



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

Week 23 Talk Sup Review and Preview

February 11, 2019

Good morning Sayreville! I hope you had a relaxing weekend. Welcome to another edition of *Talk Sup Week Review and Preview*.

As I am sure you are aware, snow and hazardous weather is in the forecast for Tuesday morning. Therefore, please make sure that you closely monitor our district mediums for school closing, early dismissal, and delayed opening notifications. Although the district will do everything it can to give parents and staff as much advanced notice as possible about any school schedule changes using our [website](http://www.sayrevillek12.net) (<http://www.sayrevillek12.net>), automated calling system, and district e-mail system, we also recommend that you monitor our [Facebook](#) page, [Twitter](#) feed, and [Instagram account](#); as well as News 12 New Jersey, Fios 1, and NJ 101.5.



Last week was Winter Sprit Week at Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS). Thus, each day of the week the students in each grade competed against one another in the following themes during the week: Monday – Cozy Fits Day, Tuesday – Vine/Meme Day, Wednesday – 2000’s Day, Thursday – Class Participation Day, and Friday – Bomber Spirit Day to



determine which class has the most Bomber Spirit. As always, the weeklong activities were culminated by a Pep Rally last Friday afternoon, which I had the pleasure of attending. I must say that it was truly a magnificent experience that punctuated a wonderful and impressive week of spirit demonstrated by our amazing students and incredible staff. Naturally, the pep rally featured the introduction of our winter sports teams’ student athletes, including those participating in Unified Sports. However, the major highlight was the jousting contest. We commend and thank Ms. Prignoli, Ms. Venturelli, the SWMHS Student Council Advisors, and our Student Council for all the hard work and meticulous planning that they dedicated to make last week such a memorable experience for our high school students and staff.



Last Monday, February 4th, students in Mr. Alvarez’s Robotics classes participated in the annual SWMHS Sumo Wrestling Robot Challenge. As they do each year, the students in Mr. Alvarez’s classes worked diligently on designing, building, and testing their Robots. After winning their Classroom Championships the previous Monday they competed for the final time in the School Championship on the 4th.



While I was unable to attend either event, last Thursday the Truman Elementary School hosted their 1st Chinese New Year Celebration. We commend than thank the Truman School's PTO, the Sayreville Education Association, and the Truman School's Cultural Committee members. In addition,





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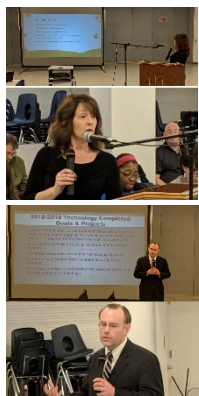
on Friday evening the Arleth Elementary School hosted its annual Family Fun Science Night. Both activities were grand successes and memorable experiences for all who attended.



Last Friday morning almost three dozen SWMHS 11th and 12th grade students took the New Jersey Seal of Bi Literacy Test in order to potentially earn this highly acclaimed distinction on their high school diploma. We are proud to say that based upon preliminary results, more than half of them are very close to earning their seal and that the juniors that do not, will have another opportunity to do so next year.



Last Tuesday, February 5th, the SWMHS FBLA Club, National Business Honors Society Club, and the DECA club met together as a team in the SWMHS Cafeteria and participated in an informational session on the new SWMHS Business Academy. They learned about the program's structure, curriculum, and student application process. In addition, Mr. Casano from the Sayreville Public Schools Career and Technical Education Advisory Committee, provided guidance to them through real life examples on how to apply and interview for jobs, internships, etc.



If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education (BOE) Business Meeting held on Tuesday, February 5th, here is what you missed. During the presentation portion of the meeting the following budget presentations were made: Transportation, Special Education, and Technology. The purpose of these presentations are to foster collaboration, clarity, and transparency during the budget development process. As with previous presentations, they consisted of a detailed description of each school/department's goals that were accomplished last year, identified for this year, and those that are targeted for next year with the resources that will be required to achieve them. Click on each presentation to see them: [Transportation](#), [Special Education](#), and [Technology](#). To see all of the 2019-20 Budget Development presentations, click [here](#).



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](#). Among other motions, on the Vision 2030 Finance and Infrastructure portion of the agenda, the Board of approved a contract with Hanover Research Council LLC to provide grant services from March 8, 2019 through June 30, 2019 in the amount of \$12,774.

Furthermore, on the Student Achievement portion of the agenda, the Board approved of the participation of several high school and middle school students in the Middlesex County Arts High School and Middle School Programs 2019. It also approved several co-curricular trips and activities. On the Governance portion of the agenda, the BOE withdrew the motion to approve the settlement agreement for Grievance #2015-53, Cafeteria Workers Longevity, between the Sayreville Education Association (SEA) and the Sayreville Board of Education (SBOE) because there were not enough non conflicted BOE members present to vote on it. Nevertheless, it did approve the appointment of Lori Ann Dobrzynski by the Borough of Sayreville Mayor and

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Council to serve as a Trustee for the Sayreville Public Library for a one-year term (2019).

