

Coming Events

May 9 & 10

PHS Director's Showcase

May 11

Quibbletown Tricky Tray

May 15

PHS Choir Concert

May 21

PHS Band Concert

May 23

PHS Art Show

PHS Orchestra Concert

May 24-28

Memorial Day Break

June 5

PHS Senior Awards Night

June 6

PHS National Honor
Society Induction

June 7

PHS Jazz Under the Stars

June 8

PHS Band Banquet

June 10

PEF Best of the Boardwalk

PHS Film Festival

June 11

PHS Varsity Banquet

June 12

PHS Choir Banquet

US NEWS & WORLD REPORT RANKS PISCATAWAY HIGH SCHOOL IN TOP 17-PERCENT IN NATION

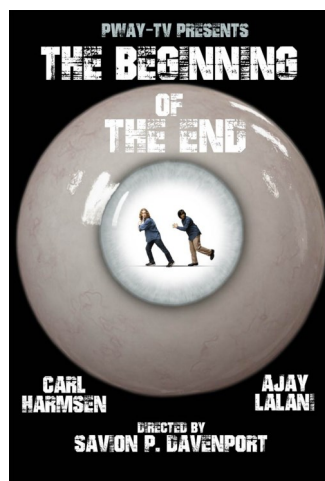
US News & World Report recently announced its 2019 Best High School Rankings and Piscataway High School ranked in the top 17-percent of high schools nationwide. Six measures were considered in this year's rankings: College Readiness; College Curriculum Breadth; Reading and Math Proficiency; Reading and Math Performance; Underserved Student Performance; and Graduation Rate. More than 23,000 high schools were evaluated, and the total included magnet and charter schools along with traditional public schools. PHS also ranked in the top third of New Jersey high schools. Congratulations to Principal Lester and his staff, who working together, encourage students to work harder and reach higher, and to our PHS students, who collectively are taking more rigorous courses than ever before, and consistently achieving at those high levels.



PHS STUDENTS SHINE IN THE 10 DAY FILM CHALLENGE

Two short films produced by Piscataway HS film students were selected to compete in New Jersey's premier high school film competition, the 10 Day Film Challenge. During this intense competition, students write, shoot, edit, and score a movie in 10 days – during their class period only. The top 30 films (out of 150 from 40 different schools) in New Jersey will premier on May 23 at the Burlington Regal Cinema. The two PHS entries include:

- THE BEGINNING OF THE END - directed by PHS Junior Savion Davenport
- TEN THINGS I REMEMBER ABOUT YOU - directed by PHS Seniors Robby Armas and Darshni Patel



QUIBBLETOWN DANCE CLUB DEBUTS

The Quibbletown Dance Club held their first ever Dance Showcase on May 2. The club includes approximately 20 students from all grade levels who range in abilities from beginner to competitive and meet every week, bonding over their interest in dance. Throughout the school year, the students learned a variety of dance styles and even self-choreographed a few routines. The end of year showcase gave the students a chance to share their hard-work with their families and classmates. Thanks go to Dance Club Advisors, Spanish Teacher Vivian Fasano and Media Specialist Samantha Thibadeau.



PROPORTIONAL TO BE OR NOT TO BE—THAT IS THE QUESTION!

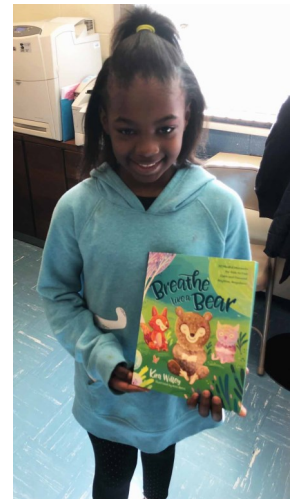
Students in Ms. Cunningham's eighth grade Math Resource Replacement class at Conackamack built skills by

determining proportional relationships expressed in tables and graphs. Instead of working in the classroom for this unit, students chose to relax in the hallway.



MENTAL HEALTH AND MINDFULNESS AT EISENHOWER

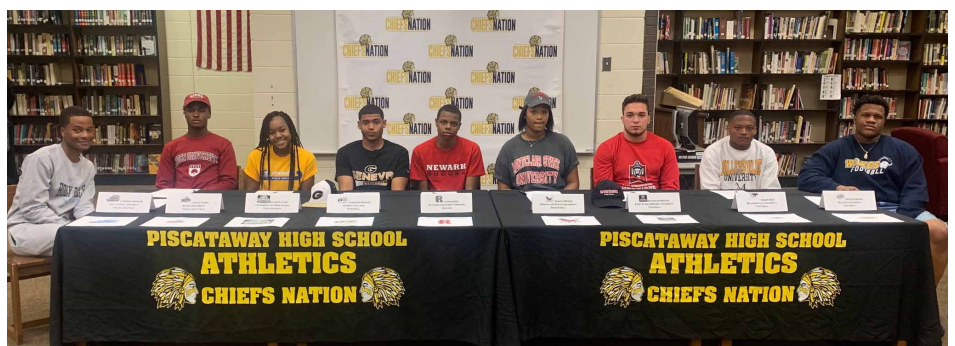
Each morning at Eisenhower School, a student leads a mindfulness strategy from the book *Breathe Like a Bear*. Teachers use a guide to enforce each strategy, which is practiced throughout the week in each classroom. A new strategy is introduced each week, with new guides provided to teachers.



PHS ATHLETES COMMIT TO COLLEGES

To date, 25 PHS students have signed on to play college athletics, with hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships offered to these students. In April alone, nine students committed to colleges. Congratulations to these student athletes.

