

## HEALTH LINKS INTERNS LEARN THROUGH HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES

Piscataway Health Links interns – 44 students from all three middle schools who have shown strong interest in the Health Sciences – continued their health education in January with visits to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the Liberty Science Center Live from

Surgery, where they viewed a video of a kidney transplant, spoke to a transplant team, and examined surgical instruments first-hand. This visit furthered the education received during their November visit to the Sharing Network, the largest organ procurement organization in New Jersey. There the students learned about the importance of organ donation and were honored to meet a heart and liver transplant recipient. They were deeply moved by the presentation and look forward to spreading the word about how ordinary people can be heroes by making the decision to become organ donors.



## HOGWORTS COMES ALIVE AT ARBOR

At Arbor school, students in Rooms 34 and 36 journey to Hogwarts as Harry Potter Book Club members. Teachers and avid Harry Potter fans Meaghan Brandt and Meredith Cantwell began the club after noticing students' increasing interest in the series. During club meetings, students and teachers read and discuss story elements including characters, plot, and foreshadowing, followed by activities such as wand and broom making, sorting hat ceremonies, and the up and coming Quidditch team tryouts. Students have a chance to earn House points toward the House Cup for their individual hard work as well as teamwork. Students reluctantly return to the Muggle world once club time is over, and look forward to their next trip to Hogwarts!.



## PHS STUDENT ATHLETES COMMIT ON SIGNING DAY

Dedication to athletics and academics paid off for these eight PHS student athletes who committed to continue in competitive sports at the college level on the February 7, 2018 Signing Day. From left to right in the photo, the following students put pen to paper and signed:

Robert Opitz – Montclair University – Track and Field  
 Rahul Tanna – Cross Country/Track – University of Chicago  
 Brooke Moll – Basketball – Kean University  
 Jenn Majorczak – Softball – Kean University  
 Caitlyn Erdman – Softball – Franklin and Marshall  
 Jessica Alicia – Softball – Stevenson University  
 Demetrius Johnson, Jr – Football – University of Chicago  
 Brijon Artis – Football – American International College



## KNOLLWOOD ART OF SCIENCE

Knollwood First Graders are exploring the world of science using their senses. In studying their Sound and Light Units, the students designed and created musical instruments, created sound waves using tuning forks and participated in a Listening Walk. They experimented with different sources of light and adventured through the darkness. Students formed hypothesis prior to investigations and compared their results with their predictions using a broad array of content areas.



## PHS AWARDED BREAKFAST KIOSK FROM PEPSICO AND THE DAIRY COUNCIL

The National Dairy Council and Pepsico named Piscataway High School one of two winners of its Breakfast Kiosk grant. This



means that PHS receives a \$10,000

Breakfast Kiosk to help ensure kids on the run begin their day with a healthy meal.

Kids can “grab-and-go” — a proven way to get more kids to eat breakfast. Research is underway to determine the best placement within the school for the kiosk. Thanks go to Jim Giannakis and Sodexo Food Services for writing this winning grant!



## PHS STUDENTS HONOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH WITH LIVESTREAM TO GHANA

Throughout February, Piscataway School honors Black History Month with special programs, events, and instruction across all grade levels. At PHS on February 16, {xxx} students will participate in the livestreamed Ghana teleconference, a cultural exchange facilitated by Oiada International, a non-profit organization that connects schools around the world in distance learning programs. Our students will interact with students from Ghana, learning about their cultures, traditions, and history while sharing their own heritage and history. PHS choir students will share musical selections with Black History Month themes, while Ghana students reciprocate with their own traditional music. Programs such as this offer opportunities for students to develop understanding, knowledge and skills in our global society.





## SIXTH GRADERS ACROSS THE DISTRICT GET "DANCE POWER"

This year, Dance Power, our partnership with the American Repertory Ballet/ Princeton Ballet School as part of LEAP (Local Enriched Academic/Arts Program) for students in grades two through five, was extended to sixth graders as part of their physical education class. Dance Power is designed to support cross-subject learning, and all five of New Jersey's Core Curriculum Content Standards for Dance are integrated into weekly lesson plans. Every sixth grader in the district participated and family and friends were invited to a high-energy performance following the unit's completion.



