

November, 2009

Eatontown Board of Education

Board of Education

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SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

The 2009-2010 school year promises to be an exciting, challenging one. We spent the summer sprucing up the grounds, adding new closets, cabinets and sinks in 3 buildings, a new parking lot at Woodmere and new cafeteria tables at Meadowbrook. All of the buildings were cleaned, polished and all maintenance performed. That's a great accomplishment for our physical plant.

Educationally, we have formed Professional Learning Communities for our staff with the specific goal of improving student learning. The staff was provided in-service time in September and October to analyze NJASK test data, to set goals, and then to write ILP (individual learning plans) for all at-risk students. These plans, along with more professional development training for staff, periodic bench mark assessments for students, and frequent skills analysis are expected to improve student learning in the 2009-2010 school year.

The Board of Education established 3 goals for the district this year and will monitor the progress of these goals throughout the years. (See the President's message.)

We have infused a spirit of accomplishment, creativity, drive and determination as we forge ahead with the quest for greater success for all our students. As we refocus on our educational endeavors, we will provide the students with the resources needed for them to achieve the knowledge and skills for lifelong learning.

The district has spent the last 18 months preparing for QSAC (Quality Single Accountability Continuum), the state monitoring process. On January 11, 2010, a five member team from the state will be evaluating the district in five areas: Personnel, Fiscal, Operations, Governance, and Program and Instruction.

We have high expectations that the results of the monitoring will be successful

Wishing our staff, parents, and children many rewarding experiences this year.

Barbara A. Struble
Superintendent of Schools



HAPPY HOLIDAYS/HAPPY NEW YEAR – DATES TO REMEMBER

December 9 7:00 p.m.
Meadowbrook Winter Concert

December 10 7:00 p.m.
Woodmere Winter Concert

December 16 7:00 p.m.
Memorial Winter Concert

December 17 7:00 p.m.
Vetter Winter Concert

December 23
One Session Day—Winter Recess Begins

January 18-22 Writing & Math Portfolios Distributed

January 21, 22, 23 7:00 p.m.
PETER PAN—The Musical held at Monmouth Regional High School

February 5 – Report Cards Issued

February 5—Memorial School Italian Dinner – 5 to 7 p.m. (Snow date is February 7, 3 to 5 p.m.)





"A compliment is the easiest and most appreciated form of communication."

Unknown

2009 Monmouth County Superintendents' Teacher Recognition Program

Mrs. Susan Hartman

Memorial School

Mrs. Sandy Crawford

Meadowbrook School

Mr. William Lindblom

Woodmere School

Mrs. Debbie Madison

Vetter School



PETER PAN, CAPTAIN HOOK, & TINKERBELL ARE FLYING TO EATONTOWN

The Memorial School Drama Club's fifth musical production is "Peter Pan—the Musical." Auditions have been held, the cast has been selected and rehearsals are underway. Over sixty-five Memorial students are included in the cast and they will be supplemented by additional students from the elementary schools. Previous productions have been "Annie," "The Wizard of Oz", "Aladdin", and "Bye Bye Birdie".

All have been tremendous successes and enjoyed by the entire community. Performances will be held on January 21, 22, and 23 at the Performing Arts Center at Monmouth Regional High School. Curtain will be rising at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00 per person for this enjoyable evening for all. Mark your calendar now and plan to bring the entire family for a fun-filled evening. More information will be forthcoming.

MEMORIAL STUDENTS "READ TO SUCCEED"

A summer reading list was prepared by the language arts literacy department at the end of last year all students who would be entering 7th or 8th grade in the fall. (Sixth graders received theirs on orientation day in June.) The suggested readings are designed to further develop skills emphasized during the school year. After reading their books, the students could choose from a number of activities to earn extra credits and all the students who participated (as verified by their parents) were treated to a pizza party at the beginning of the year.

Message from the Board of Education President

The Board of Education takes seriously its responsibility to serve the students of the Eatontown Public School District. At its July meeting, the Board held its retreat and established the following 3 goals for the 2009-2010 school year:

Goal 1: To redefine and review our instructional programs and methodologies so as to improve student learning and achievement in language arts literacy and mathematics.

Goal 2: To redefine our planning and implementation of the 2010-2011 budget so as to be fiscally responsible while providing an efficient and effective learning community for our students.

