

P.O. Box 997 Sayreville, New Jersey 08871 Phone: 732-525-5200 Fax: 732-727-5769



Dr. Richard R. Labbe, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Marilyn J. Shediack, Assistant Superintendent Mr. Eric Glock-Molloy, Assistant Superintendent Ms. Erin Hill, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Talk Sup Week 29 Review and Preview

April 4, 2022

Good morning Sayreville! I hope you had a relaxing weekend. Welcome to another edition of Talk Sup.



Please note that during the March 29th Special Board of Education (BOE) Business Meeting, the Board approved a revision to the 2021-22 School District Calendar, which changed the Juneteenth holiday from June 20th to June 17th because New Jersey law now requires it to fall on the 3rd Friday in June. Additional revisions made the last day of school for students in preschool through 8th grade June 21st and the last school day for students in grades 9-12, as well as 10-month faculty, June 22nd. Finally, during the next Business Meeting on April 26th, the BOE will retroactively approve a revision that will change the May 3rd Eid al fitr school holiday to May 2nd. To see the revised calendar, click here.



During a meeting with our architect last week, we learned that New Jersey changed the September 27th referendum vote date to **October 4th**. Thus, in <u>183</u> days, residents in Sayreville will have the opportunity to *Cool the Schools* when they vote on the **Facilities Improvement Bond Referendum**, which is scheduled to be voted on by the Sayreville community on <u>October 4, 2022</u>. To see the current presentation on the referendum, click <u>here</u>. To see all information pertaining to the referendum and the district district's strategic approach to improving its facilities, click <u>here</u>.

With that said, this Tuesday afternoon, I will resume the "Cool the Schools" promotion of the October 4, 2022 Referendum Vote during a Project Before virtual faculty meeting. Below please find the entire list of remaining promotional meeting dates this year.

PTO Meeting Dates and Times

- Project Before April 12th at 7 pm
- Truman May 12th at 7 pm
- Eisenhower April 13th at 7 pm
- SUES April 27th at 7 pm
- SMS May 10^{th} at 7 pm

Faculty Meeting Dates and Times

- Project Before April 5th at 8:00 am
- Arleth May 10th at 3:40 pm
- Truman June 7th at 3:40 pm
- Eisenhower May 10th at 8:00 am
- Wilson April 26th at 3:40 pm
- SUES May 17th at 3:00 pm
- SMS May 10th at 3:00 pm
- SWMHS May 9th at 2:40 pm

Over the weekend, it was reported to us that one individual from the Wilson School tested positive for COVID-19. After conducting contact tracing in accordance with New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) guidelines, individuals were determined to be in "close contact" with the infected person. At this time, all have been notified and directed to quarantine. For more information on infections, click here to review our Student and Staff COVID-19 Dashboards.

Today staff and parents **no longer have to complete the Oncourse daily health screening surveys**. However, we continue to request that parents:

• Do not send their child(ren) to school if they are symptomatic.

Educating Today's Learners to Be Tomorrow's Leaders

- Report to the administration and nurses at their child(ren)'s respective school(s) if their child(ren) are symptomatic, have tested positive, or were in close contact with an infected individual outside of school.
- Remind their child(ren) to practice appropriate hand hygiene
- Strongly consider participating in the school district's testing and vaccination programs.

Please remember that the Parlin Pharmacy is graciously offering all Sayreville Public Schools staff, students and family members COVID-19 home rapid test kits for no or little out of pocket cost. While most insurances cover home rapid test kits at no cost, unfortunately we have learned that there are certain insurances which may not. However, if your insurance policy does not cover them, the pharmacy is offering our staff, students and family members a special price of \$9.99 per kit. Furthermore, while some policies may not immediately cover the cost of the kit, they may provide full reimbursement upon the submission of a receipt, which will be provided by the pharmacy. Use the links below to order a test kit. All student and family test kits will be available for pick up in the cafeteria at the Sayreville War Memorial High School on Wednesday afternoons from 4:00 – 4:30 pm. As previously reported by me, staff test kits will be delivered to the school designated in orders. If you have further questions, please contact the pharmacy via the following email: ParlinRx@Gmail.com. Click on the appropriate link below to order the test kits.