## PHS PRESENTS DAMN YANKEES

PHS will present *Damn Yankees* as this year's musical on Thursday, March 1 and Friday, March 2 at 7PM, and Saturday, March 3 at 2PM and 7PM in the PHS PAC. The original production of *Damn Yankees* won seven Tony Awards, including Best Musical. This wicked, romantic comedy features all-American subject matter and an irreverent sense of humor. Tickets can be purchased in advance, at the discounted rates of \$10 for students and seniors and \$12 for adults, by visiting [phs.booktix.com](http://phs.booktix.com). Tickets can also be purchased at the door for \$15.



## SCHOOL BIRTHDAY COOKIE TRAYS NOW AVAILABLE FOR ELEMENTARY CELEBRATIONS

Working parents will appreciate a new *Birthday Celebration Cookie Tray* available through Sodexo Food Services for \$25 for elementary students. Order anytime throughout the year up to two weeks before a child's birthday, and a tray of cookies and bottled water for every student in the class, and a party hat for the birthday student, will be delivered to your child's classroom on his/her special day. No worries about allergies or getting to work on time. Order forms are available at each school and will be on the district and school websites soon.



## QUIBBLETOWN AUXILIARY GYM OFFERS STRENGTH AND ENDURANCE TRAINING FOR ALL STUDENTS

The Quibbltown auxiliary gym has become a highlight of the PE cycle for all Quibbltown students. All students take classes in the auxiliary gym for two weeks in every six week period. The goal is to increase each student's muscular strength, muscular endurance, and flexibility. Students began with simple strength training equipment (balance balls, bosu balls, aerobic bars, strength bands) and graduated to more advanced items (plyometric boxes & kettlebells). In the last few years, students began working with pull-up and dip bars and TRX suspension straps. The position of the room also allows for easy access to the outdoor fitness trail.



## GRANDVIEW STEM NIGHT

Grandview students learned the Engineering Design Process first hand, helping the Gingerbread Man build a boat to cross the river without sinking at Grandview STEM

Night. Students constructed a plan, designed a model, and built their design from given materials. They tested their product and then planned improvements.



## RANDOLPHVILLE SECOND GRADERS TAKE A "SEAT"

Randolphville second grade teachers Mrs. Tracie Toke, Mrs. Jamie Mayer, and Mrs. Carol Cirasa have introduced flexible seating options to their students as they work and learn. The children enjoy reading while lounging on cushions, writing while sitting on exercise balls, or completing a math activity while rocking their feet on a "Swidget." Teachers report greater student engagement, participation, and collaboration.



## KNOLLWOOD WORD PROBLEM WALKS

Knollwood third graders learn multiplication on "3rd Grade Winter Word Problem Walks." The students wrote, solved, and illustrated multi-step word problems incorporating student interests, current events, and real-life scenarios where students might need to use their multiplication skills, applying multiplication strategies learned in class to solve each problem. Teachers, friends, parents, and administrators enjoyed walking through the hallways, solving word problems and specifying their methodologies.



## MICHAEL PETITE SETS PHS WRESTLING

Michael Petite set a record as the winningest wrestler in PHS history when he recorded a second-period pin in the Chiefs' Group V quarterfinal victory over Bayonne on February 5. That was victory 134 for Team Captain Petite, a four-year starter, who wrestled at 170 pounds to set the record. Congratulations, Michael!



## MIDDLE SCHOOL WRESTLING PRODUCES A CHAMPION!

Our Middle School Wrestling Team competed well in the GMC Middlesex Championship, and now Schor eighth grade student, Kendall Jordan, is a tri-county champion! Kendall placed first in the 95-pound weight class at the War at the Shore Championship, defeating all of his competitors from Middlesex, Monmouth, and Ocean counties.

Congratulations Kendall and the Middle School Team, coaches Robert Uhrin and Michael Szymonowicz, and volunteer coach David Powell.



## CHILDREN'S CORNER HOSTS RIZZO'S WILDLIFE WORLD

Rizzo's Wildlife World recently visited Children's Corner by the River presenting rescued and captive-born animals in unique and informative demonstrations. The children got to see up close – and even touch -- many exotic and unfamiliar animals just before they begin their pet/vet classroom themes. Children's Corner opens registration for the 2018-2019 school year on March 1, 2018

