

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

Superintendent's Report

Volume 1 Issue 10 June 23, 2016

FAQ's

FAQs are on the district website under "Quick Links"

What steps are taken to ensure challenging courses for all students?

All teachers have high expectation for all students. We want all students to stretch academically and provide additional resources to help them succeed. Tutoring and enrichment programs are available in each school. Contact your principal about these opportunities.

We provide additional resources after school, on weekends and during the summer:

Saturday Academy classes reinforce information presented in class that marking period in a small, nurturing environment.

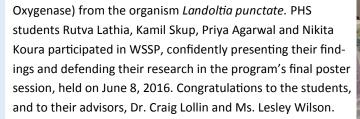
Jump Ahead Summer Programs offer academic assistance and academic enrichment in a personalized, web-based program that combines digital learning with direct instruction.

SAT Prep Courses are available throughout the year.

Workshops in specific subject areas are offered as needed.

PHS STUDENTS PRESENT AT WAKSMAN SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The Waksman Student Scholars Program (WSSP) at Rutgers University allows high school students and their teachers to conduct authentic research in molecular biology and bioinformatics with Waksman scientists. For the 2015-2016 WSSP research project, students focused on isolating and sequencing a gene for the small subunit of the enzyme RuBisCO (Ribulose 1,5-Bisphosphate Carboxylase/





CONGRATULATION PISCATAWAY TEACHERS OF THE YEAR!

Piscataway Township Schools honored its 2015-2016 Teachers of the Year at an awards ceremony held on June 9 at the Administration Building. Pictured from left to right are: Isabella Metrokotsas: Third Grade Teacher – Knollwood Elementary School; Caitlyn Mehok: School Psychologist/Behaviorist – Randolphville Elementary School; Donna



Caldwell: Fifth Grade Teacher – Arbor Intermediate School; Joan Greenwald: Social Studies
Teacher – Conackamack Middle School; Megan Froio: Fourth Grade Teacher – ML King
Intermediate School; Caren Stephenson: English Teacher – Piscataway High School; Nancy
Tortorelli: Science Teacher – T. Schor Middle School; Amy Switkes: Special Education Teacher
– Eisenhower Elementary School; Jennifer Aiello: Special Education Teacher – Grandview
Elementary School; Annabelle Murray: School Psychologist/Behaviorist – Children's Corner
Preschool. Not pictured: Rose Flanagan: Art Teacher – Quibbletown Middle School.

CONGRATULATIONS PHS CLASS OF 2016!

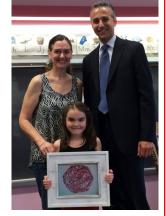


Piscataway High School's Class of 2016 graduated on Monday, June 20 at the Rutgers RAC. This class amassed scholarships in the millions, has members attending Princeton, Cornell, Boston College, NYU, Howard University, University of the Arts, and of course, our own Rutgers University, as well as numerous other colleges and universities. A number of these graduates will serve their country in the armed forces before furthering their education. We are proud of this wonderfully diverse class and wish them all the best as they take their next steps! Congratulations to all!



KINDERGARTEN ARTIST

Artwork from Randolphville kindergarten student Julia Adenau took a top prize at the New Jersey Association of School Business Officials (NJASBO) annual meeting this June. Julia was one of five student artists recognized, and received a \$100 Gift Card for her painting Ball of Yarn. She is the daughter of art teacher Linda Adenau, and was nominated by Business Administrator David Oliveira.



CAREER DAY AT KING

Students at ML King School had a great Career Day, cycling through presentations including Animal Control, Photography, Law Enforcement, Technology and more.

members who generously gave their time to talk to King students.



OUIBBLETOWN'S DENISE KELLY IS TOP SCHOOL NURSE

Quibbletown's Denise Kelly is Fuel Up to Play 60's Top School Nurse. Mrs. Kelly was nominated by James Overton, who said this about her: "She has been a tremendous resource for our school and our FUTP 60 program. She voluntarily organizes and schedules times throughout the year to measure the



height and weight progress of all students in our building. We call her our Super Nurse and she deserves every bit of that title!" Congratulations, Mrs. Kelly!

MASTER CLASS FOR SCHOR **ORCHESTRA STUDENTS**

Schor orchestra students enjoyed a master class with Jeff Grogan, the **Education and** Community



Engagement Conductor of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra and Conductor and Artistic Director of the Greater Newark Youth Orchestras, the InterSchool Orchestras of New York and the New Jersey Youth Symphony. During the 90 minute session, students performed Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 3 and Bartok's Romanian Folk Dances.

