



Sayreville Public Schools Vision 2030

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Week 30 Talk Sup Review and Preview

April 1, 2019

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



Last Saturday evening I had the privilege of attending the Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) Theatre Society production of *West Side Story*. Mr. James Craft, Vocal Music Teacher at SWMHS, directed this theatrical adaptation of the Tony and Grammy Award winning adaptation of *Romeo and Juliet*. Mr. Craft also served as the Technical Director and Vocal Coach. Mrs. Claire Craft and several other Sayreville Public School



staff members, such as: Mr. Michael Mergner, Dr. Paul Caruso, Ms. Cynthia Gallagher, Ms. Stefani Galatioto, Ms. Jensyn Modero, and many other volunteers assisted in making this production so successful. As a result of their incredibly hard work, the students that took part in this unbelievable theatrical experience had the privilege of participating in a Broadway-like show with all the amenities. In fact, rather than recorded music, the music for the production was actually performed by a pit orchestra. Furthermore, the sets and costumes were vibrant, authentic, and parallel to that of which you would see in a Broadway show. Moreover the acting, singing, and dancing performed by our high school students, led by Michael Magielnicki, who played Tony, Nicole Laudati, who played Maria, Dominic Afriyie, who played Nardo, and Jake Wilkonson, who played Riff, were incredibly impressive and quite inspiring, as was that of a very special guest, Dr. Piccuiro, our beloved recently retired Theatre Teacher and Director, who played Doc. Each sold out show was a remarkable representation of what can be accomplished when the enthusiasm, hard work, and dedication



of our incredible staff is matched by that of our wonderful students and their families. It was clear in the performances of all our students that they and the staff and volunteers that assisted them, worked tirelessly over the past several months to prepare this masterpiece. Thus, Bomber Nation salutes and thanks everyone who took part in this magical production. Bravo!



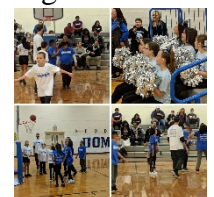
On Thursday, March 24th, I had the privilege to attend the Bombers Unified March Madness Basketball Tournament in the Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) gymnasiums. During it, I was both impressed



and inspired to watch our students with intellectual disabilities compete with and against their typically developing peers. Moreover, I was moved to see the sportsmanship, comradery, and friendship between our student athletes, which undoubtedly evolved during the process of practicing and



preparing for the tournament together. Additionally, I was overwhelmed with joy to witness the amount of staff members, parents, and students who came out to assist and support these incredible student athletes. In fact, throughout all the games, the Bomber Cheerleaders from the high school



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and middle school cheered on all the student athletes. Thus, we thank and commend Mr. Knaster, Director of Special Services, Dr. DeFina, Supervisor of Special Education, and all the Bombers Unified Sports advisors and coaches, particularly Mr. Marcus Ivy, for making this event so successful and memorable for the students who played in it and their families. Go Bombers Unified!



Last Wednesday evening I joined Mr. Ciak, Board of Education (BOE) President, and Mrs. Bloom, Mrs. Rubio, and Mrs. Kenny, BOE Members, in celebrating SWMHS junior Alice Mako and senior Patrick Lawniscak, who were both honored with over 60 other students from Middlesex County at the annual Middlesex County School Boards Association (MCASBA) and Middlesex County Association of School Administrators (MCASA) Student Recognition Dinner. Each year, these two groups recognize a junior and senior from each high school in Middlesex County. Honorees, like Patrick and Alice, are the "unsung heroes/heroines" or students who make outstanding contributions to their schools and communities but might be overlooked under traditional student recognition guidelines. Moreover, they are often students who may have overcome difficult academic or personal challenges, modeled good citizenship, or exhibited a spirit and quiet strength that has inspired others. In fact, several honorees this year achieved outstanding academic success despite disabilities, language barriers, or other significant personal or family challenges. We are so proud of you Patrick and Alice!



Last Tuesday, the SWMHS Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) and the Business National Honor Society (BNHS) met Mr. Michael Huggins, Met Life Stadium Director of Facilities and Operations and SWMHS graduate. During his presentation, Mr. Huggins explained to the students that he always wanted a career that was going to be centered around facilities management. However, he also informed the students that while in college he had a very low grade point average (GPA), to a point where in which he had to be removed from the college. In fact, he explained to them that this was the first moment he thought he wanted something more and "got his act together" by working on internships all day and attending college at night. During his presentation, Mr. Huggins went on to provide further examples to help the students understand the importance of maintaining a school-life balance, networking, soft skills, and maintaining their GPA. However, the most important message that he delivered through an hour long talk was about persevering in order to accomplish desired goals. We were very delighted to have a Sayreville graduate and resident come back to support our students.



Last week students in Ms. Mojsis' SWMHS Advanced Art class were visited by Art Conservator, Karen Thomas, who spoke to the students about career opportunities in the field, and reviewed with them her experience working at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Similarly, a couple of weeks ago students in Mr. Coleman's SWMHS Physics Class tested the amazing paper bridges that they constructed. For their paper bridges, the students were allowed to

only use up to 100 grams of ordinary computer/printer paper and up to 25 grams of masking tape. In addition, the bridges needed to span a gap of 35 cm between two lab benches. One of the stronger bridges held about 300 times its own weight! This bridge had a mass of





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about 70 grams, but held nearly 48 pounds of sand and metal plates in a bucket. You and your students Rock Mr. Coleman!



