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Our Schools

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF WHIPPANY AND CEDAR KNOLLS, NJ



HANOVER TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Excellence in



A Message From the Superintendent

The photographs on the cover of this latest edition of the "Excellence in Our Schools" newsletter capture the essence of what makes our schools so great. The photograph on the top shows students, parents and educators coming together to recognize and celebrate 50 years of educational excellence at Mountview Road School. A reputation for excellence is something that has to be earned and is usually the culmination of many years of hard work. Over time, many students, parents and educators have contributed to this reputation.

In the bottom photograph, we honor Gloria Benson who was recently named Morris County Educational Support Professional of the Year. Within every great school district there are educational support services personnel such as secretaries, custodians, maintenance personnel, bus drivers, aides, and office staff, who perform vital functions that permit our teachers and administrators to focus on the important task of educating our students. Their contributions to our overall success are endless and I encourage all of you to join me in congratulating Gloria and thanking all our ESP's for their efforts on behalf of our students.

Both photographs reflect the spirit of cooperation and support that has been fostered between parents, staff, students and the community that contributes significantly to the overall success of our schools. Working together we continue to make a difference in the lives of the children who we educate. Thank you for your ongoing support of the Hanover Township Public Schools.

Scott R. Pepper, Superintendent of Schools

Student and Staff Activities, Accomplishments and Recognitions

• Pictured On the Cover:

1. *The Student Council of Mountview Road School dedicated a new sign in honor of the school's 50th anniversary. The sign was a gift from the PTA and the Student Council. The students and faculty of Mountview Road School are extremely proud to be a part of a very special year for the school. The Student Council is pictured, along with the advisors: Mrs. DeSino, Miss Kubala, Mrs. Spina (Principal) and Mr. Pomel.*
2. *Mrs. Gloria Benson was selected as MCCEA's (Morris County Council of Education Associations) Educational Support Professional (ESP) of the Year at their Annual ESP Celebration dinner. Gloria's name was forwarded to NJEA for the New Jersey ESP of the Year and to NEA for the National ESP of the Year. In attendance at the ESP Celebration with Mrs. Benson were Judy Hoffler, Pat Amadori, Gimmy Salmon, Barbara Beck (HTEA President), Darlene Antico, Mocella Johnson, Mary Novotny and Carol Duchensky.*



Whippany firefighters visited Salem Drive School to talk to kindergarteners about fire safety.

- Two Memorial Junior School students were selected to the North Jersey Junior Area Band and performed a duet at the January 29, 2008 Board of Education Meeting.
- One MJS student was appointed to Region I Intermediate Chorus as Soprano II, and another MJS student was appointed to Region I Intermediate Band as Bassoonist, and they were both recognized at the February 26, 2008 Board of Education Meeting.
- Salem Drive and Bee Meadow School students decorated their classroom doors with the theme of PEACE in January. This was a program led by School Counselor, Mrs. Dakak.
- As part of their unit on community helpers, SDS kindergarteners visited the Hanover Township Police Station.
- The SDS Student Council sponsored the annual Parent-Student basketball game. More than 80 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders played basketball against their parents, teachers and principal, Mr. Camean.
- MTV's 5th graders performed part of their Physical Education program entitled "Rhythm, Rhyme and Showtime" under the direction of Mrs. Gibbons, Physical Education teacher, at a recent Board of Education meeting.



Mrs. Brozyna's third grade class from Mountview Road School created a "Peace Quilt" in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday. After reading *Martin's Big Words* by Doreen Rappaport, illustrated by Brian Collier, the students recalled and discussed events and ideals which characterized Dr. King's life. Each child then designed one quilt square illustrating these events. The quilt was constructed from the squares, displayed proudly in the hallway, and aptly entitled "The Peace Quilt".

Student and Staff Activities, Accomplishments and Recognitions

- In January, MJS PACT students visited the United Nations Headquarters in New York. Ms. Tracy organized the field trip for the 42 students after a semester-long study of the UN.



MJS students posing in front of a sculpture outside the UN

- BMS continues their recycling program as they reuse paper, plastic and ink cartridges. Miss Capone, Student Council Advisor is leading this effort.
- BMS adopted a lunchtime program developed by the Food Allergy Network called "Be A Pal – Protect A Life." This is a program that teaches children to be sensitive and helpful to children with food allergies.



BMS dedicated the new PTA Rock Climbing Wall to Physical Education teacher, Mr. Simek in a ceremony on February 4th.

- BMS celebrated Red Ribbon Week by writing poems, wearing red, tying red ribbons around our trees and making a large peace sign for our cafeteria.
- Mr. Clifford Burns's 4th

grade learned about the International Space Station. Students then designed their own space stations based on what they learned.