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CONACKAMACK AND SCHOR CREATE SUSTAINABLE GARDENS

Students at Conackamack, assisted by the SAASI club sponsored by Mr. Ross, participated in a cross-curricular project growing a variety of vegetables from seeds. The students selected, maintained, and then transplanted the flowers and vegetables into planter boxes designed and built by the STEM club led by Mr. McCarty. Schor students, led by eighth grader Samantha Rebolledo and under the guidance of science teacher Ms. Tortorelli, harvested the first of their "crops," and then delivered them to the cafeteria to be served for lunch.



Schor students are left and below;
Conackamack students are to the right.



EISENHOWER READING BUDDIES

All year long, Eisenhower first graders in Mrs.
Bauza's class worked with their Senior Reading Buddies on Fridays, enjoying great books together. In addition to reading, these partnerships allowed students



to write and illustrate their own stories. Each student now has their own hardcover copy of their book.

JOINT SCIENCE FAIR AT ARBOR AND KING

Students in Science Clubs at Arbor and King Schools shared projects during a joint school science fair. Students visited the school of their peers to discuss methods, ideas, and ask questions. Science Club at Arbor School is led by Mr. Ryan

Watters and at King by Mr. Jeffrey Celebre.





ANNUAL PHS FBLA MISSION: LIFE CHARITY BASKETBALL GAME



This year's game raised well over \$5000 for FISH, a local, volunteer service organization that responds to the needs of the poor, the elderly, the homeless, and those who "fall between the cracks" of public assistance. The teachers' winning streak was broken (53-41 in OT) despite a last-minute appearance by Principal Lester. Gratitude to all who donated time or treasure. PHS FBLA Advisors: Greg Michaels & Susan Leacy.

CAROLYN KECK RETIRES

Over her 44-year career in Piscataway Township Schools, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction Carolyn Keck has touched thousands of children's lives. She's been a classroom teacher, a teacher of



academically gifted students, and coordinated instructional technology for every student in the district. Mrs. Keck collaborated on important projects that created big and positive changes throughout the district, such as the PHS and Middle Schools block schedule redesign, Achieve NJ, a teacher evaluation program, and PiscatawayREADS. We congratulate her on her well-deserved retirement.

BOARDWALK FUN

The Piscataway Education Foundation (PEF) hosted its second annual Best of the

Boardwalk Summer
Celebration for Piscataway
families. Attendees enjoyed
boardwalk fare such as
burgers and dogs, sausage
and peppers, funnel cakes
and waffles and ice cream.
Kids got a chance to dunk a
teacher in the dunk tank,

play in the bounce house, climb in a real fire truck and more! Thanks to Sodexo Food Services for donating all food for this event!



KNOLLWOOD MOCK TRIAL

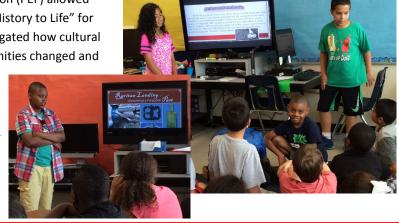


During Knollwood School's Mock Trial, Spencer Wolf was taken to civil court by the three little pigs, Porky Porkchop, Porky Pepper, and Bubba Bacon for damages to their homes as well as for payment for their medical expenses. During the trial, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack (from the Beanstalk), Spencer's Mom, and the Pig's mom discussed the character of Spencer the Wolf. Was Spencer as bad as she seemed or did she suffer from a nasty cold? The verdict is out...Spencer Wolf was found not guilty of the charges.

KING STUDENTS SHARE DISCOVERIES AT KNOLLWOOD

An INSPIRE Grant from the Piscataway Education Foundation (PEF) allowed Karen Fleming's fifth grade students at ML King to "Bring History to Life" for younger students at Knollwood. The older students investigated how cultural and environmental characteristics of Piscataway's communities changed and

influenced the movement of people, goods, and ideas. Gathering information from the Delaware & Raritan Canal Historical Society and from field trips to East Jersey Olde Towne Village, The Cornelius Low House, and Lock 12 at the D&R Canal State Park in Franklin Township, the students learned about Piscataway colonial life and the significance of Raritan Landing. King students then presented their discoveries to Knollwood third graders.



RANDOLPHVILLE FAMILY ENGINEERING NIGHT

On Thursday May 26, Randolphville School and the Gifted & Talented program hosted its 2nd Family Engineering Night presented by Engineering for Kids. Families were challenged to build the tallest tower that could hold a weight and build a

mechanical hand. Families worked together to engineer a solution using everyday materials such as string, spaghetti, rulers and tape. Thanks to all the families who participated and helped make the night a huge success!



GRANDVIEW'S GOT TALENT!



More than 70 students had their talents on display at the Grandview Talent Show held on June 15. Students danced, sang, played instruments, told jokes, and even showcased karate and soccer skills! Interspersed among all of the acts were reprises of *Watch Me (Whip/Nae Nae)*, a definite fan favorite with great audience participation!