

Volume 2, Issue 1

November 2007

# Our Schools

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF WHIPPANY AND CEDAR KNOLLS, NJ



HANOVER TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# Excellence in



## A Message From the Superintendent

The school year is well underway and it is invigorating to see students actively engaged in the learning process. As I visit the schools and attend special events throughout the school district, I am always impressed with the quality of the students and the manner in which they approach their studies. Their demeanor is a credit to all of you as parents who over the years have instilled in them a love for learning.

This issue of the “*Excellence In Our Schools*” newsletter introduces you to the newest members of our staff, who together with our seasoned veterans, continue to provide students with an outstanding educational program. While reading this issue, you will see that we have assembled another diverse group of highly trained educators to work with your children. Over the years we have been fortunate to be able to attract and retain talented educators who, together with eager students, make wonderful things happen. This is one of the reasons I am confident we will continue to be recognized as one of the premier school districts of Morris County. Thank you for your ongoing support of our schools.

Scott R. Pepper, Superintendent of Schools

## Meet Our Excellent New Staff

- **Pictured On the Cover (clockwise from the top):**
  1. *All of the Hanover Township Schools received the Asthma Friendly School Award from the Pediatric/Adult Asthma Coalition of New Jersey. Pictured is Valerie Ward, Bee Meadow School Nurse, accepting the award.*
  2. *Mountview Road School’s Student Council in Hanover Township organized a food drive for Curbing Hunger in Morris County. As summer approaches, food bank supplies get low, but hunger doesn’t take a vacation! The Mountview community generously donated food items such as canned vegetables, cereal and soup.*
  3. *The students and staff at Mountview Road School celebrated St. Patrick’s Day when the Essex County Emerald Society Pipes and Drums visited the school in March. In addition to performing several Irish and patriotic songs, Drum Major Don Gilmartin answered some questions about the history and tradition of bagpipes. Pictured from Left are Mr. John McDermott, his son, and Drum Major Don Gilmartin.*
  4. *Sixth graders from Memorial Junior School enjoyed canoeing and many other educational and recreational activities at the annual Resident Outdoor Education program at Camp Speers-Eljabar in Dingmans Ferry, PA. This year’s 3-day educational experience took place October 17, 18 and 19, 2007.*
  5. *Mountview Road School recently hosted “The Jack Sprat Low-Fat World Tour” for all students. This assembly supported the school’s goal for healthy eating and exercise and stressed the importance of healthy lifestyles in the fight against heart disease and obesity. The students pretended to be antibodies fighting disease, dish their feelings about vegetables and even dance the Vitamin C conga! The students came away with the ability to make wholesome food choices for the rest of their lives! Pictured is the school principal, Mrs. Spina and students with the cast of The Jack Sprat Low Fat World Tour.*
- Michelle Geary (pictured on right) is the new computer teacher at Bee Meadow and Memorial Junior Schools. She graduated from Fairleigh Dickinson University and worked in Medical Marketing at Bayer Healthcare in Morristown working on Bayer Aspirin and Aleve. Her professional experience includes 15 years in business including marketing,

public relations, business coaching and software. She was a computer teacher at St. Pius X School in Montville for two years before coming to Hanover Township.

- Jaime Gieger (pictured below) is teaching 3<sup>rd</sup> grade at Bee Meadow School. She graduated from Hanover Park High School in 2002 and received her Bachelors in Education specializing in Early Childhood and Elementary Education from Montclair State University in 2006 and is currently enrolled in the Master’s Program there. Prior to coming to Hanover Township, she taught 3rd grade at Sandmeier Elementary School in Springfield for one year.
- Nicole Lentine (pictured below) is teaching 4th grade at Bee Meadow School. She earned a BA in Elementary Education and a BA in Psychology at Rider University. She was a student teacher at Dutch Neck School in Princeton Junction before coming to Hanover Township.



Some of the new staff members at Bee Meadow from left to right are Jill Mills, Library Media Specialist; Michelle Geary, Computer Teacher; Jaime Gieger, 3rd Grade Teacher; Nicole Lentine and Ninetta Esposito, 4th Grade Teachers.