STUDENT/FAMILY HOME COVID-19 RAPID TEST KIT REGISTRATION LINK STAFF HOME COVID-19 RAPID TEST KIT REGISTRATION LINK

Please also remember that, as part of our district's <u>Safe Return Plan</u>, this Wednesday, April 6, 2022 we will resume voluntary staff/family and student/family <u>COVID-19</u> testing with Back to School Solutions from 2:30 – 5 pm and voluntary vaccinations with the Parlin Pharmacy from 4 -7 pm in the Sayreville War Memorial High School Cafeteria. Please also note that the pharmacy is also providing Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson and Johnson booster shots. Likewise, they are now also providing vaccinations for children 5 years of age and older. However, in accordance with the CDC and NJDOH it is recommended that parents consult with their child's pediatrician prior to getting them vaccinated, especially those under that age of 12. Below, please find the tentative dates for both of these services throughout the fall. With regard to testing, since we do not test people who are demonstrating symptoms, if you are symptomatic, you should ask your healthcare provider for an appropriate testing location. If you are a staff member or the parent of a student who is interested in learning more information about how you and your residing family members can participate in this vital virus spreading prevention activity, click here. Please note that if you have already participated in testing with us, you only need to conduct a telemedicine appointment. If you have never tested with us in the past, you would need to register using the following link https://backtoworksolutions.com/SayervillePSD.html. Once you have conducted your telemedicine appointment, you will receive a prescription for the PCR test.

As mentioned above the Parlin Pharmacy will once again administer Flu and COVID-19 Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson and Johnson vaccine shots to anyone 5 years of age and older, as well as Pfizer, Moderna, and J&J booster shots, in the Sayreville War Memorial High School Cafeteria. Naturally, any individuals under the age of 18 will need to be accompanied by a parent/guardian, who will need to provide signed consent for the vaccination. Therefore, anyone interested in receiving the vaccine must register online in advance by clicking here or by going to the Parlin Pharmacy website (www.parlinrx.com). Unfortunately, for safety purposes, no "walkins" will be permitted into the school. In fact, with in-district COVID-19 testing, all registered participants must report to Door 22 of the high school cafeteria (adjacent to the dumpsters), where they will be screened by our security team before being allowed into the vaccination room. Below please find the tentative dates and times.



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COVID-19 Testing Schedule Via Back to School Solutions

- Wednesday, April 6, 2022
- Wednesday, April 13, 2022
- Wednesday, April 20, 2022 (12:30-2:30pm)
- Wednesday, April 27, 2022
- Wednesday, May 4, 2022
- Wednesday, May 11, 2022
- Wednesday, May 18, 2022
- Wednesday, May 25, 2022
- Wednesday, June 1, 2022
- Wednesday, June 8, 2022
- Wednesday, June 15, 2022
- Wednesday, June 22, 2022
- Wednesday, June 29, 2022

COVID-19 and Flu Vaccinations with the Parlin Pharmacy

- Wednesday, April 6, 2022
- Wednesday, April 13, 2022
- Wednesday, April 27, 2022
- Wednesday, May 4, 2022
- Wednesday, May 11, 2022
- Wednesday, May 18, 2022
- Wednesday, May 25, 2022
- Wednesday, June 1, 2022
- Wednesday, June 8, 2022
- Wednesday, June 15, 2022
- Wednesday, June 22, 2022
- Wednesday, June 29, 2022

If you did not have a chance to attend the aforementioned Special Let the Children Lead BOE Business Meeting held on Tuesday, March 29th, here is what you missed. During this meeting, the Board of Education (BOE) and Central Administration were joined by almost two dozen 5th graders from the Samsel Upper Elementary School (SUES) as part of the annual "Let the Children Lead" program. During this very popular and unique activity, the selected 5th grade students actually performed in the capacity of a specific board of education member or administrators. Thus, except for a few occasions, the 5th grade representatives for each, including Ms. Coglianese, Principal of SUES, and Mr. Tola, Assistant Principal of SUES, voted and commented publicly on behalf of the BOE member or administrator that they represented. During the presentation portion of the meeting, Elijah Chung, a SWMHS student, made a presentation about his Boys Scouts of America Eagle Scout project proposal, which is to construct a playground at the Wilson School.



The Board then moved the action items from the Superintendent's Report onto the Board Agenda and approved them all. To see the Agenda, click here. To see the Agenda Addendum, click here. To view the video of this meeting, click here. Among other motions, on the Vision 2030 Finance and Infrastructure portion of the agenda, the BOE accepted a grant

from the Middlesex County Office of Culture and Heritage in the amount of \$2,000 to be used for transportation costs for a Samsel Upper Elementary School field trip to East Jersey Old Town and Cornelius Low House Museum; and then approved field trips for 4th and 5th grade students and teachers in which they will tour the Sayreville Historical Society and visit local landmarks and the Olde







Towne Village and Cornelius Low House in

Piscataway respectively. In addition, it accepted a grant from the New Jersey Schools Development Authority for Emergent Needs and Capital Maintenance in School Districts in the amount of \$148,904; and then approved a withdrawal from Capital Reserve in the amount of \$106,176 to pay for HVAC upgrades at multiple schools, including SUES. Lastly, the BOE approved a lease agreement between 132 Main

Street LLC and the Sayreville Board of Education for the period of April 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022 and from

July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2027. The property will be the new home of the district's 18-21-Year-Old Program and Sayreville Compassion Café.

