

1515 Stelton Road Piscataway, NJ 08854 Phone: 732-572-2289 www.piscatawayschools.org Twitter: @pwayschools Facebook: @pwayschools

# Superintendent's Report

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#### PHS STUDENTS BEGIN PAPER MILL PROGRAM







The 28 PHS students involved in Paper Mill Playhouse "Adopt-A-School" program attended the first of four Paper Mill Playhouse shows in October. *The Honeymooners*, a new musical, is making its premiere at the Playhouse this season. Before the show, Carrie Rubino, Senior Manager of the theater's Education Programs, led a discussion on the history of the Paper Mill and the production process of *The Honeymooners*, including a digital presentation students followed on their cell phones. The students were engaged and took full advantage of the Q & A to ask wonderful questions. During the show, the students were swept up into the world of the musical, while representing PHS well with respectful and mature behavior. The next production students will attend is Annie on December 12.



# KNOLLWOOD FIRST GRADERS PRACTICE MINDFULNESS THROUGH YOGA



Knollwood first graders take a daily fifteen minute yoga break every day, just before lunch. The simple stretches and balancing poses help the children focus and relax after a morning of active learning.

Following along with *Cosmic Yoga* videos, stories told in conjunction with yoga poses, students practice mindfulness and become more physically fit. Some of the stories may be familiar—*We're Going on a Bear Hunt* — or a story new to them — *Calypso the Flamingo*. Each video captures the students' attention, making their yoga breaks one of their favorite moments of every day.

#### MORE ACCOLADES FOR PHS ART STUDENTS

PHS Art Students Mia Borrell, Katherine Diaz-Mayorga, and Sara Venturi, had artwork selected for the Art Educators of New Jersey Winter Exhibit at the NJ Performing Arts Center in Newark. The artwork is part of a 30-piece exhibit hung in the Victoria Theater Lobby displaying K-12 artwork from around the state. Over 6,000 visitors to NJPAC will see their work, on display from November 12 - January 14.

AP Art Students Laila Andrews, Savannah Cook, and Sara Venturi were accepted into CraftNOW Workshops held at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. They participated in full-day workshops: Laila in Printmaking, Savannah in Glass, and Sara in Ceramics. The program took place on Saturday, November 11, offering the students an enriching, hands-on experience in a college setting. Students also toured the art exhibit in the Kimmel Center. Special thanks to teachers Lisa Lentini-Pombrio and Dorothy Amme for providing experiences that move beyond the classroom and provide a glimpse of art at university and professional levels!



Sara Venturi, PHS, Grade 12

#### KING HOLDS ANNUAL COLORFEST WALK/RUN

On Saturday, October 14, Martin Luther King School held its annual Family Colorfest run/walk fundraiser. The 200-plus participants showed up to the school bright and early, wearing white. By the end of the 1.5 mile race, those white clothes were fully decorated with color! MLK staff members had a great time color-dousing the students and their families for a good cause. Participants also had a chance to take a picture in MLK's very own photo booth and students could earn an extra PE period by participating in



Mr. Cerro and Mr. Stoddard's Cornhole Challenge! Congratulations to the winners, Nathaniel Thomas, Salomon Ealey and Grace Horvath. It was a great time for MLK families and all money raised goes directly to supporting the school.

#### RANDOLPHVILLE SAFETY PATROL READY TO SERVE!

Safety Patrol has officially started at Randolphville Elementary School! All second and third graders were invited to apply and the school received over 100 applications. Safety Patrol jobs include assisting the kindergarten classrooms in the morning, patrolling the halls upon arrival, and helping out during kindergarten and first grade lunch. The Safety Patrol members and committee are super excited to start the 2017-2018 year with a safe and welcoming start!



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## CONACKAMACK STUDENTS BUILD RELATIONSHIPS AT STIRLING VILLAGE

It's an early dismissal day, and what are Conackamack students enrolled in after care doing? They are spending time with their favorite senior citizens in Stirling Village Senior Housing. These students spent their afternoon playing cards, chess, Connect Four, and other games, while they listened to stories and learned a little about life in the last century. The students enjoyed their afternoon as much as the seniors did. Both groups look forward to future visits.



