



Sayreville Public Schools Vision 2030

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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 35 Review and Preview May 11, 2020



Good afternoon Sayreville! I hope you had a nice and relaxing weekend, and a happy and most enjoyable Mother's Day. Welcome to another edition of *Talk Sup Review and Preview*. As per my Off Day Update email to the community yesterday (click [here](#) to see it), not only did Governor Murphy close all schools in New Jersey for in-person instruction until the end of the academic school year, on Friday afternoon he and the NJDOE **banned in-person or vehicle parade graduation and promotion ceremonies.**

In fact, they indicated in a [broadcast memo](#) that the only type of ceremony that will be permitted will be those that are virtual or pre-taped. While we are deeply disappointed by this decision, we have already begun developing the best possible plans for a virtual and/or edited pre-taped high school commencement ceremony for our graduating seniors on June 11th and promotion ceremony for our 8th graders on June 10th. Speaking of graduation, if you would like to honor your child with a **Class of 2020 graduation lawn sign**, email **Mr. Cifelli** (Nicholas.Cifelli@sayrevillek12.net), the Head Soccer Coach at Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS). More information on the June 11, 2020 high school graduation and the June 10, 2020 8th grade promotion ceremony will be sent out within the next week or two by the administration at each respective school. Finally, as you will read a little further in this edition, during the Board of Education (BOE) Business Meeting last Tuesday, the BOE approved the rescheduling of the Senior Prom to Friday, July 31st at the Heldrich Hotel and Conference Center in New Brunswick. Although there is a good possibility that we will still not be permitted to hold it, we wanted to schedule it just in case. Finally, click [here](#) to check out this amazing video tribute to the Class 2020, compliments of Ms. Howell and our incredible Transportation Department.



As you will also read further down in this edition, last Tuesday the Board also approved a temporary revision to BOE Regulation # R6147.1 Student Assessment, Reporting, and Reporting of Grades for students in grades 6-12 during the time of virtual instruction. Below please find the changes. Please note the bullet that is highlighted.

- The third marking period quarterly assessment is eliminated.
- The 15% normally allocated to the third quarterly exam grade is redistributed to other categories depending on individual departments.
- The lowest grade on the report card for the third marking period will be a 60.
- The fourth marking period quarterly assessment is eliminated.
- Classwork/homework will be 20% of the grade and 80% will be other assessments determined by each department in the fourth marking period.
- The third marking period grade is the baseline for the fourth marking period.
- If a student satisfactorily completes work and participates in distance learning, the student's fourth marking period grade will not be lower than the baseline.
- **If a student does not satisfactorily complete fourth marking period work, their fourth marking period grade may drop below a 60% in commensuration with their effort.**
- If the student's fourth marking period grade is higher than the baseline, the student will earn the higher grade for the fourth marking period.

As also noted in my Off Day Update last Saturday, we have also begun planning the process for closing out the school year, which will include providing staff, parents and/or students with an opportunity to collect their personal

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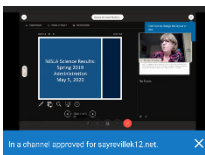


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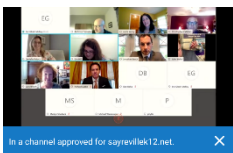
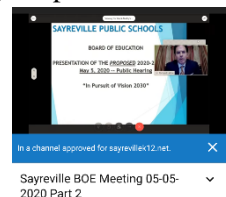
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belongings, including medications, and to return all district resources. To prepare for this, on **May 18th** our buildings and grounds staff will be returning to the district to clean and sanitize our buildings. On **May 26th**, our administration, secretarial staff, and campus security monitors will return to assist in the process of collecting resources and distributing personal items. In fact, we will begin doing so for **12th graders** at the **high school** the week of **May 26th**. Likewise, we will do the same for **8th graders** at the **middle school** during the week of **June 1st**. We will complete this process during the week of **June 8th** for all remaining students at the high school and middle school, along with all students in the **upper elementary school, K-3 elementary schools, and preschool**. Schedules and specific details for these plans will be predicated on the social distancing requirements, particularly the number of people permitted in a given space at a time. Thus, once we have a better understanding of what that will be, the administration at each of our schools will send schedules and specific details, which will naturally include the social distancing guidelines that will be required, to staff and students.

As they have been since the beginning of the pandemic, our amazing group of Operation BStrongSayreville volunteers once again prepared and delivered over 3,000 meals, many devices, countless student work packets, and toilet paper, paper towels, and tissues for anyone who needed such last week. This week, we will once again be delivering breakfast/lunches on just Mondays and Wednesdays. Thus, we will be asking parents to order for two days at a time for Monday and Tuesday, and three days at a time for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. For more information pertaining to the ordering and delivery of meals and supplies this week, see my [BStrongSayreville Off Day Update email](#), which I sent to the community on Saturday evening. As per it, remember that we are also allowing community members to refill one 12-ounce container of hand sanitizer in the main vestibule of SWMHS from 8 am – 12 pm on Mondays and Wednesdays.



