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Superintendent's Report

Volume 4 Issue 5 January 24, 2019

Coming Events

February 1

Marking Period 3 Starts

February 1 & 2

PHS Theater Workshop
Performances

February 4—8

National School
Counseling Week

February 7 & 8

Schor Musical

February 12

Staff Development Early Dismissal for Students

February 18

Presidents' Day Schools Closed

February 21, 22, & 23

Quibbletown

Drama Production

February 25—March 1

Read Across America
Week

February 27

Conackamack Jazz Night

KING STUDENTS GIVE BACK IN FIRST ANNUAL DAY OF SERVICE

Students and families of Martin Luther King Intermediate School spent the King national holiday coming together to celebrate their diversity, strengthen their community, find solutions to social problems, and follow in the example of Dr. King in living a life of service. Led by Dr. Gray, Ms. Blanshaft, and teacher Sharon Davis, MLK staff assisted families in making greeting cards for hospitalized children; flower arrangements for the Piscataway Senior Center; dog and cat toys for the animal shelter; pillows for displaced families; and

place settings for Elijah's Promise Community Kitchen. Dr. Gray plans to make this an annual event to assist those in need and to live up to the school's motto, "It's cool to be kind at King."









EISENHOWER CELEBRATES MULTICULTURAL WEEK

Eisenhower students and families shared and celebrated their cultural heritage during a weeklong event from January 14-18. The weather may have been cold, but students began the week reminded of warm island breezes as island music welcomed them to school. Throughout the week, students traveled the world, with stops in Africa, Asia, Europe, Central America, and North America. The importance of dance to culture was

emphasized, with performances by an African Drum Troop, Bollywood and Irish dancers, and Hawaiian hula. Among other highlights, students took part in a pep rally, entering the cafeteria showcasing flags from their countries of origin, and later in the week took part in a cultural fashion show. And since no celebration is complete without food, the staff enjoyed their multicultural potluck lunch!



DISTRICT STEAM EVENTS IGNITE LEARNING

As part of a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) Initiative, our district STEAM Team (Rebecca Dayton, Jeffrey Celebre, Chris Irovando, and Rebekah Sterlacci) arranged for STEAM events to take place throughout the year in our district elementary schools for second and third grade students. The December event had second grade students designing pollinators and third grade students making and playing straw oboes! Thank you to the K-3 digital literacy and music teachers for your help and support!



RANDOLPHVILLE STUDENTS SHOW INTEGRITY

Integrity is doing the right thing, even when no one is looking. For Marking Period 2, Randolphville's Respect Program focused on both respectful behavior and having integrity. Students explored what integrity looks and sounds like, and staff kept a look out for students



exhibiting integrity at school. By highlighting integrity, Randolphville hopes to put a spotlight on Randolphville students doing the right thing and making good choices!

GRANDVIEW FIELD TRIP RIGHT OUTSIDE THE DOOR

Contractors Kermit and Mike led Ms. Wilson's class through an onsite "field trip" discussing the school's new classroom building project. Using prepared questions, the students, through real world applications

learned about angles, measurement, pressure, geometry and engineering.



PISCATAWAY DANCE PROGRAM PARTNERS WITH PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Piscataway Schools' partnership with the American Repertory Ballet continued this year with the Dance Power program being offered through LEAP in grades 4-5 and to all sixth graders through a collaboration with the Physical Education department. Students shared what they learned in a series of town hall performances featuring members of the ARB company and technique, skill, and choreography from our students.



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ARBOR COLLECTS PENNIES FOR PATIENTS

Arbor students are raising money to benefit the Lymphoma and Leukemia Society of America. Last year, during the



Pennies for Patients Drive, the entire school pitched in to raise more than \$6000 for the cause. This year, students hope to top that amount.

EISENHOWER STUDENTS SING FOR PEACE

Eisenhower third grade students joined hands for peace around the world as they sang *Everybody Say Peace* at their January concert. Eisenhower families packed the Schor Middle School auditorium and made beautiful memories together, listening to their children sing. Thanks go to Eisenhower Music teacher, Mrs. Christine Petsu, for her hard work on this great event.



