

PHS BIOMEDICAL CAREER PATHWAYS PROGRAM WINS NJSBA SCHOOL LEADER AWARD

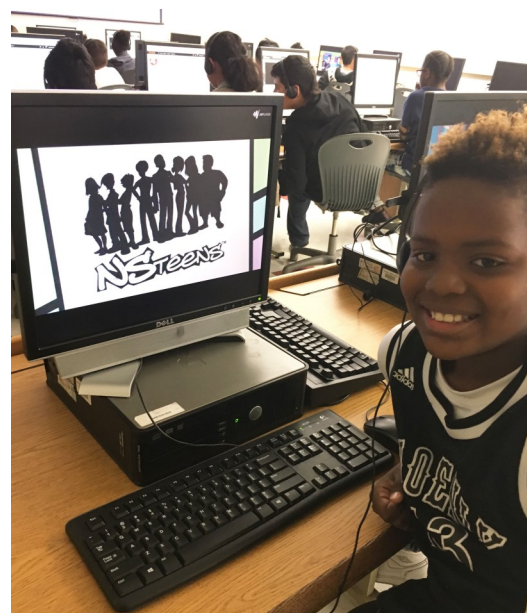


New Jersey School Boards Association

Piscataway High School's BioMedical Career Pathways Program is the recipient of the New Jersey School Boards Association's (NJSBA) 30th Annual School Leader Award. Piscataway is the only school district to receive this honor this year. The BioMedical Program introduces students interested in medical sciences to college-level learning, and the opportunity to -- along with high school credits -- earn up to 14 Rutgers University credits. These credits can be applied to a Rutgers degree or to a Rutgers transcript to transfer to other colleges and universities. This is just one of the many ways Piscataway collaborates with Rutgers to further student learning and opportunities. The Piscataway District and BioMedical Program will be recognized during the NJSBA's Workshop 2016 at the Atlantic City Convention Center on Wednesday, October 26, 2016. In addition, the BioMedical Program will be featured in a future issue of *School Leader* magazine.

PWAY FULLY IMPLEMENTS SCHOOLGY FOR GRADES 4-12 IN 2016-2017

Full implementation of the Schoology Management System took place in September for grades 4 -12. Schoology uses a cloud-based platform that allows users -- both teachers and students -- to create, manage, and share content and resources. The platform integrates with Google Drive, Dropbox and Evernote and many other shared resources, and has a social media "feel" in usage. An example of implementation is our grade five classes' discussion of internet safety. Teachers use Netsmartz presentations to guide discussions, and following those discussions, students take an online assessment on Schoology. Next, students watch and comment on a video from the Netsmartz website and tie it back to the classroom discussions.



PISCATAWAY SCHOOLS CELEBRATE WEEK OF RESPECT

Piscataway Township Schools honored and celebrated the Week of Respect from Monday, October 3, through Friday, October 7. Students from preschool through high school, participated with special assemblies and anti-bullying programs, school spirit dress-up days and special morning announcements, character education programs and classroom instruction infused with themes of respect and kindness. Students were encouraged to share their thoughts in a variety of activities from “catching” students doing good deeds, to seeking out someone they have never spoken with before, giving compliments and thank yous, and playing anti-bullying trivia. This proactive approach to developing respect and kindness in all students fuels the *Inspire* campaign to build a positive school culture and will continue throughout the year.



Schor Inspire Door showcases what inspires students

CONACKAMACK STUDENTS AND SRO DISCUSS RESPECT

Conackamack Middle School kicked off Week of Respect with the unveiling of “Week of Respect” banners in the cafeteria and auditorium. Students made daily announcements that reflect messages of respect and peace. Teachers distributed “thumbs-up!” erasers in class to reinforce random acts of respect. The week’s highlight was a schoolwide Week of Respect assembly with a presentation by counselors Dr. Rogers and Ms. Manley focusing on appreciating the differences that make the Conackamack school community a special place. The assembly also featured a dynamic series of vignettes from the “I’m A Defender” Bullying Solution DVD. The vignettes spurred student discussion with the School Resource Officer, who reminded students that she is available to assist them whenever they need it. Thematically appropriate musical interludes relevant to cultures within the school played throughout the program.



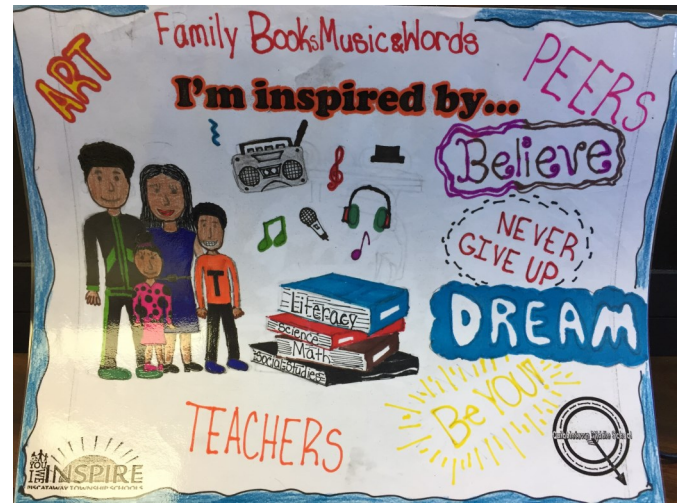
RANDOLPHVILLE’S RAJVI KAMDAR VOLUNTEERS IN INDIA

During the school year, Rajvi Kamdar teaches second grade at Randolphville Elementary School, and during the summer, she travels to India as a volunteer with Uplift Humanity India. This organization works toward ending the rate of juvenile recidivism within India’s detention facilities. For three weeks, Kamdar worked with 30 high school volunteers to teach character education at a juvenile detention facility, helping incarcerated students learn to make positive, healthy choices. It was a life-changing experience not only for the children in India, but also for Kamdar and her student volunteers. “The best way to find yourself, is to lose yourself in the service of others.” Mahatma Gandhi.