#### KING LAUNCHES PENGUIN PEERS PROGRAM

On Thursday, October 26, Mrs. Amy Burns, MSW, LSW, conducted a Student Education & Experience for Disability Sensitivity (S.E.E.D.S) presentation for students and staff who will be involved in the Penguin Peers program. Penguin Peers, initiated through the Special Education Department, is a new friendship initiative at King School, funded by the Piscataway Education Foundation's INSPIRE grant. During the presentation, the group learned about different types of disabilities through experiential learning activities and group discussions about differences. In the upcoming months,



students who participated in the training will be paired with peers from the special education classrooms, and together they will participate in a variety of social opportunities.

# SCHOR NHS STUDENTS REACH OUT TO TUTOR MATH POTENTIAL STUDENTS IN PREPARATION FOR QUARTERLIES

The Math Potential Program, where identified middle school student on the cusp of moving into higher level math courses are given additional guidance and help during their WIN period, took another inspiring step in preparing for the first quarterly exam. Eighth grade NHS students gave up their own WIN time to assist younger students in their studies. Working one-on-one or in small groups, the older students helped their younger charges work through problems, gain a greater understanding of concepts, and answered questions using their own spin on problem-solving. Every student remained engaged throughout the period, and the younger students felt better prepared and ready to take those important first tests.



### RANDOLPHVILLE PARTNERS WITH UNITED WAY

Randolphville partnered with The United Way of Central New Jersey to organize a donation of literacy kits to first grade students. Inside the kits, students found a book, a letter from a volunteer about the importance of reading, crayons, and activity pages. The kits helped promote Randolphville's emphasis



on the love of reading for all of our students!

#### **QUIBBLETOWN'S GOT TALENT!**

Quibbletown held its second annual talent show, Quibbletown's Got Talent!, on Thursday, November 2. Sponsored by the Quibbletown PTG, the schoolwide talent show featured dancing, singing, and instrumental

performances. All participants performed in the grand finale *Don't*Stop Believin'. Proceeds from the show and postperformance bake sale will be donated to relief efforts for victims of recent hurricanes.



#### PHS STUDENTS CELEBRATE FIRST SIGNING DAY

PHS students committed to colleges and universities for athletics on this first Signing Day of the 2017-2018 school year. Congratulations to Michael Petite – University of Buffalo - Wrestling, (Coach Daniel Smith ); Laniya Miller, Stony Brook University Basketball, (Head Coach Chris Puder; Assistant Coach Dre'Shonda Williams); Chris Corvil – Montclair State University – Baseball and Samuel Ingram – Johns Hopkins University Baseball, (Coach Scott Gleichenhaus). Congratulations to these hard-working student athletes and their coaches!



#### QUIBBLETOWN TEACHER EDITS O PASSO: MUSIC AND EDUCATION

Tom Mullaney, Choral and General Music Teacher at Quibbletown, recently finished editing the English translation of the Portuguese book *O Passo: Music and Education* by Lucas Ciavatta of Brazil. O Passo is a multisensory approach toward music making and music learning that works with the body's ability to learn separately and together with the brain. The method is used throughout Brazil, France and in parts of Germany and the United States. Tom travelled to Rio de Janeiro in 2012 and 2014 to study at the O Passo Institute, and has been working with Ciavatta since 2009 to establish O Passo as a major method of music education within the U.S. and throughout the world.

## ROTARY GIVES DICTIONARIES TO THIRD GRADE STUDENTS

The Piscataway Rotary Club has once again generously donated dictionaries to all Piscataway third graders. The Rotary's dictionary donation is part of the "Dictionary Project," a movement that seeks to provide dictionaries to all children in school and is



typically implemented in third grade. The Piscataway Rotary personally visited all third grade students at Eisenhower, Grandview, Knollwood, and Randolphville to deliver the dictionaries. Thank you, Piscataway Rotary!