As always our amazing students and staff continue to impress and inspire us with their incredible accomplishments. After receiving hundreds of entries, senior Patrick Pusung's graphic illustration was selected to be the new logo for Sayreville. As a result, Patrick was thanked, honored, and recognized last Monday evening by the Mayor and Borough Council at the Sayreville Borough Council Meeting. In addition, Sayreville Leo (the



Leos are the student version of the Lions Club) Ojas Chitnis was recently awarded the President of the United States' Volunteering Service Award. We are so very proud of you Patrick and Ojas!



We also congratulate the SWMHS Winterguard Team, which recently placed 4th in a statewide competition. Likewise, we would like to commend the SWMHS French Class students who earned Honorable Mention in the Montclair State University French Day and Film Festival. Furthermore, we congratulate the Samsel Upper Elementary School 5th Graders who recently competed in the New Jersey Regional History Bee in Monroe Township. Abhay Ullas placed 3rd in the 5th grade and younger category and is now

eligible to complete in the national competition. Likewise, Paige Cleary, David Lee, Abigail Rosa, Adrian Ciesla were also finalists and thus are also eligible to go to the national competition. Finally, While Ruben John, Swayamshu Mahapatra and Aiden Cruz did not place, but they too are eligible to go the national competition.

Similarly, Aryan Shah an 8th grade student at the Sayreville Middle School was recently recognized as a National Geographic "Geo" Bee Semifinalist by the National Geographic Society. This past weekend he actually competed in the New Jersey State Championship Competition at Rowan University. If he does well, he could be one of the top 100 scoring students in the United States that the National Geographic Society invites to compete in the National GeoBee, which will take place later this year in Washington, D.C.



Lastly, this past weekend, the SWMHS Muslim Student's Association participated in the New Jersey MIST competition. MIST (Muslim Inter Scholastic Tournament) is an annual event where teams representing schools from across the state compete in various events. The SWMHS team of 20 competed and did exceptionally well. In fact, as a team, they took 3rd Place overall, came in 1st Place in Social Media, 2nd Place in the MIST Bowl, 3rd Place in the Science Fair, and was named the Best Coordinated Team. Below please see the individual

student results.

Omer Farooq (team captain)

- 1st Place Graphic Design
- 3rd place quran level 3

Nafia Naveed

- 3rd place knowledge test level 4
- 3rd Place Fashion Design

Raseethabanu Sahib

- 3rd place Photography

Mayameen Huda

- 1st place poetry

Sumayya Yasir

- 2nd Place Quran level 1

Umm Kulsum Alishah

- 1st Place Quran level 1

Mohamed Junaid Ghani

- 2nd Place Quran level 1 (boys)

Muznah Aquil

- 2nd place quran level 2(girls)

Yusria Baig

- 1st place quran level 3 girls

Omar Yasir

- 3rd place quran level 4

Furqan Syed

- 2nd place quran level 4

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We salute these and all our amazing students and thank them for the impeccable manner in which they have represented their school and our district. Furthermore, we commend and thank the incredibly dedicated staff members and wonderfully supportive parents who played a role in assisting them in achieving their remarkable accomplishments.

There will be a BOE meeting on **Tuesday, April 9th**. During this meeting the Board will honor and celebrate the SWMHS Competition Cheerleading Team, which won a State Championship this winter. Furthermore, it will recognize and celebrate the SWMHS Top 10 Students of the Class of 2019, as well as senior Daniel Kuria, who is the SWMHS recipient of the 2019 Middlesex County Secondary Principal's Association Outstanding Student Award, and Patrick Lawniczak (Grade 12) and Alice Mako (Grade 11) who were recently selected as SWMHS recipients for the Middlesex County School Boards Association and Middlesex County Association of School Administrators Students of the Year. Lastly, Ms. Nina Obryk, Supervisor of Professional Development, and our district's media specialists will make a presentation to the Board and public on the latest enhancements to our media centers and the instruction that is being delivered to students from them. If you would like to see the agenda for this meeting, it will be posted in the evening on our website on Friday, April 5th.

As per the **April Head of the Class Calendar**, please note that the **Grades 6-12 3rd Marking Period** will end on **April 10th** and **Report Cards** will be issued on **April 24th**. In addition, remember that our schools will be closed for Spring Break from April 15th through April 22nd.

Please remember that parents of ALL eligible preschool and kindergarten students are invited to visit our website (click [here](#)) in order to register for our Project Before Preschool or Full-Day Kindergarten programs via Oncourse Connect, our online registration software. Please review the Parent Letters found in this section for more information and detailed instructions. Please note that students entering kindergarten must be 5 years old on or before September 30, 2019. Students entering preschool must be 3 years old on or before September 30, 2019. Following the completion of the online registration you will be contacted by the district to schedule an appointment to register a child. Likewise, as per the broadcast email that I sent yesterday, online registration via InfoSnap ([Click here](#)) for our [Summer Enrichment](#) and [Camp XL](#) programs is open this morning. Click on each to find information on both programs. Each offers a variety of different thematic **activities** and **trips**.

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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