If you did not have a chance to attend the second ever Sayreville Board of Education **Virtual** Business Meeting held on Tuesday, May 5th, here is what you missed. During the presentation portion of the meeting, Dr. Shediack, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, presented the district 2019 NJSLA Science Assessment Results. Click [here](#) to see her presentation. After that, I presented the major highlights of the 2020-21 School District Budget as part of the required Budget Public Hearing. To see it click [here](#). To see all the presentations and information pertaining to the 2020-21 Budget, click [here](#).



The Board then immediately moved the action items from the Superintendent's Report onto the Board Agenda and approved all of them. To see the Agenda click [here](#). To see the Agenda Addendum click [here](#). Finally, to see the video of the meeting, click on each part **Part 1** and **Part 2**. Along with other motions, on the Finance and Infrastructure portion of the agenda, the Board of Education approved the 2020-21 School District Budget in the amount of \$95,541,326, which includes a local tax levy of \$64,418,966. To see the User Friendly version of it, click [here](#). In addition, it accepted the New Jersey Department of Education approval of the 2020-2021 Preschool Expansion Aid (PEA) Plan and Budget, and the submission of a revision to its budget. Among other motions, on the Student Achievement portion of the agenda, the Board approved the rescheduling of the Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) Senior Prom to Friday, July 31st from 6:00PM to 11PM at the Heldrich Hotel and Conference Center in New Brunswick. Additionally, on the Governance portion of the agenda, the BOE approved a revision to the 2019-20 School District Calendar, which essentially eliminated the two additional days (181 and 182) of instruction unique to Sayreville and therefore ends the school year for students on June 11th and for teachers on June 12th. To see it, click [here](#). Likewise, it approved the temporary revision to BOE Regulation #

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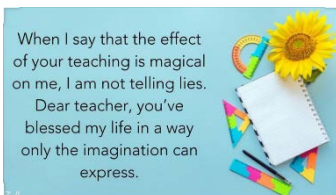
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R6147.1 Student Assessment, Reporting, and Reporting of Grades for students in grades 6-12 during the time of virtual instruction. Finally, as well as other motions, on the Personnel portion of the agenda, the Board accepted the retirements of Robert Lindemann, Teacher at the Samsel Upper Elementary School (SUES), Diedre LeBlon, Speech and Language Therapist at SUES, Deborah Esposito, Paraprofessional at SWMHS, John Forestano, Custodian at SWMHS, and Debra Palmer, Custodian at the Truman Elementary School.

During the Open Public Comment portion of the meeting, a parent of a students expressed concerns regarding the posting of the vacant SWMHS Head Basketball Coaching position. During the open BOE discussion portion of the meeting, Ms. Kenney reviewed what was discussed during the last BOE Student Achievement Committee Meeting, as did Mr. Esposito, with regard to the last BOE Finance Committee Meeting, and Mr. Callahan with regard to the last Personnel Committee Meeting. Finally, Mrs. Bloom reviewed news from the Middlesex County School Boards Association.

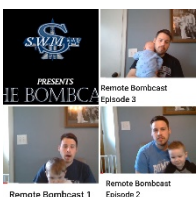
The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, May 19th at 7:30 pm.** During it, the district and BOE will recognize, honor, and celebrate all our 2019-20 Governor's Educators of the Year, as well as this year's Sayreville Education Association Support Professionals of the Year. Since we will still probably be living under quarantine then and thus not be permitted to leave our homes for anything that is not considered "essential," we will hold this meeting virtually. If you would like to see the agenda for this meeting, it will be posted in the evening on our website this Friday, May 15th. In addition, a complete copy of the **May 5th** 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 **May 19, 2020.**



As you know, last week was Educator Appreciation Week, which also included Teacher Appreciation Day on Tuesday and School Nurse Appreciation Day on Wednesday. Thus, throughout the week, our entire community took the time to send messages of gratitude to our incredibly dedicated educators in Sayreville for their extraordinary efforts, particularly during the pandemic, to promote learning and health for ALL



our students and staff. In fact, click [here](#) to check out this clever video produced by Ms. Coglianese and Mr. Tola, to honor and thank the staff at SUES. Similarly, click [here](#) to see the wonderful video produced by the Sayreville Middle School PTO. Even Dr. Shediack, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, and our incredible department instructional supervisors got into the act and produced a wonderful video to thank our teachers. To see it, click [here](#). Finally, our nurses produced an awesome video to celebrate School Nurse's Day. Check it out [here](#).



Along with the above mentioned educator appreciation videos, this past week our amazing staff and students were hard at work producing more impressive and inspiring videos. Check out the outstanding Bombercast videos (Bombercast [One](#), [Two](#), and [Three](#)) produced by Mr. Taylor and the students in his SWMHS TV Productions classes. Likewise, click [here](#) to check out this incredible video tribute to nurses, doctors, and



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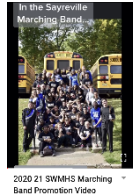


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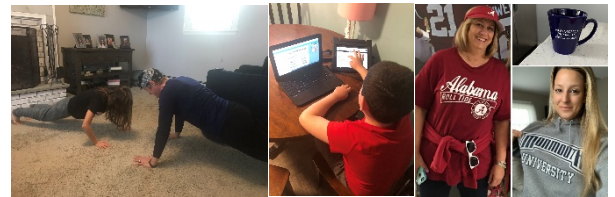


other essential frontline health care workers, compliments of Ms. James Class at the middle school. In addition, click [here](#) to enjoy this cool video produced by the SWMHS Soccer Team. See a similar one [here](#) by the SWMHS Field Hockey Team. Lastly, attention all musician! Please click [here](#) to watch the 2020-21 Band Commercial.



