

FAQ's

FAQs are on the district website under "Quick Links"

Does Piscataway offer preschool?

The district offers several preschool options at two campuses. The Preschool program is based on the Tools of the Mind curriculum and includes a program for the disabled.

- Full-day/half-day programs for both three-year-olds and four-year-olds.
 - A full day toddler program for children ages 18 months to three-years-olds.
 - An infant program for children ages 6 weeks to 18 months.
- ⇒ Children's Corner by the River at 2300 Cooper Street (former St. Frances Cabrini School).
- ⇒ Children's Corner by the Pond at 499 New Market Road (former Our Lady of Fatima School).

Online registration for all programs begins in February for the following September.

NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION NAMES PISCATAWAY TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS MAGNA AWARD WINNER

The National School Board Association (NSBA) named Piscataway Township Schools one of five, first place winners in the 5,000 to 20,000 student population category for its Magna Award – a national award program that recognizes innovation and excellence in public schools.



Piscataway was recognized for its multi-service English Language Acquisition Program for Preschool through Grade 12. This is the second national award for Piscataway this year. In September, the district was recognized by the White House as a "Bright Spot in Hispanic Education."

PHS FBLA SCORES AT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Months of preliminary competition, preparation, rehearsal, and so much more were put to the test at the 2016 NJ Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) State Leadership Conference, held over two days at the Waterfront Convention Center in Atlantic City, attended by over two thousand NJ FBLA student members. Six of 39 PHS



competitors qualified to attend the National Leadership Conference in Atlanta at the end of June, with additional members earning fifth place and recognition awards: First Place: Business Financial Plan - Aneesha Bhatia, Aditi Patel; Second Place: Community Service Project - Adam Liang, Neelay Patel, Chelsea Wong; Fourth Place: Impromptu Speaking - Nikita Shah; Fifth Place: Banking and Financial Systems - Nihar Chitnis, Shaharyar Soomro, Corey Tokarz; Local Chapter Annual Business Report - Arth Baghel, Chelsea Wong; Recognition: Gold Officer: Catherine Wang; Gold Member: Aneesha Bhatia; Local Chapter Website of Merit: Adam Liang; March of Dimes Excellence State Community Service Committee: Aneesha Bhatia, Chelsea Wong. PHS FBLA Lead Advisor: Greg Michaels; PHS FBLA Co-Advisor: Susan Leacy.

PHS, CONACKAMACK, QUIBBLETOWN COMPETE FOR VOCABULARY BOWL

Piscataway Schools continue to be tops in the state at increasing vocabulary. So far this year, PHS students have collectively mastered more than 86,000 words, earning them the top spot in the state in Vocabulary Bowl. Conackamack, at over 32,000 words, is in second place, with Quibbletown, at 13,750 words, rounding out the top ten. Played online at Vocabulary.com, the Vocabulary Bowl is an adaptive learning game that doesn't rely on rote memorization, but asks a wide array of questions and offers activities to help students understand all meanings and nuances of learned words.

FREEHOLDER RIOS VISITS PISCATAWAY SCHOOLS

Middlesex Freeholder Ronald G. Rios visited PHS, Arbor and Quibbletown Schools on March 16, explaining the duties of a county freeholder, and answering students' questions that ranged from the favorite part of his job to presidential politics. Guest speakers are a welcome addition to our classrooms, allowing students a better understanding of what and how they learn applies to life outside the classroom.



SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT ADVISORY SHARES EXPERIENCES

Piscataway's Special Education Parent Advisory welcomed Ellen Mancusi and Kim Robinson to their March 8 meeting. These special education parents shared their personal experiences with PerformCare and the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD). They went into detail about how they navigated the necessary changes that occur when developmentally or intellectually disabled students reach the age of 18, reviewing Medicaid eligibility, attaining guardianship and Power of Attorney, and the benefits of registering students with PerformCare or the DDD. Approximately 50 parents attended the workshop and participated in the discussion.



EISENHOWER STUDENTS TAKE A VIRTUAL FIELD TRIP TO THE SMITHSONIAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Third Graders at Eisenhower Elementary School were able to take a trip to the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. without ever leaving the classroom. Students explored exhibits and learned more about our natural world during this "Virtual Field Trip." Students then took their new found knowledge and blogged about their experiences and favorite exhibits. This lesson in digital literacy spanned research and writing, developing twenty-first century skills in these young students.



GRANDVIEW ORATORS

Grandview Orators practiced the art of public speaking during a school assembly, as they delivered informative speeches about important national figures for Black

History Month. The students took turns at the microphone, demonstrating their writing and speaking skills and building self-confidence. The students all participate in the New Jersey Orators program, located in Somerset, NJ.



