



Sayreville Public Schools

Vision 2030

P.O. Box 997
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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 4 Review and Preview

September 30, 2019

Good morning Sayreville. I hope you had a relaxing weekend. Welcome to another edition of *Talk Sup Week Review and Preview*. I would like to begin this edition by wishing all our Jewish Families a Happy Rosh Hashanah! As you know, our schools were closed today in observance of Rosh Hashanah.

As I mentioned in my Welcome Back letter that I sent to you at the end of August, the school district is in the process of developing a strategic action plan to address our aging and rapidly declining facilities and infrastructure, renovate the Selover School, construct a new bus garage, and **to partially or fully install air conditioning** in each school. With temperatures expected to rise to about 90 degrees this Wednesday, beginning with a joint public Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council (SPAC)/ Blue Ribbon Committee Meeting in the Selover School Conference Room at 7 pm tomorrow evening, we will kick off a series of presentations to the community about the potential referendum. After Tuesday evening's SPAC/Blue Ribbon Committee Meeting, I will be making presentations on the below dates and times to our parents and staff. If you would like to join me during any of them, you are most welcome. The purpose of these meetings will be for sharing our aforementioned strategic plan for improving our facilities and infrastructure, particularly as it pertains to a potential referendum, and providing all participants with an opportunity to provide their feedback and input prior to me sending a survey out to the entire community on November 4th. In addition to these meetings, I will also be making the same presentation to our Board of Education (BOE) during the October 15th BOE Business Meeting.

PTO/Parent Meeting

Eisenhower – 10/2/19 in the AP Room at 6:45 pm
Truman – 10/10/19 in the Media Center or AP Room at 7 pm
SUES – 10/16/19 in the Cafeteria at 6:30 pm
Arleth – 10/21/19 in the Media Center at **6:30 or 7 pm?**
Wilson – 10/22/19 in the AP Room at 6:30 pm.
SMS – 10/29/19 in the Cafeteria at 9:30 am and 6:30 pm.
SWMHS – in the Auditorium at 6:30 pm.

Faculty Meetings

Eisenhower – 10/7/19 in the Media Center at 8 am.
SMS – 10/8/19 in Blue Room at 3 pm.
SWMHS – 10/14/19 in the Auditorium at 2:30 pm.
SUES – 10/16/19 in the Media Center at 3 pm.
Truman – 10/21/19 in the Media Center or AP Room at 3:45 pm.
Arleth – 10/21/19 in the Media Center or AP Room at 4:15 pm.
Wilson – 10/22/19 in the AP Room at 3:45 pm.



Last Monday, Mr. Knaster, Director of Pupil-Special Services, and Ms. Burns, Director of Early Childhood, provided a Preschool Expansion Aid presentation to approximately 100 parents of preschool children in Sayreville. During it, Mr. Knaster shared with parents that more information would be provided after he and Ms. Burns participated in a webinar hosted by the NJDOE with the other districts that will receive preschool expansion aid this year. Hence, as a result of what was learned during it, we have posted the promised updated information [here](#) on our website. For this year, it states that we will begin the program on October 16th. When we do so, we will convert our existing half-day classes at Selover to four full day classes, open five new preschool classrooms at Acelero Learning in South Amboy, and one new classroom at Garden and Friends on Bordentown Road in Parlin. We will offer the new seats from these programs on a “first come/first served basis,” using our (Sayreville Public Schools) Oncourse online registration system. Lastly, in accordance with our transportation policy for students in grades K-12, we will provide free bussing to all preschool students who reside more than 0.7 miles from the school in which they will attend with a target beginning date of October 28, 2019.



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For the 2020-21 school year, we will convert our existing half-day preschool classes at SUES to full day; potentially add up to 15 additional classes throughout our entire preschool operation, which will increase our capacity to educate up to 225 additional preschool students. If the number of students who register still exceeds the seats available, we will select students via a lottery. However, we are hopeful that we will be able to secure a lease for a facility large enough to educate all the preschool children that we can find in Sayreville. In addition, since we will need to submit our budget for next year in November, we will be discussing whether we should open 2020-21 Preschool Registration, this month. Naturally, as mentioned previously, during the 2020-21 school year, we will bus all students in accordance with our transportation policy.