SDS 4th graders in Mrs. Guiheen's class developed timelines to represent the events leading to the Revolutionary War. Students then created and displayed their Revolutionary War projects.

- Mr. Camean read The True Story of the Three Little Pigs to SDS kindergarteners. In this version, we learn that the wolf wasn't so bad after all. In fact, he was framed.
- BMS fifth graders volunteered to clean trash from Malapardis Park.



Mr. Wasko, Mr. Wasserman, and Mrs. Koch met to prepare their presentation for this year's NJ Statewide Middle School Conference regarding the MJS Character Education Program.

- The BMS PTA led another successful "Super Saturday" event for the entire community on February 2nd.
- The BMS kitchen has undergone an "extreme makeover" this year. The Maintenance Department had a new floor installed and they painted all of the walls. The PTA donated new cabinets, countertops and a sink and the Lowe's Corporation donated a new island. The project was led by PTA leaders, Mrs. Gallo & Mrs. Linfante, and by our Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds, Mr. Aull.
- Students at MJS, BMS and SDS jumped at the chance to help fight heart disease and stroke. The Jump Rope for Heart program took place during gym classes the week of February 10th. The students raised over \$9,300 for the American Heart Association in this fundraiser.



Two 7th grade students were selected for the North Jersey Regional Band and Chorus



The SDS Student Council sponsored a toy drive for the Valerie Fund and the Tomorrows Children's Fund which benefits children with cancer. Over 250 toys, games, books and sports shirts were delivered to these two organizations.

Student and Staff Activities, Accomplishments and Recognitions

Educational Consultant, Lynda Fote, works with groups of teachers to assist in the development of differentiated learning strategies and units of study. This is part of a multi-year plan to facilitate personalized educational opportunities for all students.



- The BMS Student Council made Valentines for the Hanover Township Senior Citizens. In addition, they sponsored a book drive so that over 100 books could be donated to the Dover schools. They have donated funds to the following organizations this year: the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the WPHS Project Graduation, the Interfaith Food Pantry, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, the Valerie Fund and the St. Hubert's Animal Welfare Center.
- MJS Student Council collected over 475 gifts as part of the Caring and Sharing Program. On December 19, 2007, the students from the Collinsville School in Morristown visited MJS to attend the school-wide Caring and Sharing assembly. Gifts were distributed to the children while the MJS band and chorus provided entertainment with holiday songs.
- 14 MJS students were honored and recognized as Johns Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth Scholars.
- Students in Mrs. Kebrdle's class entertained the residents at Arden Court. After they sang, the boys gave Valentine pins, which they made themselves in class, to members of the audience.
- 4th grade students at MTV received letters from their pen pals in Seville, Spain. The students continue to study the language and culture of Spain.

The 6th grade Social Studies students in Mr. Anderson's, Mrs. McDonough's and Mrs. Ricupero's classes created 3-dimensional Egyptian Artifacts to coincide with the study of Ancient Egypt, as part of their curriculum. They were proudly displayed in the IMC for all to enjoy.



- BMS second graders continue to work on "Kindness Warms Our Hearts" projects to encourage kindness in and out of school.
- BMS kindergarten students



As part of the Kindergarten Reading Buddy Program at Bee Meadow School, second grade students read to the kindergarten students once a month in the media center.

learned the "Zero The Hero" song and dance to reinforce counting to 100. They made posters displaying 100 items. Poster contents ranged from pasta to cereal pieces to gummy bears.

The 8th grade Character Education team held a successful coat drive. Staff and students donated over 115 coats to the Dover Salvation Army. The 8th graders collected, counted, sorted, and loaded the coats into a van for transportation.



- Many BMS students in the lower grades read 100 books prior to the 100th day of school. Most classes had guest readers come in to read to them.
- The 7th grade Science students in Mrs. Koch's and Mrs. Mantone's classes made 3-dimensional single-celled microorganisms, and plant and animal cells, as part of their Cell Unit. These creative and original projects were made from common household items.

MTV teachers, Mr. Burns and Mr. Eva, had their heads shaved on March 17, 2008 in solidarity with children who have cancer, while raising funds for childhood cancer research. MTV Bald Eagles raised over \$5,000 for the St. Baldrick's Foundation.



Meet Our Excellent New Staff



- Kathleen Boyne is the new 7th grade Mathematics Teacher at Memorial Junior School. After graduating from New York University with a BFA in Film and Television Production, she worked as a Production Assistant on various commercials for 2 years. She recently earned her Master's in the Art of Teaching from Fairleigh Dickinson University this past August. Prior to coming to Memorial Junior

School, Ms. Boyne taught 7th and 8th grade math at Bloomfield Middle School.

