FMS Success Wows NJ Department of Ed

In early 2018, Superintendent Mackey Pendergrast received a phone call from the NJ Department of Education: newly appointed Education Commissioner Dr. Lamont Repollet had learned of the tremendous growth in student achievement at Frelinghuysen Middle School over the past several years and wanted to see for himself what lay behind this recent success story. Recalls Pendergrast, “I was surprised by the Commissioner’s request for a visit—not by the request itself, of course, but by how quickly news of the middle school’s exceptional progress had reached the highest levels of the State. I’m really proud of our dedicated teachers and administrators, who have worked so hard to propel FMS forward, especially in reading, writing, and math.”

Comparative data from the State’s PARCC assessment shows how substantially our middle schools are ascending, outpacing the NJ average in every grade level. Dr. Pendergrast said that what first caught the Commissioner’s eye was the fact that this marked growth has occurred consistently across all demographic groups at Frelinghuysen. more on page 3>

Growing Great Innovators with Makey Makey Invention Kits

We are always told, “Don’t play with your food!” But what if you could make a banana piano, a marshmallow drum-kit, or even a gummy bear keyboard? Makey Makey Invention Kits allow students’ imagination to grow beyond the conventional and all K-5 students have them thanks to a generous grant from the Morris Educational Foundation. The kits arrived in all K-5 media and science specials this fall. Students use any conductible material, not just food, to create touchpads that connect to the Internet to perform different tasks.

In November, Hillcrest School’s The H.I.L.L. (Hillcrest Imagination Learning Lab) played host to a Makey Makey Invention Literacy Certification Workshop. more on page 2>

Morris Educational Foundation Scholarships Open Doors for Students

Each year, the Morris Educational Foundation (MEF) awards graduating Morristown High School seniors with scholarships. Last year was no exception, as the MEF awarded the highest number of scholarships, thirteen, with the most substantial amount of funding, $149,000, to graduating Morristown High School seniors. Karla Yaneth Escobar and Angelina Hope Bennett, pictured, were the inaugural winners of the Judy and Eliot Steinberg Scholarship, a $1 million pledged donation to fully fund students’ college education.

Scholarships are awarded to eligible MHS seniors through an application process that begins in March and ends in June at Senior Awards Night. We congratulate the following outstanding students who received our 2017-18 scholarship awards. more on page 3>

MSD Administrators Forge Valuable Connections at Elite Universities

Morristown High School and its celebrated STEM Academy are now on the radar screens of several prestigious midwestern universities, thanks to Jennifer Giordano, Director of Guidance, and Brian Young, District Supervisor of STEM Education. In July, Giordano and Young toured the campuses of Northwestern University, the University of Chicago, and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, bringing with them word of one of New Jersey’s fastest-accelerating public school districts. They linked up with admissions officers and faculty in order to advance a three-fold objective: profile the unique pathways in STEM offered at Morristown High School, learn more about the undergraduate programs and facilities at these universities’ schools of Engineering, and explore collaborative opportunities between our respective student and faculty cohorts. more on page 3>
Let the Music Play! Student Musicians Stay Active at the Summer Music Academy, a District Gem

Jennifer Adkins, “The Summer Music Academy serves as an excellent transition for students moving from elementary school to middle school, and middle school to high school, to develop a true mastery of music.”

According to Mr. Galgatoff, the Summer Music Academy is an effective antidote to the notorious summer learning gap as it applies to music education. Daily instruction over the four-week session helps motivate students “to stay more active with their music study during the summer, when otherwise the instrument...”

Students of SMS can take a 6-4 sequence of courses that introduce them to a range of two- and three-dimensional mediums, including drawing, painting, printmaking, calligraphy, sculpture and ceramics, as well as graphic design and digital photography. A SMS Studio Art course is also offered...”

Volunteers were invited to tour the high-tech new wing of the high school, view presentations and student exhibitions, and observe students in various arts classes and student activities.

The Office of the Superintendent wishes to thank the Morris Educational Foundation on a number of...”

The National Merit Scholarship Program is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships available to high school juniors who have...”

Connections at Elite Universities

In the spring of the current year, the students we met tonight...”

MHS by the Numbers:

• 1,803 students
• 90 faculties
• 260 courses
• 27 AP courses offered
• 5 world languages
• 2016 3rd place, STEM Academy
• 70 students in the National Humanities Academy
• 1 AP Scholar in Class of 2018 offcampus
• 2 AP Honor Roll designees within NJ
• 72 Global Navigator Scholarship recipients
• 40 AP classes
• 30 AP exams

2017-18 MEF Scholarship Winners

Angélica Hope Bennett, Raritan Valley Community College
Lauren F. DelGiacomo, University of Miami
The Spring Brook Foundation Scholarship

Yasmin Santos, Montclair State University
Riverhead High School
The James B. Harkrider Jr. Scholarship
Molly D. Dhondt, Raritan Valley Community College
The Javier Ayler Shaw Scholarship
Dohyun Park, Cranford College of Morris

The John J. Cunningham Scholarship

Khalil M. Edwards, Voorhees High School
University of North Carolina

Danica Gei, University of Maryland

Hannah Grace Vail, University of North Carolina

Over twenty-five years, the MEF has raised more than $3 million in scholarship funding. Our offerings will continue to grow as we work with donors to provide...”

