders enjoyed boating and many other activities at Fairview Lake during the annual three day Outdoor Education Trip.
 5. Pictured are some of the sixth grade students at the top of the mountain at Fairview Lake during their Outdoor Education Trip October 23-25, 2013.



Diane Brozyna was selected as 2012-2013 Teacher of the Year at Salem Drive School.



Heather Rizzo was selected as Mountview Road School's 2012-2013 Teacher of the Year.



Kathleen Dietrich was chosen as Memorial Junior School's 2012-2013 Teacher of the Year.

Meet Our Excellent New Staff



- Stacey Rockwell is a Kindergarten teacher at Salem Drive School. She graduated from King's College in Pennsylvania where she earned a BA in Elementary Education and

Early Childhood Education. She completed her student teaching in Pennsylvania in second grade and kindergarten. Prior to coming to Hanover Township, she worked in Chatham School District as a Paraprofessional in a fourth grade classroom. In her free time, Stacey enjoys spending time with friends and family, relaxing at the beach, working out, and cooking up new recipes.

- Debbie Feuerstein is the new 5th grade teacher at Bee Meadow School. She graduated from Iona College with a BA in English and Elementary Education. She earned her MA at Columbia University. She taught in the Chester Public School system for 8 years. Prior to teaching in NJ, she taught in Westchester, NY. She lives in the Morristown area with her husband and three sons. When she is not in the classroom, Mrs. Feuerstein and her family love to hike, bike, ski, travel and play sports.



- Victor Cocheo is a long term substitute Special Education teacher at Memorial Junior School. He graduated from Fairleigh Dickinson University with a BA in Social Studies, and William Paterson University with a MA in Special Education. He taught Social Studies and Special Education for many years in the Parsippany-Troy Hills school district at the high school and middle school levels. He also coached soccer, baseball, and track.



- Colleen Murphy is the new Assistant Principal at Memorial Junior School. She graduated from Quinnipiac University with a BA in Psychology, and earned her Masters degree in Counseling and Personnel Services from Fordham University. She received her Principal certification from Thomas Edison College and NJEXCEL. Mrs. Murphy was the Guidance Counselor at Memorial Junior School for 5 years, before becoming the Assistant Principal. We look forward to her continued success in the Hanover Township Public Schools as Memorial Junior School's Assistant Principal.



Laura Diamante was chosen as 2012-2013 Teacher of the Year at Bee Meadow School.



The 2012-2013 Teachers of the Year were presented golden apples at the May 21, 2013 Board of Education meeting. Pictured are MJS Principal, Michael Wasko, with Kathleen Dietrich, MJS TOY, SDS Principal, Rob Camean with Diane Brozyna, SDS TOY, Laura Diamante, BMS TOY, Darrin Stark, BMS Principal, Carmen Bellino, MTV Principal, and Heather Rizzo, MTV TOY.

A Special Thank You to the Auditorium “Adopt a Seat” Patrons

Scarpino Family
MJS Main/Guidance Office
Bartholomew Family
MJS Sunshine
Somich Family
Julia Cobleigh
Alwell Family
Campbell Family
Tai Family
Azzarello Family
Wasko Family
MJS 8th Grade Character Ed
Noble Family
Mr. Anderson and Mr. Uy, Character Ed 2010-2011
Hanover Township Board of Education Kathryn Moser Music
Endowment Fund
Grill Family
Sarrel Family
Lin Family
Malzone Family
Glinkin Family
Leone Family
Bednarcik Family with matching gift from Verizon
Paul and Maxine Kimball
Roxi Williams
Chi K. Chan
MJS Character Ed Stars for Stars 2012
Duva Family
Pepper Family
Charles A. Grau
Retirement Gift from BOE (Rev. Tony MacNaughton)
MJS 8th Grade Team
Lombardino Family
DePiro Family
Bernstein Family
Nicole Shen
Sciortino Family
Melissa Demianycz
Senior Citizens of Hanover Township
Grace and Frank Ruiz
George and Phyllis Coppola
Dr. and Mrs. Michael Verdi
Roda-Farrell Family
Abbott Family
Anneliese Wilson
MJS Class of 1979, WPHS Class of 1983
Lucy Barrieres
Hanover Neighbors
Karsen Family
Kung Family
Geelan Family
Dugan Family
HT Firemen’s Mutual Benevolent Association Local 109