- Sharon Karlok is the new Resource Center Teacher at Mountview Road School. She is a graduate of Douglass College, Rutgers University. Mrs. Karlok holds degrees in Elementary and Special Education, as well as a Masters degree in Administration. She has worked in the Harrison Public Schools as a teacher and Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant.



- Kimberly LaMarco (in the group photo on the right) is the new Speech Language Specialist at Bee Meadow School. She earned her BA in Speech and Hearing at Kean University. Mrs. LaMarco also earned her MA in Speech and Language Pathology from Kean University. Prior to coming to Bee Meadow School, she was the speech and language pathologist at Morris Plains Borough School and Mountain Way School in Morris Plains.

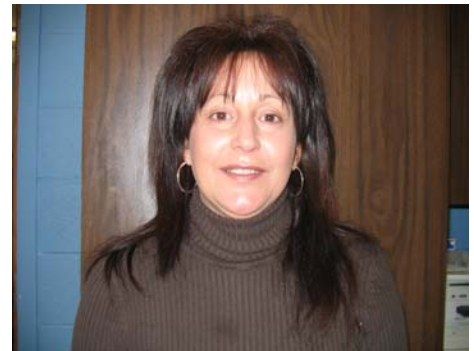


Kathleen Murray is the new Financial Accounts Specialist in the district's Administrative Offices.

- Laura Petro is the new Long Term Substitute Replacement Kindergarten Teacher at Mountview Road School. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from Seton Hall University. Previously she taught kindergarten and first grade at Forest Avenue School in Glen Ridge.



- Nina Amidon (pictured below) is the new School Library Media Specialist at Bee Meadow School. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Rider University. She earned her New Jersey Associate School Media Specialist Certification at Rowan University and anticipates receiving her MA in School and Public Librarianship in May 2008. She comes to us from Dayton/Deans Elementary School in South Brunswick.



Gina Masone is our new General Aide at Memorial Junior School. She has been assigned to assist the 7th grade team and PACT teacher.



The newest staff members at Bee Meadow School are (left to right) Georgette Vaccaro, Special Education Aide, Kimberly LaMarco, Speech Language Specialist, Nina Amidon, Library Media Specialist, and Pamela O'Connor, General Aide.

**SPRING 2007
STATE TESTING
DISTRICT RESULTS**

MATHEMATICS

GRADE	NUMBER TESTED	TOTAL PERCENT PROFICIENT
3	180	97.2%
4	177	91.5%
5	164	95.7%
6	172	89.0%
7	150	80.7%
8	163	90.2%

LANGUAGE ARTS LITERACY

GRADE	NUMBER TESTED	TOTAL PERCENT PROFICIENT
3	180	93.3%
4	177	92.0%
5	164	98.8%
6	172	91.9%
7	150	94.0%
8	163	89.6%

Highlights of 2007 State Testing

- Salem Drive School was one of only 99 schools in the entire state, grades three through eight, to receive a three star (highest) rating from the Star Ledger newspaper. There were only four other schools in all of Morris County who received three stars.
- The combined passing score (language arts literacy and mathematics) of SDS third graders ranked 32nd out of 1,380 elementary schools in New Jersey.
- The SDS third grade language arts literacy score ranked #1 in Morris County for "I" factor schools..
- The SDS third grade mathematics score ranked #1 in Morris County for "I" factor schools.
- The MTV third grade mathematics score ranked #1 (tied with SDS) in Morris County for "I" factor schools.
- The MTV fourth grade language arts literacy scores ranked 6th in Morris County for "I" factor schools.
- The combined passing score (language arts literacy and mathematics) of BMS fifth graders ranked 41st out of 1,237 elementary schools in New Jersey.
- The BMS fifth grade language arts literacy scores ranked #1 in Morris County for "I" factor schools.
- The SDS fifth grade language arts scores ranked #1 (tied with BMS) in Morris County for "I" factor schools.
- The BMS fifth grade mathematic scores ranked 4th in Morris County for "I" factor schools.
- AT MJS, when compared with "I" district scores across the state, the sixth, seventh, and eighth grade scores ranged from a low of 16th out of 35 schools (top 45%) to a high of 8th out of 35 schools (top 23%). In all subjects and in all grades (6th, 7th and 8th) our scores are in the top 50% of "I" factor schools. This is impressive when you consider we are being compared against some of the highest achieving schools in the state.

"A Community That Inspires Excellence"
Support Hanover Township Public Schools

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