

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



Mr. Eric Glock-Molloy, Assistant Superintendent Ms. Erin Hill, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Dr. Richard R. Labbe, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Marilyn J. Shediack, Assistant Superintendent

#### Talk Sup Week 22 Review and Preview February 10, 2020

Good morning Sayreville! I hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable weekend. Welcome to another edition of *Talk Sup* Review and Preview. Please remember that we will dismiss students early this (February 10<sup>th</sup>) afternoon so that our staff can participate in professional development. In addition, please note that 2<sup>nd</sup> Marking Period Report Cards for students in grades 6-12 will be populated in Oncourse Connect tomorrow (February 11<sup>th</sup>). Please also remember that our schools will be closed on Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup> in Observance of Presidents' Day.



As I am sure that you have heard at nausea from the national and local media, the Corona Virus has become a very serious health concern in our country, and now our state. Guidance provided by the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) calls for the following precautionary measures: cover mouths when coughing and sneezing by doing such into your elbow and wash your hands frequently. We will also continue to have our custodians take extra measures to disinfect surfaces with which students frequently interact. Please keep your children home if they have a fever and do not have them return to school until the fever has abated for 24 hours. For more information from the NJDOH on the Corona Virus and

how we all can prevent it from spreading, click here and here.



In our schools this past week, Ms. Conry and her Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) Advanced Placement Computer Science Class students visited the Rutgers Computer Science Department and learned about the different programs leading to a Bachelor's Degree in computer science. Students also visited the Collaborative Academic Versatile Environment (CAVE) where they were allowed to create their own atmosphere for collaboration and group

projects. The CAVE has iLab computers and consoles for gaming and virtual reality. Meanwhile, back at SWMHS in



the Media Center, love was in the air as Ms. Scarpari's class enjoyed "Book Speed Dating." According to Ms. Scarpari and Ms. Desmond, many students found their perfect match. In Mr. Gliddon's SWMHS Science Class, his students had a cool time learning about the three states of matter during a "Freezing Lab." At the Sayreville Middle School (SMS), a great time was had by all last Friday evening when the teachers competed against the students in







the Annual Kathy Whitely Scholarship Volleyball Tournament. Thanks to all who participated and attended, \$833 in scholarship funds were raised in the honor of the beloved Mrs. Whitely, who passed away tragically several years ago. Special thanks go out to everyone who made the evening such a success, especially to Mr. Lampkin, who donated his time and talents as the disk jockey and master of ceremonies. In addition, students in

Ms. Smith's and Ms. Kirschbaum's SMS Math

Class had a ton of fun using their new classroom whiteboard kidney table to practice their Pythagorean Theorem skills in centers. Likewise, in Ms. Ms. Hungrige's Class, students used their cell phones to scan QR codes and in Ms. Ritter's Class students utilized their impressive math skills to escape from some very challenging "Escape Rooms." Lastly, students at SMS had an



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awesome time at the Brain Wash Assembly. Finally, at the Arleth Elementary School, students had a wonderful time during their annual Science Night and at the Truman Elementary School students were visited by their very friendly and adorable four legged and furry friend Enya.





If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education (BOE) Business Meeting held on Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, here is what you missed. The district resumed publicly reviewing and discussing the 2020-21 School District Budget with the following budget presentations: **Special Education**, **Technology**, and **Transportation**. Click on each presentation to view them. To see all the information presented and/or provided thus far on 2020-21 Budget, click <u>here</u>.

In addition, the meeting featured a presentation by Lauren Gassman, an Honors Chemistry Class Teacher at SWMHS, and several of her students on the current instructional collaboration that they have been



participating in with the Ashland Corporation. To see their presentation, click <u>here</u>. After each person or group gave their respective presentation, they joined the Board at their table for a robust conversation. Finally, the Board held an open public hearing for a proposed shared service agreement, which would primarily allow the district to lease the Cheesequake School in Old Bridge from the Old School District



Bridge Township School District.

The Board then moved the action items from the Superintendent's Report onto the Board Agenda and approved all of them. To see the Agenda click <u>here</u>. To see the Agenda Addendum click <u>here</u>. To view the video of this meeting, click <u>here</u>. Among other motions, on the Vision 2030 Finance and Infrastructure portion of the agenda, the Board approved a resolution to enter into the aforementioned shared services agreement with the Old Bridge Township School District so that the district can lease the Cheesequake School for the Project Before early childhood education program from 2020 - 2031. The Board also approved a resolution authorizing the use of the competitive contracting procedures set forth in N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-4.1(a) et seq. to solicit proposals for Scoreboard Advertising.

On the Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education accepted the retirements of Kathleen Vernados-James and Joan Younger, who are both Special Education Teachers at SMS, effective July 1, 2020. In addition, the BOE appointed new certificated and non-certificated staff for the 2019-20 school year and the transfer of a non-certificated staff member for the 2019-20 school year.