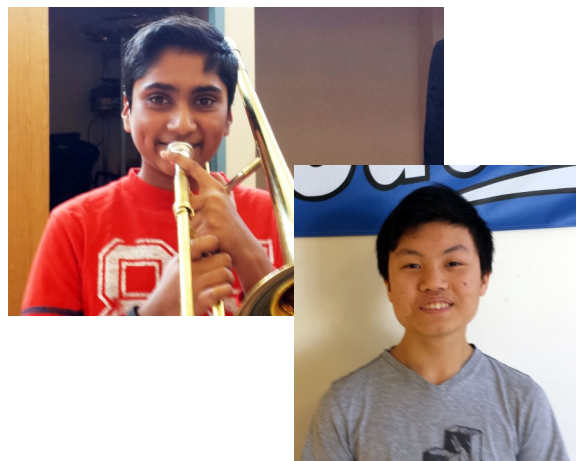
BRIAN PENG NAMED NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLAR

PHS Senior Brian Peng was named a Finalist in the National Merit Scholarship Program (NMSPP). Approximately 1,500,000 students enter this competition every year when they take the PSAT/NMSQT. Only 15,000 students qualify as a Finalist, an honor extended to students receiving the highest scores within their respective states. Beginning in March and continuing to mid-June, NMSPP notifies 7,400 Finalists that they have been selected to receive a Merit Scholarship award. Congratulations, Brian!



QUIBBLETOWN MUSIC STUDENTS EARN REGION TWO CHAIRS

Quibbletown Eighth Grader Neel Panchwagh and Seventh Grader William Wu earned a spot in the Central Jersey Music Educators Association Region Two Ensembles. Neel joins Symphonic Band on trombone for the second consecutive year and William joins String Orchestra on string bass. Over 800 students from seven counties auditioned. Congratulations to Neel and William for this outstanding achievement. All Quibbletown band and orchestra students recently attended professional performances to enhance their music education. Sixth grade students were engaged by the State Theater's high-energy percussive performance of Stomp. Seventh and Eighth graders took a trip to the New York Philharmonic Orchestra Young People's Concert in Lincoln Center.



KNOLLWOOD AND GRANDVIEW STUDENTS NAVIGATE VIRTUAL WORLD, EXAMINE CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES

Students traveled virtually to the Du Sable Museum of African American History in Chicago, Illinois. Here, they reviewed an exhibit on African American history and culture, then reacted in Mrs. Pietrocola's class blog. The virtual field trip allowed students to examine how experiences and events may be interpreted differently by people with different cultural or individual perspectives. The lesson also increased digital literacy, demonstrating developmentally appropriate navigation skills in virtual environments, as well as communicating original ideas and stories using multiple digital tools and resources.



PHS STUDENTS NAMED UNSUNG HEROES

The Middlesex County School Boards Association (MCSBA) hosts an annual program celebrating the efforts of “Unsung Heroes,” students who overcome challenges, or make outstanding contributions to their schools and communities that may be overlooked under traditional student recognition guidelines. This year, two Piscataway students, Senior Sarvesh Soni and Junior Anya Lopez were among the honored students. Sarvesh has met many challenges during his high school career. His younger brother suffers from GCD, a degenerative disease that necessitates frequent hospitalization. Illness has struck other family members as well, but through it all, Sarvesh continued to work hard, build his GPA, and exhibit a quiet strength that has been an inspiration to others. Anya, despite experiencing severe complications from Lyme Disease diagnosed four years ago that led to frequent hospital stays, continues to fight, slowly recover, and remain positive. She may need a wheelchair to navigate the PHS campus, but that hasn’t stopped her from achieving a high GPA and taking honors and AP courses and managing the girls’ soccer team. We are very proud of our Unsung Heroes!



CONACKAMACK WINS IRON CHEF

On Monday, March 21, three teams of middle school students and their faculty advisors competed against the middle school principals for the coveted “Iron Chef” cup. All teams had fun and created flavorful meals, but the cup went home with Conackamack School, represented by students Peter Wu, Vanessa Witheridge, Gage Bendix, Maiya Dabare, and their faculty advisor, Dolores Taylor. Attendees enjoyed the competition that included a “colonial buffet,” featuring traditional favorites in celebration of Piscataway’s 350th anniversary. The event was sponsored by the Piscataway Education Foundation. Special thanks go to Sodexo Food Services, who donated all food, materials and prizes for the event.



PWAY FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

On Wednesday, March 23, in anticipation of PiscatawayREADS, the district hosted a Family Movie Night, screening *1000 TO 1*, the inspirational story of Cory Weissman. Cory was a basketball star who scored 1000 points during his high school career and was expected to be a standout student-athlete at Gettysburg College. He suffered an unexpected, catastrophic stroke during his freshman year of college. *1000 to 1* tells the emotional story of Cory’s inspiring comeback to the court. Cory will share his inspirational story with the PHS school community as a guest speaker at PiscatawayREADS on April 7.

Wednesday
March 23,
2016
6:30 PM

Piscataway
High School
Performing
Arts Center

Admission
Donate
a Book to
PiscatawayREADS

Students in
Grades K-5
Must Be
Accompanied
by a Parent

Piscataway Township Schools
Movie Night

**THE INSPIRATIONAL STORY OF
CORY WEISSMAN**

All Piscataway students and their families are invited to a special screening of *1000 to 1*, the inspirational story of Cory Weissman.

Cory was a high school basketball star and was expected to be a standout student-athlete at Gettysburg College.

Following a catastrophic stroke at the end of his freshman year, the film chronicles Cory's against-odds comeback to the court.

SEE THE MOVIE ON MARCH 23
MEET CORY ON APRIL 7 AT PISCATAWAY READS!

PiscatawayREADS!
Promoting reading and literacy in our community