Finally, on the Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education accepted the retirements of Mary Elizabeth Comerford, Grade 3 Teacher at the Arleth Elementary School, and Eileen Truchan, 6th Grade Teacher at the Sayreville Middle School, effective July, 2019. It also appointed new certificated and non-certificated staff for the 2018-19 school year. In addition, the Board approved the employment of personnel, position, and stipends for the winter Unified Sports Program, using IDEA or Special Olympics grant funding. Lastly, the BOE approved of teachers to work in the Middle School Algebra I Tutorial Program from February 12th through April 11, 2019.

During open discussion, Mr. Esposito reviewed what was discussed during the last Finance and Infrastructure Committee Meeting, as did Mrs. Rubio with regard to the last Student Achievement Committee Meeting. Lastly, Mrs. Bloom recapped what was discussed during the last New Jersey School Boards Association Board of Directors Meeting.

If you would like to view the meeting PowerPoint presentation, click [here](#). Likewise, to see the video of this meeting, click [here](#).

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, February 19th**. During it, the Board will honor and celebrate the SWMHS DECA and FBLA Club members who recently placed in the Regional Championships and will be competing soon in the State Championships, as well as the Girls and Boys Bowling Teams. The Girls Team won the GMC White Division Championship, while the Boys Team recently won the Central Jersey Group 3 Championship. In addition, we will make the following 2019-20 Budget Presentations: Buildings and Grounds, Capital Projects, and Personnel. If you would like to see the agenda for this meeting, it will be posted in the evening on our website on Friday, February 15th. In addition, a complete copy of the **February 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 **February 19, 2019**.



This past week our amazing students and staff continued to impress and inspire us with their accomplishments. We commend and congratulate SWMHS art students Andrew LaMonica and Tisha Madhok, who received recognition from the annual Scholastic Art Awards. Andrew received a Gold Key Award for his Jewelry submission. Tisha received an Honorable Mention for her work on paper in the drawing category. Likewise, we congratulate and commend SWMHS senior Ashlee Bonsi for scoring 16/17 on the most recent *WordWright Challenge*. She placed among the 43 highest-scoring 12th graders in the nation out of a total 20, 267 12th grade participants. Additionally, senior Abigail Vasquez scored 15/17 and placed in the top 85 of 12th grade students. Lastly, freshmen Ewurabena Amuah, Joshua Gorniak, and Khinsa Shah scored 8/10, placing in the top 134 of 9th graders out of 14,893 participants. If you are unfamiliar with the *WordWright Challenge*, it is a national reading competition for students in grades 9 through 12 that requires analytical reading of many kinds of prose and poetry. It emphasizes perceptive interpretation, sensitivity to language, and an appreciation of style. More than 64,000 students from some of the best public and



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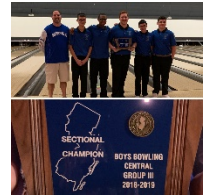
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private high schools in 48 states participated this year in it. Finally, we are so proud of our Middle and High School Cheer Competitions Teams, who both won First Place in the Asbury Park Cheerleading Competition yesterday.



In athletics, we congratulate the January Athletes of the Month. In addition, we commend and congratulate the SWMHS Boys Bowling Team, who won the Central Jersey Group III State Sectional Championship last Saturday. They will be bowling this Wednesday, February 13th, in the team championships. Furthermore, Joey Yannuzzi from the Boys Team and Samantha Szymanski from the Girls Team will both



advance to the NJSIAA Finals this Friday. Also, this past week we were astonished by the amazing accomplishment of Trevor Mastorio, who stamped his legacy with Sayreville Wrestling on Friday by winning his 100th high school wrestling match. Congratulations Trevor! Likewise, the SWMHS Junior Varsity Wrestling



Team won its second consecutive Greater Middlesex County Conference Championship. Finally, last Wednesday, SWMHS senior fall athletes: Connor Holmes (Bucknell University), Trevor Mastorio (Stevens Institute of Technology), and Antwan Golson (American International College) signed letters of intent to attend and participate in athletics in their respective colleges. We are so proud of and salute these and all our amazing student athletes, as well as their incredibly dedicated coaches. Go Bombers!

As per the February Head of the Class Calendar, please remember that we will dismiss students early today (February 11th) so that our staff can participate in professional development and schools will be closed on February 18th in Observance of Presidents' Day. Lastly, if you can find the time, please attend the next Parent University Workshop on Monday, February 25th at 7 pm in the SWMHS Media Center. It will feature a presentation on district resources for students.

Remember to **stay connected** to our district by monitoring the [home page of our website](#), our [Facebook page](#), our [Twitter feed](#), and our [Instagram account](#).

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 week!

Dr. Labbe

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