Woytas Family
Birchwood Manor
Gurcan Family
Davidson Family
Jinhan Chi
Vanessa Wolsky
MJS PTA
Troiano Family
Andican Family
MTV PTA Talent Show 2013
Ferramosca Family
Siino Family
Zakosky Family
Jeff Kunick and Barbara Heiser
Mullooly Family
Zhu Family
Murray Family
MJS Character Ed 8th Grade 2013
McCoy Family
Frederick and Agnes Davies
Dee Smith
HTBOE Secretaries
BMS PTA in memory of Lynn Hill
Hanover Wind Symphony—French Horn Section
Hanover Wind Symphony—Trumpet Section
Whippany Rotary
Sharon and Young Yoo
Sally Fortunato
Hanover Wind Symphony
Krowiak Family
Cicitta Family
Hanover Wind Symphony—Saxophone Section
Hanover Township Education Association
Hanover Township Administrators’ Association



Auditorium Fundraising Initiatives

Ace Gallagher's Band
Adopt a Seat
Bake Sales
Auditorium Seat Donation Box
Gold Sale
Hanover Wind Symphony Concert
MJS Spring Musical Ticket Donations
MJS Student Faculty Volleyball Game
"Ladies and Gentlemen, Please Take Your Seats" Tricky Tray
Other Generous Donations From Supporters



A Very Special Thanks to All Who Helped With the Tricky Tray

Jennifer Adkins
Charlene Peterson
Nancy Leone
Carol Flannagan
Betsy Lapinski
Koral Ohlsson
Ann Farrell
Anne Roda-Farrell
Rose McCauley
Elizabeth Gambino
Annette Mowen
Sharon Ferraiuolo
Nicole Benanti
Vanessa Wolsky
Board of Education Members
Michael Wasko
Elementary Principals
PTAs

Selena Appel
Meg Bartholomew
Roy Aull
MJS Custodial Staff
Maintenance Staff
Trish Mattia
Gail Ulichny
Kathy Murray
All of the businesses and families who donated gifts, worked the event, sold tickets, all of the runners of the baskets, and everyone else who helped to make the event a success



Last Chance to be a Part of History and "Adopt a Seat"

It is not too late! You can still "Adopt a Seat" until December 31, 2013. If you are interested, you may find information on our website, www.hanovertwpschools.com or contact Jennifer Adkins at jennifer.adkins@hanovertwpschools.org, or 973-515-2449.

All donors will be recognized on a special plaque to be located on the outside wall of the auditorium.



Meet Our Excellent New Staff



Kim Field is the long term substitute Library Media Specialist at Salem Drive School. She earned her BA in English at University of Scranton and her MA in Library and Information Science at Rutgers University. Kim is

a member of several state and national library associations and an advocate for information and technology literacy. She wants every child to love reading and to know how to use the library as a resource for learning. In her free time, she loves playing with her two daughters, reading, cooking, craft projects, and rummaging through thrift stores for treasures.



- Justin Toomey is a long term substitute Instrumental Music teacher at Memorial Junior School and Bee Meadow School. He will be teaching fifth and sixth grade band, and general music classes in sixth and seventh grade. He graduated from the

University of Southern California with a Bachelors of Music in Music Performance. He taught for 3 years in the East Windsor Regional School District (middle and high school) before moving to San Francisco to pursue other music opportunities and just drove back to New Jersey at the end of the summer. When he's not teaching, Mr. Toomey enjoys sports, music, orchestral conducting, and cooking.



Girl Scout Troop 776 created six character education themed wooden flowers to leave their mark on Mountview Road School. Each flower corresponds to one of the six pillars of character education: responsibility, fairness, citizenship, respect, caring and trustworthiness. Pictured above is Principal, Carmen Bellino, Girl Scout Troop 776 and Troop Leader, Krista DiGiorgio.



- Cindi Eckstein-Pitta is the new Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant at Memorial Junior School. She graduated from Brandeis University with a BA in Education, and earned her MA in Learning Disabilities at Fair-

leigh Dickinson University. Before coming to the Hanover Township Public Schools, she was an LDT-C in Byram Township. Prior to that she taught in several private schools in Florida.



- John DeRosa is the new mathematics teacher at Memorial Junior School. He graduated with a BA in mathematics teaching from The College of New Jersey. Previously, he taught mathe-

matics at Whippany Park High School. He is excited to return to a middle school; he completed his student teaching in a sixth grade classroom in Flemington, NJ. John also coaches the freshmen baseball team at WPHS and is a devoted Yankees fan. In his spare time, he enjoys reading, spending time with family, and playing music with friends.

- Brenda Bogdan is the new ESL Teacher at Salem Drive and Mountview Road schools. She earned her BA and received her teaching and ESL certification from Cald-



well College. She enjoys college so much that she is still attending Caldwell College, in order to complete her Masters in Literacy and Instruction by the end of 2014. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, traveling, working out and spending time with family. Mrs. Bogdan is very excited to be a part of the Hanover Township Public Schools.