Goal 3: To complete the QSAC self-evaluation process in the areas of: Personnel, Fiscal, Operations, Governance, and Instruction and Program and to achieve the status of a high performing school.

An action plan was developed and

the progress in meeting these goals will be reviewed periodically.

The Board of Education continually looks at the educational and operational programs to discover ways to improve their effectiveness, while being fiscally responsible.

On behalf of the Board of Education, I wish all our staff and students a rewarding school year.

Mark Van Wagner



Meadowbrook School's Pumpkins Have Character!!

Halloween was an exciting time at Meadowbrook School this year. Storybooks came alive when pumpkins were decorated to look like favorite characters. Teachers and students had a "hoot" decorating pumpkins to submit for judging. Congratulations to the following winners: Mrs. Plancey's class- 1st place for Fiddler's Fingers, Mrs. Edgar's class- tie for 2nd place for When A Monster Is Born, Mrs. Williscroft's class- tie for 2nd place for Wild Thing, Mrs. Viola's Class- 3rd place for The Wacky Witch War, and Mrs. Lake's and Mrs. Ferraro's classes received an honorable mention for There Is A Bird On Your Head.

Evening Literacy Program for English Language Learners

This year the Eatontown Public Schools will implement an evening literacy program for our English Language Learners and their families beginning in January, 2010. This program will include four technology infused sessions (approximately 5 weeks each) focusing on the following topics: Computer Literacy, Family Reading (Pre K-2), Community Life Skills and Core Content ELL Lessons (grades 3–8). Through these sessions, the participants will enhance their English

communication skills as well as learn how to support academic needs. This program will also serve as an effective strategy for closing the achievement gap for second language learners and will be connected to State Standards. The skills acquired will assist our ELL parents as they work together with their children. This program will be offered on Wednesday evenings at the Woodmere School. This program will be funded through a federal grant.

Memorial Students Design Learning Games for Kindergartners

Students in the Child Care & Development classes worked with their teachers, Mrs. Matteo and Mrs. Zaorski, to “brainstorm” a grade-appropriate learning game to create, play and give to Vetter School Kindergartners. They created original game boards and directions for their games using “Word” and “Stationery Studio”. In addition, the students created a Power Point story, “Rainbow Duck,” and converted it into an ActivBoard interactive lesson for kindergartners to practice their color recognition skills.



“Be prudent in your promises and prompt in carrying them out.”

Unknown...

Administrative Team

- Barbara A. Struble, Superintendent*
- Ronald Danielson, Principal (Memorial)*
- Valerie Cioffi, Principal (Meadowbrook)*
- Scott McCue, Principal (Vetter)*
- Joseph Polinski, Interim Principal (Woodmere)*
- Joseph Mazzarella (Curriculum & Instruction)*
- Lee Lasser (Special Services)*
- Robert Green, (School Business Administrator/Board Secretary)*

Vetter School Receives Recognition Prize From the YMCA

Vetter School received a \$500 Recognition Prize for its participation in the YMCA’s *America on the Move* program. During the week of September 21st, ten Vetter sixth grade students wore pedometers and counted their steps for the week ending Thursday, September 24th at 3:00 pm. These students took 643,143 steps and earned the school a second place recognition prize. Ms. Hoffmire coordinated the program at Vetter School.

and the ten sixth grade students were recognized. Mrs. Struble, Superintendent, and Mr. Van Wagner, Board President, expressed their appreciation of the school’s efforts. Vetter School received a \$500 check from the YMCA which will be used to support physical education and field day activities and programs. Ms. Hoffmire and the ten Vetter students listed below also will be recognized at the school level through a pizza party. Congratulations to Ms. Hoffmire and the following sixth grade students:

Cailyn Bennett, Vanessa Bedoya, Gabriella Boswell, Fabio Espinoza, Robert Feathers, Cassidy Joseph, Devlin Hagan, Skylar Marvin, Jonathan Sayihe, Mary Tursi

Great job, everyone!!!!



At the October 15th Board of Education meeting, Ms. Hoffmire

Handling of H1N1

As we are all aware the flu season has begun, along with it the strain H1N1. We remind all parents and staff to instill in our children these practices:

- ◇ Cover coughs and sneezes
- ◇ Stay away from people who are ill
- ◇ Wash hands often with soap and water

◇ Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth

Adults and children should stay home at least 24 hours after a fever is gone (without assistance of fever reducing medication.)