The next meeting on **Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>**. During it, the district will resume discussions on the 2020-21 Budget with the following presentations: Buildings and Grounds, Capital Projects, and Personnel. A complete copy of the **February 4<sup>th</sup>** meeting minutes will be posted on the BOE Meeting Minutes page of the website once they are approved by the BOE during the next BOE Meeting on **February 18, 2020**.



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This week our students, their parents, and our staff continued to impress us with their amazing accomplishments. We begin by commending and congratulating SWMHS Harmony Travis for earning an Honorable Mention for her essay and a spot on the panel for the Brown Kids Read Tell Us Your Story Essay Contest. She will actually be speaking on February 15<sup>th</sup> at the Menlo Park Mall Barnes and Noble book store. If you are unfamiliar with Brown Kids Read, it is a nonprofit organization started by 15- year-old, Ssanyu Lukoma, with the aim of motivating all children, but especially children of color, to read more diverse books. She does this by bringing her pop-up

bookstore to various events and schools and providing free community reading events for children. Finally, since last week was National School Counselors Week, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all our amazing school counselors and student assistance coordinators (SAC) in the district for EVERYTHING they do for ALL our students, particularly the hard work and steadfast dedication that they demonstrate day in and day out. Likewise, we would like to thank and

commend Donna Sicola, Supervisor of Guidance, for the leadership and unwavering support that she provides our counselors and SACs. Bomber Nation salutes and thanks these and all our students, their parents and our staff for representing Sayreville in such an impeccable manner. They Rock!





In athletics, we commend and congratulate the SWMHS Girls Bowling Team on their New Jersey Group 3, North 2 Championship! In addition, we congratulate the SMS Competition Cheer Team for winning the ImpACT Cheer and Dance Challenge in Asbury Park. Furthermore, we congratulate Eli Rivera and Tommy Lewis from the SWMHS Boys Indoor Track Team for placing in the Varsity Classic Tournament and as a result advancing to the Eastern Indoor

Track and Field Championships. We also send our congratulations and commendations out to senior Geneva Holland



and the SWMHS Girls Basketball Team for big wins last week over New Brunswick High School (HS) and Woodbridge HS to improve their record to 16-7. Similarly, the SWMHS Boys Basketball Team should also be commended for a huge upset victory over Woodbridge HS last week. On the subject of basketball, we congratulate the SMS Boys and Girls Basketball Teams for very competitive and strong seasons. Finally, we congratulate SWMHS senior fall

athletes: Samantha Szymanksi (Rutgers University), Jacqueline Ventricelli (West Virginia Wesleyan College), and Mica Chudkowski (Caldwell University) who each signed letters of intent last week to attend and



participate in athletics in their respective colleges nest year. 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. To see this week's high

school and middle school athletics schedule, click here. Go Bombers!

As per the February Head of the Class Calendar, <u>we will **dismiss students early this (February 10<sup>th</sup>) afternoon** so that our staff can participate in professional development. In addition, please note that 2<sup>nd</sup> Marking Period Report Cards for students in grades 6-12 will be populated in Oncourse Connect tomorrow (February 11<sup>th</sup>) evening.</u>

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Please also remember that <u>our schools will be closed on February 17<sup>th</sup> in Observance of Presidents' Day</u>. There will also be **BOE Business Meeting** on **Tuesday**, **February 18<sup>th</sup>** in the **SWMHS Cafeteria at 7:30 pm**. During it, the district will resume discussions on the 2020-21 Budget with the following presentations: Buildings and Grounds, Capital Projects, and Personnel. The agenda for this meeting will be posted on our district website in the evening on Friday, February 14<sup>th</sup>.

The parents of ALL eligible (**must be 3 to being preschool and 5 to begin kindergarten by September 30, 2020**) preschool and kindergarten students are invited to visit our website in order to register for our <u>free full-day</u> Project Before Preschool or Kindergarten programs via Oncourse Connect, our online registration software. The link to student registration is clearly identified on our district website homepage (<u>www.sayrevillek12.net</u>) as "<u>Student</u> <u>Registration</u>". Once on this registration page, parents can obtain pertinent information regarding the registration of all students, including preschool and kindergarten students, and they can begin completing the online registration application by clicking on one of the following appropriate links noted in the 2020-2021 Project Before and Kindergarten text box: <u>Students New to Sayreville: New Student Registration Preschool and Kindergarten</u> or <u>Returning Students: Returning Student Enrollment Update, Grades PreK and Kindergarten.</u>

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 **busses**, click **here**. Lastly, if you or someone you know wants to **lease our facilities**, contact Deborah DeVico at **deborah.devico@savrevillek12.net**.

Have a wonderful day and fantastic week.

Dr. Labbe