## Meet Our Excellent New Staff



- Melissa Myron is teaching first grade at Salem Drive. Miss Myron started her work in the Hanover Township District at the HTSACC Summer Camp at Memorial Junior School four years ago. She completed fieldwork and her Apprenticeship Teaching at Bee Meadow School. She graduated with honors from Fairleigh Dickinson University with a Masters in Elementary Education.

- Kristen Dakak is the elementary school counselor for Salem Drive School, Mountview Road School and Bee Meadow School. Mrs. Dakak is a graduate of Kean University where she earned her Master's of Art in School Counseling. She also has her Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from King's College in Wilkes-Barre, PA. Mrs. Dakak taught middle school math and science for 11 years before becoming a school counselor. She was an elementary school counselor in Springfield for three years prior to coming to Hanover Township.



- Jeff Castellano is teaching Resource Center at Salem Drive. He attended Marist College in Poughkeepsie, NY where he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology with a concentration in General and Special Education. Upon graduating from college he chose to further his education by attending The College of St. Elizabeth for his Master's Degree in Special Education.



- Jennifer Scheinholtz is the new Guidance Counselor at Memorial Junior School. After earning her BA in Psychology from Marymount University, she continued her studies at Fordham University where she earned a MS in Education in Counseling and Personnel Services as well as a PhD in Educational Psychology. Prior to coming to Hanover Township, Jennifer was a School Counselor at Eric Smith Middle School in Ramsey



- Sarah Phipps is teaching kindergarten at Salem Drive School. Miss Phipps graduated from Montclair State University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in elementary education. She completed her student teaching experience in a kindergarten classroom at Washington School in the Caldwell-West Caldwell School District.

- Irma Pace is teaching third grade at Salem Drive School. Mrs. Pace is

a recent graduate of William Paterson University where she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature, as well as, a degree in Elementary Education. She completed her teaching internship at Ironia Elementary School in Randolph, where she was later offered a 4th grade maternity leave position.



- Ninetta Esposito (pictured on page 2) is a recent graduate of Montclair State University, where she received her MAT in elementary education. Prior to joining Hanover Township as a 4th grade teacher at Bee Meadow School, Ninetta worked in advertising.

*Memorial Junior School's newest General Aides, Lara Gallo and Sharon Roma are very happy to join the staff.*



## Meet Our Excellent New Staff

Some new staff at MJS from left to right are Marie Brinks, Language Arts/Computer Teacher; Michelle Geary, Computer Teacher; Antoinette Liberato, Resource Center Teacher; Shana Tracy, PACT/Reading Teacher; and Sarah Rhodes, Health and PE Teacher.



- Marie Brinks (pictured above) is the 7th and 8th grade Language Arts and Computer Teacher at Memorial Junior School. She comes to us with 9 years of experience teaching middle school English/Language Arts in North Carolina and New Jersey. Ms. Brinks earned her BA at High Point University and a MA from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro as well as National Board Certification.
- Antionette Liberato (pictured above) is the Resource Center teacher at Memorial Junior School. She graduated from New Jersey City University with a major in English and a specialization in writing. She received her Teacher Of The Handicapped Certificate and worked in an urban school district for ten years. She always had a passion to teach and to inspire excellence, which led her to pursue a Master's degree in, Counseling.
- Shana Tracy (pictured above) is the Coordinated Services (PACT/Reading) Teacher at Memorial Junior School. She earned her Bachelor's of Science in Elementary Education and a Bachelor's of Art in French at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She recently completed her Master's of Education at the University of Pennsylvania, where she became certified as a reading specialist. She

taught 8th grade science for two years outside of Philadelphia before returning home to northern New Jersey.

- Jessica Shupp, our Elementary Instrumental Music Teacher was born and raised in Pennsylvania, but her career moved her to New Jersey two years ago. She received her undergraduate degree in Music Education from West Chester University with a minor in Music History.



- Kelly Warnke is the new Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant (LDT-C) at both Salem Drive School and Mountview Road School. She is a graduate of Georgian Court University with a BA in Elementary Education and Psychology. She is also a graduate of New Jersey City University with a MA in Special Education and most recently, she completed the Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant program at Montclair State University. Prior to coming to Hanover Township, Mrs. Warnke was a teacher in East Orange for 6 years where she taught Kindergarten, first grade, was a reading tutor for 4 years and the site coordinator for the Winsor Sondag Learning Program.