On the Governance portion of the agenda, among other motions, the Board of Education approved the previously mentioned revised 2021-22 School District Calendar. Essentially, the revisions changed the Juneteenth holiday from June 20th to June 17th because New Jersey law now requires it to fall on the 3rd Friday in June. Moreover, the changes make the last day of school for students in preschool through 8th grade June 21st and the last day for students in grades 9-12, as well as teachers, June 22nd. To view it, click here.

Finally, on the Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board appointed a new certificated staff member for the 2021-22 school year. Likewise, the BOE approved the transfer of non-certificated staff members for the 2021-22 school year.

During the Open Discussion portion of the meeting, Mrs. Bloom reviewed what was discussed during the last Student Achievement Committee Meeting, as did Mrs. Pieloch for the last Governance Committee Meeting. In addition, Mrs. Bloom shared news from the Middlesex County School Boards Association and Mr. Fernandez did the same regarding the Sayreville/South Amboy Rotary Club. Finally, each student representative shared their feelings on being able to participate in their first field trip in two years.

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday**, **April 26th**. During it, the Board will hold the mandatory public hearing for the 2022-23 School District Budget. Therefore, the district will be making a brief presentation on it. A complete copy of the **March 29th** meeting minutes will be posted on the BOE Meeting Minutes page of our website once they are approved by the BOE during the next BOE Meeting on **April 26**, **2022**.

This Wednesday evening at 6 pm Sayreville Parent University will present, The Language of Behaviors: Understanding Challenging Behaviors, which is the third of a series of highly informative webinars about educating children. This one-hour webinar, which will be presented by Effective School Solutions, our district's Tier 2 and 3 social and emotional development service provider, will focus on how staff, parents and caregivers can evaluate what a child's behavior is trying to communicate, as behavior is a form of communication which is especially important when a child has limited means of expressing his or herself or has neither the developmental level or psychological capacities to "tell us" how they are doing and how we are doing with them. This workshop develops the ability to appreciate and understand the behavioral relevance and messaging of children. Here is the link to register for it. Only participants who register in advance of the webinar will receive a link to access it.

Last week our students, staff, and community members continued to impress us with their amazing accomplishments. Along with the amazing 5th grade students that participated in the Special Let the Children Lead BOE Meeting, we commend and congratulate Laury Estefont (9th Grade), Phillip Pazdur (11th grade), Aaryan Parikh (11th grade),



SWMHS Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA) members who won State Championships during the recent HOSA State Leadership Conference. Laury won 1st Place in Clinical Nursing, while Phillip and Aaryan took 1st Place in Medical Innovations. Likewise, we commend and congratulate Sophia Abbassi (12th grade) and Leilany Rojas (10th grade), who were selected as recipients of the 2022 National Center for Women and Information Technology (NCWIT) Award for

Aspirations in Computing. Sophia received Affiliate Honorable Mention honors, while Leilany was recognized as an Affiliate Rising Star. In addition, we

congratulate and commend SWMHS art student Aimee Santana whose tunnel book was



selected to represent SWMHS in the New Jersey Teen Arts Festival.

Her work will be shown alongside students chosen from across the state. In addition, we commend and congratulate Hailey Sammartino (9th grade), Marissa Rowley (10th grade), Gavin Farrell (11th grade), and Nicholas Santamaria, who were selected by the faculty at SWMHS as Students of the Month of March. Finally, we commend and congratulate Maria Reis, Logan Hernandez, and Julian Diffin, Sayreville Middle School



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(SMS) students from Ms. Knaster's science class, as well as Mahi Ghetia, Addison Quinn, and Victoria Lozano from Ms. Asencio's class for winning this year's 6th Grade Earthquake Design Challenge. Bomber Nation salutes these and all our students, staff, and community members for representing Sayreville in such an impeccable manner. They Rock!