PHS ART STUDENTS GAIN RECOGNITION

PHS art student, Emma Broggi, was a finalist in the Get to Know Project, sponsored by the Nature's Wild Neighbors Society. This helps students to connect with nature, develop an understanding,

appreciation, and respect for biodiversity – through artistic expression. Congratulations to Emma and her teacher Dorothy Amme!





PHS FOOTBALL HONORS CONTINUE

The 2018 Football Season continues to win awards! After an undefeated season for the Chiefs, Arthur "AJ" Cook was named the Offensive Coordinator of the Year for NJ Section 2. Juwon Jackson also won honors, being named to the NJ Super



100 Team for 2018. And all of Piscataway will be honored when Malcom Jenkins plays in the Pro Bowl in Orlando of January 27, showcasing the Chief's emblem on his helmet as part of the NFL's initiate to honor high school teams and hometowns of the athletes playing in this year's game.

KNOLLWOOD WORD PROBLEM WALK

Third graders at Knollwood are learning all about multiplication! The 3rd Grade Winter Word Problem Walk is a highlight of the unit. Each third grade student wrote,



solved, and illustrated a multi-step word problem using one of the many multiplication strategies they learned. As example: Ethan put 9 marshmallows in each of 3 cups of hot chocolate and Kaeden put 5 marshmallows in each of 4 cups. How many marshmallows are there in all the cups? Teachers and friends walked through the third grade hallway, attaching their solutions to the display with post-it notes.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS' CHOIR JOINS HIGH SCHOOL SINGERS

On Wednesday, January 9, boys' choir students at all three middle schools traveled to PHS for Men's Choral Day. Middle



schoolers interacted and sang with all young men who sing in PHS choirs, and had the chance to experience what singing at the high school level is like. Two of the PHS choirs, Chamber Choir and Notoriety, will travel to the middle schools on Wednesday, February 13, to perform for ensemble students.

CHILDREN'S CORNER POND HOSTS FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Fifty families
gathered at
Children's Corner
Pond to enjoy
Family Movie
Night, showing
Winnie the Pooh.
It was the first
event welcoming
families of
preschoolers from
Eisenhower and
Knollwood.



SIXTH GRADERS KEEP THE BEAT AT STOMP

Students from the sixth grade orchestra groups at Quibbletown and Conackamack attended a performance of Stomp at the State Theatre. Stomp blends dance, music and theater into a high-energy performance that never loses its rhythm, using matchboxes, brooms, garbage cans, Zippo lighters and more to keep the beat.



KING TOY DRIVE

For the holidays, two King School fourth graders initiated and implemented a successful toy drive for children in need. Taylor Stokes and Antara Soni posted fliers and daily announcements to generate awareness for the toy drive. After collecting and organizing the toys, the girls donated them to FISH for distribution as holiday gifts.



SCHOR STUDENTS CODE

Ms. Brittany Gentul and Ms.
Marisa Brenner led Schor
students in their first annual
school-wide coding event.
Building both logic and
creativity, this introduction to

coding is designed to spark interest in computer science and create a greater understanding of technology for all students.



CONACKAMACK STUDENTS JOIN THE PODCAST WORLD

Count Conackamack students among the 16 million people living in the United States who are avid podcast listeners, and the podcasts Conackamack students listen to are produced and hosted by their fellow students. There are six podcasts currently in production at the school, across all grade levels:

- Skylar and Jenna Find Friends: Philosophical musings on friendship and food.
- W6G Weird Sixth Grade: A humorous look at the lives and issues of sixth graders.
- GSAR- Give Stress a Rest: Identifies and discusses stress-related topics, with guest stars experts.
- ZNHC Zarah and Navneeth Hit the Clubs: Interviews, events, and guest stars focused on Conackamack clubs and groups.
- EA- Events and Announcements.
- Two+One= Roundtable discussions on important political and social questions.