- Vanessa Wolsky is the new Business Administrator/Board Secretary. She has been the Assistant Business Administrator for the past 5 years. Mrs. Wolsky earned her BS in Accounting from the University of Scranton and her MA in Educational Administration from Kean University.



- Sarah Rhodes (pictured top left) is teaching Health and Physical Education at Memorial Junior School. She graduated from University of Scranton and earned her Master's in Sports Administration and Coaching from Montclair State University. She coached field hockey at Drew University, and pitching at FDU, and taught at Science Park High School before coming to Hanover Township.

- Karen Van Vleet is teaching Kindergarten again at Mountview Road School after a few years away teaching in Virginia. She was born in Wiesbaden, Germany. Her father was in the military so she had the opportunity to live in many different states as a child. She graduated from Washington State University. She feels very fortunate to return to Mountview where her former students are now in the 4th, 5th and 6th grade.





## Meet Our Excellent New Staff



- Diane Brozyna is very happy to be back in the Hanover Township Schools. Last year she shared her time at Mountview Road and Salem Drive Schools in maternity leave replacement positions. Prior to completing the Post-Baccalaureate Teacher Certification Program at Kean University, she earned a BA and MA in Psychology at Montclair State University.



- Roberto Camean is the new principal of Salem Drive School. Mr. Camean earned his BA in Elementary Education and a MA in Educational Administration from Kean University. Prior to coming to Hanover Township, Mr. Camean was an elementary teacher at South 17th Street School in Newark for 5 years and most recently the Assistant Principal at Hillside Elementary School in Closter.

- Anita Black is the new School Psychologist at Mountview Road and Salem Drive Schools. She received her Bachelors in Psychology at Moravian College, and a Masters in School Psychology at Columbia University. Prior to coming to Hanover Township, she was an intern at the Chatham school district. She has also worked as a pre-school teacher. Anita grew up all around the world, spending most of her childhood in Singapore and Puerto Rico.



- Darrin Stark is the new Assistant Principal at Memorial Junior School. Mr. Stark taught math for the past 8 years at MJS and was the math Area Coordinator since 2005. He was also a coach/advisor for various sports and clubs. Prior to coming to Hanover Township, Mr. Stark taught 6th and 7th grade math in Celebration, FL. Mr. Stark received his BA in Mathematics and MA in Instructional Leadership from Centenary College.



- Jennifer Adkins is the new Program Coordinator for Hanover Township School Age Child Care. She graduated from William Paterson University with a degree in History Education, and has an extensive business background. In addition to working for several major retailers as a buyer and district manager, she has owned and developed a marketing business and retail stores. Mrs. Adkins is an active volunteer, a past PTA President and a member of many other Hanover and Morris County organizations. She looks forward to continuing and further developing the excellent programs offered by HTSACC.

- Christine Rains is Memorial Junior School's new 6th grade Language Arts Literacy teacher. Previously Miss Rains taught 4th grade at Salem Drive School.



**SPRING 2007  
STATE TESTING  
DISTRICT RESULTS**

**MATHEMATICS**

GRADE	NUMBER TESTED	PERCENT PARTIALLY PROFICIENT	PERCENT PROFICIENT	PERCENT ADVANCED PROFICIENT	TOTAL PERCENT PROFICIENT
3	180	2.8%	58.3%	38.9%	97.2%
4	177	8.5%	42.0%	49.5%	91.5%
5	164	4.3%	54.8%	40.9%	95.7%
6	172	11.0%	58.1%	30.9%	89.0%
7	150	19.3%	52.7%	28.0%	80.7%
8	163	9.8%	48.5%	41.7%	90.2%

**LANGUAGE ARTS LITERACY**

GRADE	NUMBER TESTED	PERCENT PARTIALLY PROFICIENT	PERCENT PROFICIENT	PERCENT ADVANCED PROFICIENT	TOTAL PERCENT PROFICIENT
3	180	6.7%	78.9%	14.4%	93.3%
4	177	8.0%	78.9%	13.1%	92.0%
5	164	1.2%	77.4%	21.4%	98.8%
6	172	8.1%	66.3%	25.6%	91.9%
7	150	6.0%	74.7%	19.3%	94.0%
8	163	10.4%	69.3%	20.3%	89.6%

All results include both regular and special education students.

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

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**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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