Meet Our Excellent New Staff



- Aaron Wasserman is the new Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Development in the district. He served as the Assistant Principal at Memorial Junior School for the last two years,

and before that he was the Guidance Counselor there. Mr. Wasserman graduated from William Paterson University with a BA in Special Education, and earned his MA in Counseling and Human Services at Montclair State University. He received his Supervisor Certification from William Paterson University, and his Principal, and Director of Counseling Services Certifications from Foundation of Educational Administration and NJEXCEL. He was a Special Education Teacher, a Social Studies, and Reading Teacher at Memorial Junior School for his first 8 years in the Hanover Township Public Schools. Mr. Wasserman was chosen as Teacher of the Year in 2006 and 2001 at MJS. He also coached Track, Cross Country, Basketball, and Volleyball, and served as a club advisor for several clubs. We look forward to his continued success in his new position as the district's Director of Curriculum.



- Gina-Michelle Rogers is the newest edition to the science department at Memorial Junior School. She will be teaching both seventh and eighth grade curriculum to our students this school

year. Gina comes to us from Orange Avenue School in Cranford, NJ where she completed a full year maternity leave position in a middle school setting. Ms. Rogers has earned her B.S. from Rutgers University from the School of Environmental and Biology Sciences in the field of Ecology and Natural Resources. She has also earned her master's degree from Rutgers: School of Education, where she concentrated on Biological Science Education. Gina is very excited to embark upon her professional journey here at Hanover Township.

- Dana Ash is the new Guidance Counselor at Memorial Junior School. She graduated from The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey



with a BA in Psychology and Education, and earned her MS Ed. in School Counseling from William Paterson University. Prior to joining the Hanover Township Public Schools, she worked in the North Haledon Public School District for the past 7 years as an eighth grade Math/Algebra teacher, and did her counseling internship in the North Haledon School District with children in grades K-8. Ms. Ash is an avid soccer player. She played soccer in college for all four years, and coached at Indian Hills High School for 6 years. In addition to soccer, Ms. Ash enjoys running, and has completed a marathon. She also likes spending time with friends, going to the beach, and watching sports.

- Dana Hollywood is a long term substitute 2nd grade teacher at Salem Drive School. She graduated from Caldwell College with a BA in Elementary Education and English, and is currently pursuing a MA in Special Education. Ms. Hollywood completed her student teaching in a first grade classroom in Nutley. In her free time she enjoys spending time with family and friends.



The Kindergarteners at Salem Drive School were treated to a visit by the Whippany Fire Department. They learned about fire safety, and had a chance to sit in the fire truck and work the fire hose. The students walked away with valuable safety information and understood how important firemen are to our community.

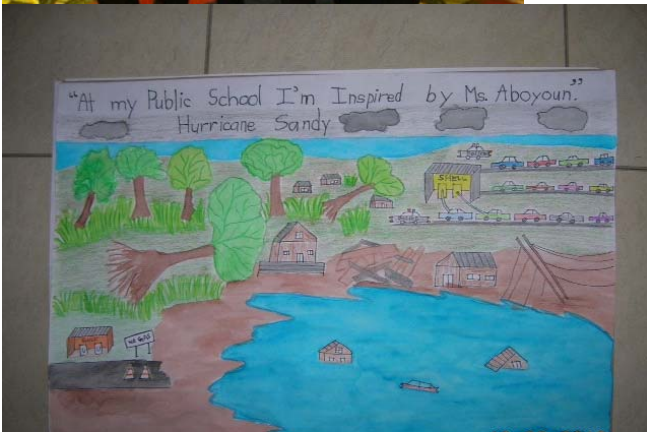
Student and Staff Activities, Accomplishments and Recognitions



Mr. Scott Pepper, Superintendent of Hanover Township Public Schools, and Mr. Michael Wasko, Principal of Memorial Junior School, pose with Memorial Junior School's recipient of the Morris County Superintendents' Middle School Leadership Award at the Award's Dinner held at the Hanover Marriott on May 7, 2013.



The Whippany Rotary distributed dictionaries to all district third graders on October 29, 2013, as part of their annual Dictionary Project. Pictured above are the third graders at Mountview Road School checking out their new dictionaries.



This is a Salem Drive School 5th grader's winning entry in the 2012-2013 MCCEA Poster Contest. Winners had their artwork reproduced and included in the 2013-2014 MCCEA calendar. 7 of our students' posters were selected as winners. The students were recognized at a Board of Education meeting, and at the opening ceremonies of the Pride In Our Schools Mall Project at the Rockaway Mall last April.



Pictured are the three finalists (winner is in the middle) of the district spelling bee, held at Memorial Junior School. All three are from Bee Meadow School! This is the third year in a row that BMS has won the district spelling bee.

“A Community That Inspires Excellence” Support Hanover Township Public Schools

Hanover Township Public Schools

Administrative Offices

61 Highland Avenue

Whippany, NJ 07981

Phone: 973-515-2400 Fax: 973-540-1023

www.hanovertwpschools.com

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