QUIBBLETOWN VIP WEEK

On September 23, 2016, Quibbltown kicked off VIP Week, marking the beginning of the 2016-2017 PBSIS (Positive Behavior Support in Schools) Initiative. The week started off with an assembly where students watched motivational speeches and were introduced to the student raffle, an incentives based program that recognizes inspiring and positive behaviors throughout the year. Each day in homeroom students worked on creating posters with the theme "I'm Inspired By..." Many students recognized their family members, favorite celebrities, literary characters, and other inspirational heroes. At the conclusion of the week, a number of posters were selected for permanent display in the newly created VIP Lounge. The community can see many of these posters on the Quibbltown website throughout the month of October.

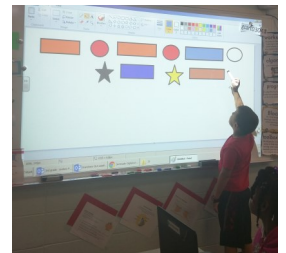


OUR INSPIRING HEROES

Piscataway Township Schools launched a new program designed to remember and honor the contributions of individuals who, during their lifetime, through devotion to young people, acts of heroism or other virtuous conduct above and beyond the call of duty, have become iconic figures in the Piscataway school community. The nomination process for "Our Inspiring Heroes" is now open and requires, among other information, a short biography of the nominee, along with a list of outstanding accomplishments and exemplary qualities. A signature list of 200 current Piscataway residents is also required. All nominees must receive Board approval to become one of "Our Inspiring Heroes." To nominate a hero, please visit the District website under District Information and follow the instructions in the online form.

GRANDVIEW DIGITAL LITERACY

The increasing importance of Digital Literacy means Piscataway begins teaching this vital content area in Pre-K and continues through high school. Not only do students learn the technology, they learn best practices for online behaviors. Here are a few of the "Top Tech Moments" from Grandview Elementary School: Kindergarteners teaching one another to log into the computer, and Mrs. Aiello's class creating AB patterns in paint and using the smartboard.



ASSEMBLYMAN DANIELSEN DONATES BACKPACKS AND SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Assemblyman Joe Danielsen, along with representatives from Enterprise Car Rental and the Piscataway Elks, delivered 75 backpacks filled with school supplies for students in Piscataway schools. Several students, along with Eisenhower Principal Colleen Pongratz and Arbor Principal Janelle Williams, were on hand to thank Assemblyman Danielsen and his partners for their generous donation.



KING AND ARBOR WELCOME CHENGZHU YE

King and Arbor welcome Chengzhu Ye to their teaching rosters. Ms. Ye teaches Chinese at both schools through the Teachers of Critical Languages Program, part of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State. This program increases the study and acquisition of important world languages in U.S. schools by bringing teachers to this country to teach their native languages and culture for an academic year. Piscataway is pleased to bring this opportunity to our Intermediate students.



SCHOR PRESENTS THE EIGHTH ANNUAL BROADWAY CABARET

Schor Middle School performs their Eighth Annual Broadway Cabaret on Friday, October 28, at 7PM in the Schor Cafeteria. The evening features songs from *On Your Feet!*, *Les Miserables*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Wicked*, *Tarzan*, *Singin' In The Rain*, *The Addams Family*, and *Hamilton*. The cast features 30 seventh and eighth graders under the direction of Rebekah Sterlacci and the assistant direction of Tracey Miller.

Additionally, PHS students Darshni Patel, Reese Garcia, Rachel Calvert, and Diya Patel assisted as alumni volunteers.



COMMUNITY ED OFFERS SATURDAY ENRICHMENT

Beginning this fall, the Office of Community Education is offering Saturday Enrichment Classes for Grades Pre-K—8, as well as CPR classes for adults. All classes will take place at centrally-located Schor Middle School. Classes offered include Cartoon Creation, Musical Theater, STEM, Karate, Baby-Sitting Safety, Gymnastics, Nature Artwork, and Cookie Decorating. Registration is online at Community Pass and available now.



PEF AWARDS 20 TEACHER GRANTS

The Piscataway Education Foundation announced recipients of this year's "Inspire Grants" at the District Convocation. Twenty teachers spanning preschool through high school received grants for innovative teaching practices and non-traditional teaching methods. The 20 Inspire grants represent funding of over \$20,000. Curriculum areas included Literacy, STEM, Physical Education and Health, Special Education, Social Studies, Foreign Language and ESL. Grants were also awarded for Character Education, Collaboration, Communication, and Alternate Seating.

PISCATAWAY EDUCATION FOUNDATION TO HOST TRICKY TRAY FUNDRAISER ON OCTOBER 21

The Piscataway Education Foundation will host a Tricky Tray Fundraiser at St. Frances Cabrini on Friday, October 21, 2016. Doors open at 6 p.m. The Tricky Tray features three tiers of prizes: \$20-\$75; \$75-\$200; and \$200 and up. Approximately 200 prizes will be offered in all, including Disney Hopper passes, a 49-inch Smart LG TV, Giants tickets, a Golf Foursome, a top-of-the-line student flute, a guitar, fire pit, huge discounts on orthodontic services, hotel stays, restaurant gift cards, art materials and scrapbooking baskets, museum and theater tickets, beauty products, activity center and water park tickets, fitness and summer camp discounts, and much, much more. Tickets can be purchased in advance on Community Pass — all advance purchases receive a discount on package purchases and will have the entrance fee waived. Attendees are welcome to bring their own food and drinks. All proceeds from this fundraiser go toward teacher grants and student scholarships.