Parents must notify your child’s school of all absences. Please indicate if your child has flu-like symptoms and what these symptoms are.

The school continues to routinely disinfect common areas and do its part to reduce the occurrence of the flu.

If we all work together to follow the best practices of hygiene and common sense, we should be able to weather this flu season with minimal impact on our school community.



H1N1 CLINIC—FLU VACCINE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

TIME: 9 A.M. to NOON

LOCATION: Memorial School,

7 Grant Avenue, Eatontown

ONLY FOR THOSE

CHILDREN WHO HAVE HAD

THEIR PERMISSION SLIPS

ACCEPTED BY THE

SCHOOLS. (There are only a

limited number of vaccines

available.)

Eatontown Board of Education

Special Services

Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), schools across the nation became eligible to receive additional funding for special education. As a result of this Act, the Eatontown Public Schools became eligible to receive \$273,419. A grant proposal for the expenditures of these funds was written and has received approval from the NJDOE.

We will be purchasing state-of-the-art assistive technology (interactive whiteboards, LCD projectors, laptop computers, mobile charging carts, document cameras and associated installation costs) for our students with disabilities and their special education teachers to utilize. Special education staff will be trained in the use of purchased assistive technology in order to advance the learning of students with disabilities. Additionally, after school NJASK workshops will be offered to children with disabilities. Teachers will be hired to provide instruction to only children with disabilities. Transportation home following NJASK instruction will be offered to only these children.

We believe that these purchases will foster the academic success of our students with disabilities and improve teacher effectiveness in providing instruction to our students.

Woodmere School's - Roarin' With Pride

Woodmere School held its first Pep Rally on Friday, September 25, 2009. Each grade level performed an original cheer, sang a song and celebrated their Woodmere Spirit! The Woodmere Wildcat made a special appearance at the event. Students had an opportunity to name the school mascot. The name Woodie, the Woodmere Wildcat, was chosen.

Congratulations to Emily McInerney who won the "Name the Mascot" contest. We would also like to congratulate Julia Colvin for winning the Woodmere Scavenger Hunt contest.

Three cheers for our staff and the PTA for making our first Pep Rally a huge success.



WWW.EATONTOWN.ORG

New Registers in Cafeteria Help Speed Lines

The Eatontown School District recently installed a new cash register system in the cafeteria—the Point of Sale system. Instead of paying cash you now have the option to prepay into an account and use a debit card to pay for the school lunch. It is just like using EZ Pass on the highway. It reduces the time it takes to pay cash and the lunch lines moves faster. Also for convenience there is a new internet-based payment system, which allows for the prepayment to be made from a credit card.

This service allows you to view the account balance and which items have been purchased for lunch. It will also remind you through an e-mail if your balance is low. And just like EZ Pass there is an automatic replenishment option. As a parent, you can choose whether your child can have unrestricted use of the funds meaning your child can purchase anything from the cafeteria he/she would like, or the account can be restricted to only allow the purchase of a 'full lunch'.

Good old fashioned cash will still be accepted, but there are benefits to using the prepayment Point of Sale system – no more lost lunch money, no more forgotten lunch money, and no more losing the change from a \$5 bill. Your prepaid funds will be held safely in trust by the school district.



WAN

Eatontown Public Schools continues its goal to achieve the highest level of technology with the completion of its own private fiber Wide Area Network. Since its completion 2 months ago, the district has seen tremendous increases in both internet (6.5 mbps increase) and interschool bandwidth (1998.5 mbps increase). What this bandwidth increase means is that more people can access more data at much faster speeds. The district has also seen enormous improvements in reliability. Since the WAN is constructed from the very durable and dependable fiber optic cable, both students and teachers alike now have a network that they can rely on to access the district's technology resources including such software packages as Accelerated Reader, Success Maker, Waterford, Acuity, Study Island and United Streaming. With this reliability and increases in bandwidth also comes savings. The WAN will not only allow us to save money on future WAN costs but it also allows for a centralized location for all district resources thus giving us the opportunity to save on maintenance and hardware costs. The district has experienced extensive growth in the area of technology over the past few years and the WAN is another significant asset which allows us to "take on" whatever awaits us in the world of technology.