Last week I had the chance to attend Back to School Night at the Arleth and Truman Elementary Schools, Samsel Upper Elementary School, Sayreville Middle School (SMS), and Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS). All, including Eisenhower and

Wilson, were well attended by parents and coordinated exceptionally. In fact, the many parents that I spoke to during them were impressed and appreciative of the information communicated and the dedication demonstrated by our administrators, faculty, and support staff. If you were one of the many parents that took the time out of your very busy schedule to

attend Back to School Night at your child(ren)'s school, please accept my commendations and sincere gratitude. As you may or may not know, second to the level of effectiveness of the teacher, the next most important factor in the educational success of a child is the level of support and involvement demonstrated by his or her parents/guardians.



Likewise, immediately following the SWMHS Back to School Night last Monday, Ms. Sicola, Supervisor of Guidance, and our high school counselors presented Senior Parent Night. During this annual presentation, Ms. Sicola and our counselors presented information about the college application process including a senior timeline, financial aid information, and Naviance, the software that our students use to apply online to colleges, and its processes. In addition, information was also shared about the Common and Coalition Apps, the ACT and SAT tests, valuable programs offered at Middlesex County College, and the *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA). Barbara Loftus, Rutgers University Admissions Officer, also presented valuable information about Rutgers, their self-reporting application, essay writing advice, and other tips for the college application process. The presentation [slides](#) and other information shared during it can be found on the [Counseling Department page](#) of the district website.



In other happenings at our schools this past week, the students at the Truman Elementary School thanked Sayreville's finest for their courage and dedication by writing adorable thank you letters to Sayreville Firefighters and Police Officers. At the Arleth Elementary School, our students



participated in a Responsive Classroom character education program activity called "I said hello or hey to..." They also showed their school pride during their first ever Spirit Day. Likewise, At SUES, our students

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showed their school spirit during Crazy Hair. At SWMHS, our students practiced their vocational skills preparing a delicious lunch and our Spanish Teachers Ms. Alves and Ms. Rego partnered with Ms. Desmond, Media Specialist, and Hannah Lee from the Sayreville Public Library in order to teach their Spanish 3 classes the necessary skills to choose a picture book in

Spanish and write a report on it. In addition, Ms. Lee reviewed all the wonderful Spanish resources the public library has to offer and each student received a library card. Finally, thanks to their amazing PTO, the Wilson Elementary School celebrated the onset of fall with their annual Fall Festival.



This past week our students and staff continued to impress us with their accomplishments. We commend the student, who wished to not be identified by name, from SUES who filled a huge container with aluminum can tabs that he and his family collected in order to raise funds for the Ronald McDonald House. We are so proud of this amazing young man and his family! Similarly, we commend Mr. Mergner and his incredible SWMHS Creative Craft Class students for the inspirational messages

that they stenciled on the sidewalks in front SWMHS last week. They all certainly left their mark on our high school!



In athletics, we congratulate SWMHS Boys Cross Country Team runners Sean Donnamaria and Brett Moran who both took home medals at the Garrett Mountain Invitational last Saturday. In addition, the



Bombers Field Hockey Team battled for a scoreless tie against South Plainfield High School last Monday. While our other high school sports teams were not able to notch victories in their games or matches last week, as always they competed fiercely and demonstrated 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. Remember that this **Friday is Homecoming**. Thus, along with a pep rally in the afternoon at SWMHS, the **Bombers Football Team will play Edison at 7 pm in Bomber Stadium**. During half-time, we will crown the annual **Homecoming King and Queen**. On **Saturday evening**, our amazing **Bombers Marching Band** and incredible SWMHS Band Parents Association will host and compete in the annual **Night of a Thousand Stars**



Home Band Show. It will begin at **5 pm in Bomber Stadium** and conclude with an award ceremony at about 9:45 pm. Please consider supporting our students during Homecoming and Night of a Thousand Stars. To see this week's high school and middle school athletics schedule, click [here](#). Go Bombers!