National Merit Scholars

The National Merit Scholarship Program is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships available to high school juniors who have...”

Field Hockey Sectional Championships 2018

Field Hockey: Seasonal finals against...”

Soccer: Shut out North Bergen 8-0 in final round of state sectional tournament, moving on to...”

Boys Soccer: Shut out Parsippany 1-0 in final home and away.

Girls Soccer: Shut out Bergen Catholic 4-0, in final round of state sectional tournament.

Girls Tennis: Shut out Bergen Catholic 4-0.

Volleyball: Shut out Parsippany 3-0 in...”

Faceoff Sectional Championships 2018

Field Hockey: Secured...”

Girls Soccer: Shut out Madison 2-0.

Congressional District Map

• 188th district
• 189th district
• 190th district
• 191st district
• 192nd district

AP Scholars cont.

Kira Tepe, Morris Hills
Kyu Lee, Morris Hills
Jenny Yoon, Morris Hills
Jiho Seung, Morris Hills

AP Scholars

Alexandra Arezes, Berkeley High School
Abigail Escueto, Madison High School
Julia Landis, Madison High School
Sarah Broadmoor, Madison High School
"The Art of Teaching: How a $2.7M Renovation Transformed MHS Art & Design Studio

When school opened in September, visual arts students and teachers of Morristown High School..."
This is the original Morris School District building on Maple Avenue. The MSD was one of the first school districts in New Jersey to have a high school. The first floor of the school building housed the elementary students. The second floor housed the middle school students and the top floor was for the high school students.

Superintendent William LeRoy Haven’s last year after being principal and superintendent since 1869—50 Years

50 students in a class! The original Maple Avenue School became overcrowded and it was only lit by the open windows in the back of the classroom! A new facility was needed to serve the growing student population and changing times.

Estella Walker (upper right) was the first female African-American MHS graduate in 1897. Her brother, Clarence Walker, was the first African-American male student to graduate from MHS.

A tradition of excellence in athletics continues today. The 2017-18 MHS Varsity Baseball team took home the Morris County Championship.

Girls’ sports came to MHS in the 1920s and is still thriving. The 2018 Varsity Field Hockey team won the State Sectional Championship in a gripping overtime game.

From the 1917 MHS Yearbook, this is a drawing of the “New High School” that opened 100 years ago in 1918. Widely considered one of the most progressive facilities in Morris County, the school drew students from Morristown, Morris Township, Mendham, Harding, Morris Plains, and many other local communities.

The auditorium in the new high school facility had elegance and charm. Notice the flag honoring all of the MHS graduates serving in WWI.

The Morris School District has long been a model for successful integration. Our schools have always reflected the vibrancy of a diverse community—an ongoing source of pride for the district and the towns it serves.


A collaborative learning environment with state-of-the-art technology offers students exceptional preparation for their future college and career endeavors.

Wide-ranging, inclusive co- and extracurricular opportunities help students find their place to belong.

Innovative, relevant curriculum that leverages our future-ready STEM programs, media centers, maker spaces, learning labs, flexible seating classrooms, and arts facilities keeps our students engaged and inspired.

Although there are many pathways through our schools, we are one community. In the Morris School District we take care of each other and we work hard to honor the values that have strengthened and edified our community over many generations.
Multiple Competition Honors for MHS Marching Colonials

The Morris Educational Foundation Thanks Our 2017-18 Donors...
A joint publication from The Morris School District and The Morris Educational Foundation

The MEF was the proud non-profit partner of the Morristown Festival of Books again this year. Through the joint commitment to literacy, $10,000 was presented to the Morris School District for the purchase of books on social-emotional learning.

Among several distinctions this season, the MHS Boys Cross Country team received the 2018 NJAC Sportsmanship Award.

Community volunteers work with FMS staff to tutor students in language arts and math. Every spring, they celebrate together with a breakfast. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact info@morrisedfoundation.org.

Prancer

MHS presented the high school world premiere of Prancer, based on the 1989 holiday film. The cast and crew worked tirelessly to bring this magical production to life.

Morristown Onstage, the MEF’s premier fundraising talent show, will be on Wednesday, February 27, 2019, at the Mayo Performing Arts Center. The area’s best amateur talent will compete for a chance to win one of three prizes: $1000 for 19 & older, $1000 for 18 & younger, $500 for viewers’ choice. Don’t miss your chance to support your schools while having a great time! Tickets go on sale in early February 2019.

The MEF was the proud non-profit partner of the Morristown Festival of Books again this year. Through this joint commitment to literacy, $10,000 was presented to the Morris School District for the purchase of books on social-emotional learning.

IN THE DISTRICT

THE DISTRICT

FALL 2018