This week our students and staff continued to impress us with online

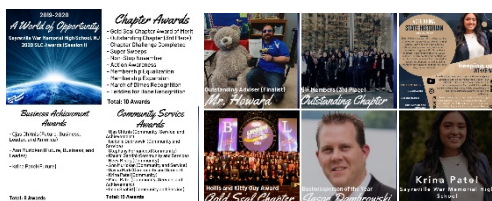
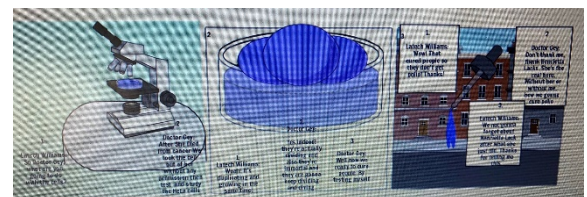
learning. At Truman the students and their parents showed their appreciation and affection for their wonderful teachers. At SUES, students and staff demonstrated their school spirit by sharing a picture of them wearing their favorite college gear, had toms of fun on Fit Friday, and students participated in virtual physical and speech therapy. At the Arleth Elementary School,



students and staff participated in "Make Someone's Day Yellow," in an effort to promote kindness and compassion. Similarly, at the Eisenhower Elementary School students did a great job making cards for the staff at St. Barnabas Hospital. At the Wilson School, Mr. Wonaszek continued his Burpee Challenge with students. He is up to 50 a day! At SWMHS student created a mock interview with a person involved in



Henrietta Lacks's saga regarding the use of her cancer cells. Finally, "Taco about smart and fun loving," in Project Before, our preschool students and staff had an awesome time celebrating Cinco de Mayo last Wednesday.



This week our students, their parents, our staff, and other Sayreville community members continued to impress and inspire us with their amazing accomplishments. We begin by commending and congratulating Mr. Howard and the SWMHS Future Business Leader of America for winning the Chapter and Individual honors listed below during the first New Jersey FBLA Virtual Leadership Conference. To see a video of the award ceremony, click [here](#). Similarly, we are proud to inform you that Krina Patel (11th grader) is now the New Jersey FBLA's State Historian! She was one of four candidates running for this position and after transforming her

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original campaign into a virtual one, came out victorious. You can watch the announcement [here](#). Lastly, we congratulate and commend Mr. Howard for being selected as a finalist for Outstanding Advisor.

Chapter Awards

Gold Seal Chapter Award of Merit
Outstanding Chapter (3rd Place)
Chapter Challenge Recognition
Super Sweeps Award Winner
Non-Stop November Award Winner
Action Awareness Award Winner
Membership Equalization Recognition
Membership Expansion Recognition
March of Dimes Recognition
Teddies for Hope Recognition

Individual Awards

Gold Officer Recipient: Ojas Chitnis
Gold Member Recipient: Anthony Monderine
Outstanding Local Chapter Adviser (finalist): Mr. Christopher Howard
Businessperson of the Year: Mr. Jason Dombrowski
Community Service Awards: Ojas Chitnis, Isabella Dabrowski, Stephany Fernandes, Khushi Ghandi, Neev Mistry, Ann Murickan, Dayna Park, Krina Patel, Minal Patel, Iman Shahid
Business Achievement Awards: Ojas Chitnis, Ann Murickan, Krina Patel



Likewise, we commend and thank the SWMHS Distributive Education Clubs of America students who are working with our Operation BStrongSayreville to raise money for the Sayreville Auxiliary Police "Sundays Dinner" program, send thank you notes to frontline health care workers, and collect non-perishable food for the Middlesex County Food Pantry. In addition, we congratulate SWMHS student



Administration, as well as play football at Western Connecticut University. Furthermore, we commend and congratulate Gabriel Costa, SWMHS senior and Captain of the Golf Team, on his commitment to attend the Stevens Institute of Technology, and for being named a Greater Middlesex Conference Scholar Athlete of the Year. Lastly, we commend and thank Ashland once again for donating several more 7-Gallon containers of hand



sanitizer for us to share with the Sayreville community, Eli's Hot Bagels, for donating some very delicious Bagels, and Mrs. Pirkowski, a parent, for her very thoughtful donation of tasty snacks for our Operation BStrongSayreville volunteers. Bomber Nation salutes and them and all our students, their parents and our staff for representing Sayreville in such an impeccable manner. They Rock!



Have a good day and week, and **please stay home**. May God bless you and your family and keep you healthy and safe.

Dr. Labbe