Track and field's Lorenzo Bowers (Holy Family University) and Jadyn Terry (Rider), field hockey's Zharria John (University of New Haven), baseball's Cameron Bender (Geneva College), boys soccer's Juwan Ash (Rutgers-Newark), girls basketball's Saniya Myers (Montclair State University), and football's Nick Recine (East Stroudsburg), Nasir Best (Millersville University), David Greene (Wilkes University).



RANDOLPHVILLE FAMILY NIGHTS CONTINUE

Randolphville's Art teacher Ms. Jasmine Haugh, along with the PTO, hosted a Cookies and Canvas Night for families. Over 75 students, parents, teachers, and friends came out for an enjoyable and artistic night of painting, snacks, and community. Ms. Haugh, the PTO, and teacher volunteers helped students create individualized versions of an owl image. It was a fun, relaxing night for all with take home art to be treasured.



PHS STUDENTS COMPETE UNDER CLINICIANS TO IMPROVE CRAFT

It's been a big month for Jazz at PHS, as the music department hosted its first annual PHS Jazz Festival, and students also competed in the Livingston High School Jazz Festival, performing at both for adjudicators and receiving feedback on their work. At Livingston, PHS received a silver rating, with Koleby Royston receiving a best soloist award, and Christian Aguillon receiving an Honorable Mention soloist award. At the PHS Festival, PHS received a gold rating, and Conackamack was awarded a silver rating. Next up, PHS will host a public concert, its third annual Jazz Under the Stars on Friday, June 7 at 7pm, in the PHS G-Wing Courtyard.



ARBOR HOLDS CAREER DAY

Arbor Intermediate School hosted its annual "Career Day," with more than 20 parent volunteers spending the morning discussing their careers and how students can prepare for them.



DAN HIGGINS NAMED MIDDLESEX COUNTY COACH OF THE YEAR

Piscataway head football coach Dan Higgins was named Middlesex County Coach of the Year. This year Coach Higgins completed his 15th season as Head Coach of Piscataway High School Football Program with another State Championship. Congratulations, Coach!



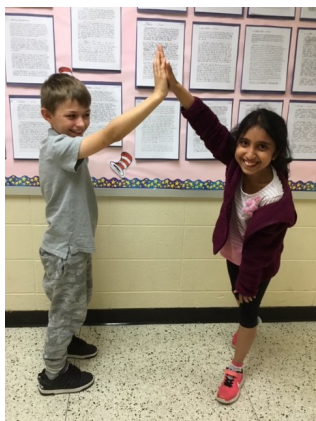
CONACKAMACK RECYCLES SCENERY FOR LITTLE MERMAID

Conackamack Art Teacher Teresa Michalski worked to create scenery for Conackamack's musical using recycled materials – building on a cross curricular, arts integration theme and cause supported in the building. In an effort to reduce the use of water bottles and plastics that are thrown away, Ms. Michalski collected these materials and repurposed them as part of the scenery. Thank you, Ms. Michalski, for your commitment to sustainability and for your beautiful work with our students!



KING STUDENTS HONORED IN SCHOLASTIC LITERACY

Two King students, Aiden Armstrong and Sanjana Ezhuthassan, were selected as runner-up winners for Storyworks *Create a Character Contest*! Their submissions were handpicked from over 3000 entries. Scholastic called the runners up work "especially creative, imaginative, or original," and awarded the students a special *Dreams, Thoughts & Inspiration Journal*. Congratulations to these students and to their teacher, Ms. Melissa Paust.



"JERSEY" COMES TO KNOLLWOOD

Lucky Knollwood third graders buddied up with Jersey, a mixed breed therapy dog, to practice their reading skills. Support specialists Ms. Christine Warian and Ms. Jenny Leonardis started the program believing their students would enjoy reading to a canine pal—a practice that has been noted to reduce shyness and inhibitions in young readers. Jersey is certified with *The Bright & Beautiful Therapy Dogs, Inc.*, a nonprofit organization that trains and certifies therapy pets and arranges visits to schools, nursing homes, and shelters. Students look forward to reading to Jersey, giving her treats, and learning how to interact with dogs.



SIX PHS STUDENTS SELECTED FOR ALL-STATE CHORUS

Congratulations to PHS Choir members who were selected



New Jersey Music Educators Association

for All State Chorus by the NJ Music Educators Association. Students Judith Alegun, James Kandathil, Izabella Lopez, Jade Scharnikow, Carlos Viveros, and Reidyn Wingate competed against choir students across the state for this honor and will rehearse and perform with the NJ All State Choir for performances in the 2019-2020 school year. PHS will host one of the rehearsals. Thanks to PHS Choir Director Megan Suozzo for providing these opportunities for our students.

PHS STUDENT WINS OCEAN COUNTY CAMERA CLUB DIRECTORS CHOICE AWARD

PHS Artist Daniela Solano received a Director's Choice Award from the Ocean County Camera Club for the NJ Youth Photography



Competition. Daniela's photo will move on to the national level Photographic Society of America Competition. Congratulations, Daniela!

GRANDVIEW HIGHLIGHTS TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION

Grandview School has become a district leader in the use of technology at younger grade levels. Thanks to Grandview's PTO and Principal Baskerville's leadership, SmartBoards are installed in all classrooms, allowing teachers to enrich daily lessons, accommodate different learning styles, and increase engagement between teachers and students. Teachers use Hovercams, high-performance digital document cameras, as an extension of the teacher's computer, allowing them to flip the classroom, foster a more student-led environment, and increase student participation. In Digital Literacy, students learn about stop motion basics and production by using an iPad to create their own Lego Movie, "A Day in the Life of Grandview." Students are also learning about coding by using Ozobot robots and Sphero to create mazes and explore block coding.