As per the October Head of the Class Calendar, we will **dismiss all our students early** on **Monday, October 7th** and our **schools will be closed** on **October 9th** in observance of Yom Kippur. In addition, please note that **progress reports** for students in **grades 6-12** will be populated in **Oncourse Connect** on **October 10th** and for students in **grades K-5** on **October 18th**. Also, please remember that there will be a **BOE Meeting on October 15th**. During it, we will give our annual State of the Schools Address, and will celebrate our certificated faculty who earned tenure this year, as well as all our staff who demonstrated perfect attendance during the 2018-19 school year. Finally, our students will celebrate **Halloween** with class parties and parades on **October 31st**.

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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@sayrevillek12.net.

Have a wonderful first week of school!

Dr. Labbe

OCTOBER 2019

SAYREVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT CALENDAR

NOTICE FOR SCHOOL CLOSING

Delayed opening, early dismissal or cancellations due to inclement weather will be made via: Cable TV Channel 22, News 12 News Jersey, Facebook, Twitter or at www.sayrevillek12.net



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	1 Arl - Reading Program begins Eis - Fall Picture Day Tru - Fire Prevention Day Wil - Box Tops collection begins	2 Pre-K - Photo Day at SUES Eis - Fall Picture Day, Boo Gram sales & PTO Meeting 6:45pm	3 Pre-K - Photo Day at SUES SUES - SEEDS Program (Gr 5) MS - Kastle Kreations fundraiser ends	4 HOME COMING Eis - Fire Prevention program & Chuck E Cheese Proceed Night Wil - Boston Coffee Cake & Spirit Wear fundraisers ends SUES - SEEDS Program (5th grade) MS - School Store during lunch & Mallory's Army Presentation Sat 5 - HS - SAT Testing
7 Violence Awareness/Week of Respect Arl - Box Tops Contest begins Eis - Fall Fundraiser begins MS - Breast Cancer walk during PE HS - Underclass Portraits (Gr 9-11) EARLY DISMISSAL for STUDENTS PLC for STAFF	8 Violence Awareness/Week of Respect Tru - Anti-Bullying Assembly MS - Bomber Apparel Sale begins	9 Violence Awareness/Week of Respect Arl - Boston Coffee Cake fundraiser ends <i>Yom Kippur</i> SCHOOLS CLOSED	10 Violence Awareness/Week of Respect Pre-K - Photo Day at Selover Arl - Fire Safety Day Tru - PTO Meeting 7:00pm Progress Reports Grades 6-12	11 Violence Awareness/Week of Respect Pre-K - Photo Day at Selover Arl - Anti-Bullying Assembly Wil - Wear Red for Fire Prevention Day & Bingo/Tricky Tray 6:00pm SUES - Beautification Day
14 Pre-K - Columbus Day Sailing at SUES MS - Yankee Candle fundraiser begins	15 Eis - Willabees 3:35pm MS - Fall Photography 8th Grade Board of Education Meeting 7:30 pm - SWMHS	16 SUES - PTO Meeting 6:30pm MS - Fall Photography 7th Grade	17 PROUD Meeting 7:00pm Arleth Arl - Box Tops Contest ends MS - Fall Photography 6th Grade	18 Eis - Pumpkin Patch & Beautification Day 3:45pm Wil - Pride Day-wear Wilson gear/colors SUES -Rock & Mineral assembly (Gr 4) & School Store MS - School Store during lunch Progress Reports Grades K-5
21 Arl - PTO Meeting 7:00pm	22 Wil - Book Fair & PTO Meeting 7:00pm SUES - Book Fair MS - Fall Bomber Apparel Sale ends SEND A MESSAGE. STAY DRUG FREE.	23 Wil - Book Fair SUES - Book Fair	24 Eis - FFFN - Monster Bash 7:00pm Wil - Book Fair SUES - Book Fair HS - Acoustic Night	25 Eis - Pumpkin Patch rain date Eis - Fall Fundraiser ends Tru - Halloween Dance 7:00pm Wil - Book Fair SUES - Book Fair MS - 6th Grade Social 6:00pm Sat 26 - HS - SAT Testing
28 Tru - Colors of India assembly Wil - Gertrude Hawk fundraiser begins SUES - School Photos MS - Yankee Candle Sale ends	29 SUES - School Photos	30	31 Happy Halloween ALL K-3 & Pre-K at SUES Halloween Class Parties & Parades SUES - Halloween Class Parties & Laser Light Assembly 	1 NOVEMBER LOOKING AHEAD... Arl - Boo Bash/Trunk or Treat 6:00pm