Thanks to our magnificent teachers and instructional staff, our students continued to progress in learning and had a ton of fun doing so this past week. At the high school, the Guidance Department took 11th grade students on a College Tour trip to The College of New Jersey where they had the opportunity to sit in on an Admissions presentation and join a campus tour led by one of their student ambassadors, which included



lunch in the student dining hall. Likewise, several Air Force Junior ROTC Cadets presented our nations colors as part





of a retirement party at the McGuire/Fort Dix Joint Base. Other students also visited the Sayreville Police Station where Officer Kenny gave them a tour and showed them some vehicles. In addition, the Peer Leadership Club hosted a Blood Drive. In







Mr. Bates' Auto Shop class, the New Jersey Army National Guard visited with a Humvee so that the students could examine a different type of vehicle than they have ever worked on. The sergeant and specialist also shared information on different career paths in the trades industries. In Mr. Taylor's TV Production 2 class, students created stop motion animation. Finally, led by Doris Lee, the high school Unified Club teamed up with the National Art Honor Society to create beautiful cityscape canvases.





At SUES, students and staff celebrated Autism Awareness and had a great time competing in the Bombers Unified March Madness basketball game. Likewise, students had a blast participating





in "Workout Wednesday" as part of a "brain break" in Ms. Zydzik's class. In addition, all students had a ball



participating in the ASI March Mathness Tournament, which was one by Ms. Brandon's class. Speaking of math, students at SUES were thrilled when Jiji the ST Math penguin visited them to congratulate them for all their hard work





this year. Jiji also visited the Wilson School. At the Truman School, kindergarten students enjoyed a visit by a dentist, where they learned how to keep their teeth and gums clean and healthy. Students and staff also took the time to recognize and honor the March Better Together Winners, as well as the students on the Pink Bus for winning the Truman March Bus Awards. In Project Before, students ended their Five Senses Week by popping and eating some



delicious popcorn. Lastly, at the middle school the faculty played the students in a volleyball game to raise funds for the Kathy Whiteley Scholarship. The game featured Mr. Lampkin as the DJ of the day.



In athletics, we begin by congratulating the SWMHS Girls Flag Football Team, which attended a Jamboree at Met Life Stadium where they made history by participating in drills and competing





in a scrimmage against Harrison High School on an NFL field. In addition, we congratulate the SWMHS Girls and Boys Lacrosse Teams for opening season victories last week. Led by Bryce Kent and Aidan Wilson, the Boys Team



defeated Central Regional and Weehawken High Schools. Likewise, led by Abby Mayer, Ryann Schlaline, Ashley Ament, and Gianna Gittlitz, the Girls Team defeated Hoboken High School. While they came up just short of victory against North

Brunswick High School last week, the SWMHS Baseball Team took the time to recognize their players during the annual Jersey Night. Likewise,

the SWMHS Swim Team honored its student athletes last week during their end of season banquet. Finally, last week SWMHS Girls and Boys Basketball players Brooke Holland and Max Negron represented Sayreville in the Greater Middlesex





Conference All Star Basketball Game last week. Win or lose, all our amazing student athletes continued to compete fiercely and demonstrate the teamwork and sportsmanship that makes us all proud to be Bombers. Thus, we thank them and their coaches for their hard work, dedication, and the manner in which they represent SWMHS and our community. Please remember that you can see all athletic team schedules and view all the action by watching them on the live streaming links posted

on the Athletics page of our website or by clicking here.

As per the 2021-22 School District Calendar, and the April Activities Calendar, there will be a BOE Business Meeting on April 26th. Please remember that our schools will be closed from Friday, April 15th through Friday, April 22nd for spring recess. In addition, please note that the 3rd Marking Period for students in grades 6-12 will end on April 8th and that report cards for these students will be populated in Oncourse on April 14th. Lastly, please remember that our schools will be closed on Monday, May 2nd in observance of Eid al fitr.

On January 31, 2022, the Sayreville Public Schools officially opened registration for our free Full-Day Project Before Preschool and Kindergarten Programs. Therefore, parents of ALL eligible (must be 3 for preschool and 5 for kindergarten by September 30, 2022) preschool and kindergarten students are invited to visit our website in order to register via Oncourse Connect, our online registration software. The link to student registration will be clearly identified on our district website homepage (www.sayrevillek12.net) as "Student Registration". Once on this registration page, you can obtain pertinent information regarding the registration of all students including preschool and kindergarten students, and you can begin completing the online registration application by clicking on one of the following links noted in the 2022-2023 Project Before and Kindergarten text box: New Student Registration Preschool and Kindergarten or New Students entering grades PreK and Kindergarten during the 2022-2023 school year.

If you or someone you know would like to **advertise** with us on our **website** and via **Bomber Blasts**, you should click **here** and submit an inquiry with *School Revenue Partners*. Naturally, we will continue to Bomber Blast activity information and community service announcements for our schools and the greater community at no cost. Likewise, if you would like to advertise on our **buses**, click **here**.

Have a great day and wonderful week.



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