

Sayreville Public Schools Vision 2030

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



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 2 Review and Preview

September 17, 2018



Good morning Sayreville! I hope you had a relaxing weekend. Welcome to another edition of *Talk Sup Week Review and Preview*. If you took the time to venture out to Sayreville Day in Kennedy Park yesterday, I hope you had as much fun as I did. Thank you to all our staff, students, and parents who stopped by the Sayreville Board of Education booth to say hello. Congratulations to all our staff and students who performed, particularly Mr. Palma, Vocal Music



Teacher at the Sayreville Middle School, who performed with Sayreville War Memorial High School graduate and Broadway performer Kevin Hatch, and members of his family. They were amazing!

Last Wednesday evening the district convened its first Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council (SPAC) Meeting of the year. If you are not familiar with SPAC, recently the Sayreville Board of Education revised its Parent Involvement Council Policy and actually changed the title of it to the Superintendent's Parent Advisory Council. The purpose for this important change was to create more streamlined and direct input from parent leadership groups to the Superintendent, as the Sayreville Board of Education asserts that input, counsel, and advice from parents is integral to the effective functioning of the educational programs of this district. Therefore, the SPAC will serve as a forum for parent representatives from each school and student co-curricular activity booster club to share input, concerns, and suggestions on behalf of their school or co-curricular activity. The Council will also play an integral role in assisting the district in developing various activities and functions designed to educate and inform parents on an array of different education related topics.

For this first meeting, the council heard an update from Mr. Esposito, BOE Member, on all the school safety and security changes that the district has made for the past several years, particular the staffing of each school with armed police officers and campus security monitors, and he discussed the tentative changes to come, such as the construction of secure retention vestibules and the installation of portable metal detectors and student and staff swipe-in/out stations. After that, Ms. Davis, Principal of the Wilson Elementary School discussed the new PlayWorks recess character education program that all the elementary schools, including the Samsel Upper Elementary School (SUES), have implemented this year for the purpose of structuring play during recess. According to Ms. Davis, by structuring recess into a series of games that the students can participate in, the schools can reduce student accidents and behavioral incidences. Moreover, they can prevent circumstances that may result in incidences of harassment, intimidation, and bullying on the playground.

Next, Mr. Glock-Molloy, Assistant Superintendent of Information, Technology, and Operations, informed the Council that the automated phone calls made to the parents of students who are absent began on Thursday, September 13th. He explained that the new Oncourse student information system needed at least several days of attendance records before it could begin making the automated calls. Similarly, he informed



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the Council that beginning on the 13th parents were able to see the real-time attendance of their children in *Oncourse Connect*. Lastly, Dr. Marilyn Shediack, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, reviewed the BOE grading and homework policy revisions that were recently adopted by the BOE.



Congratulations to Samantha Ritter, a teacher at the Sayreville Middle School, and her sister Cassidy, a teacher at the Samsel Upper Elementary School, for being chosen to represent the New York Jets for the NFL International Kick Off in London! We are so proud of you Samantha and Cassidy! Thank you so much for representing Sayreville in such an impeccable manner.



We would like to also commend Mona Yuan, a senior at the Woodbridge Academy Vocational Technical High School and Sayreville resident, for her incredible display of charity and community service. She is leading an initiative called MORE, in which she is asking for people to donate their used sneakers or athletic shoes rather than throw them in the trash. If you have not heard of MORE, it is a foundation that is 100% funded with recycled athletic shoes. Instead of 100 years decomposing in landfills, the donated shoes are sold to participating vendors in developing countries. This creates retail jobs while stimulating free enterprise. With every pair of gently used athletic shoes, MORE

can plant one ton of carbon grounding trees and teach sustainable agro-forestry. Every pair of used athletic shoes will potentially generate one million tree seeds. Mona will be providing receptacles at each of our schools. Please consider donating your used sneakers.



In athletics, congratulations to the Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) Field Hockey Team for their first thrilling win of the year, which occurred in overtime last week. In addition, we congratulate gymnast Kaitlyn Enea, who earned a qualifying score of 9.2 with her floor routine this past week in her first gymnastics competition representing SWMHS. We are so proud of you Kaitlyn! We also commend our SWMHS Girls

Tennis Team, which is now a perfect 4-0 this season. Likewise, we are so proud of our boys and girls soccer teams. The SWMHS Boys Soccer Team recorded their 3rd straight win last week with an impressive 5-1 win over Perth Amboy High School (HS) and a 2-1 victory over Colonia HS last week. In addition, the SWMHS Girls Soccer Team recorded a huge 4-3 win over Colonia HS last week. Furthermore, we congratulate the SWMHS football team for an exciting and pivotal 21-19 win over Woodbridge HS last Friday. Finally, we commend and congratulate junior quarterback Mark Whitford for being selected as the Greater Middlesex Conference (GMC) Football Player of the Week last week. We are so very proud of Mark and all our amazing student athletes and thank them for the impeccable manner in which they represent SWMHS and our community! Go Bombers!

This evening (**September 17, 2018**) there will be a board of Education Meeting at **7:30 pm in the SWMHS Cafeteria**. Click <u>here</u> to read the agenda. During the meeting, there will be brief presentation on



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the District's Period 2 School Safety Data. In addition, as per the September Head of the Class Calendar, which you can find below, please remember that this Wednesday, September 19th, Schools will be closed in observance of Yom Kippur. Likewise, please remember that Sayreville University will host its first parent workshop of the year on new HIB Policies and Regulations at 7 pm in the SWMHS Media Center this Thursday (September 20th). Additionally, please note on the Head of Class Calendar the dates for each school's **Back to** School Night during the week of September 24th. With the exception of Project Before's

Back to School Night, which will start at 6 pm, all others will start at 7 pm. Lastly, please remember that students and staff will be dismissed early on Friday, September 28th.

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Have a wonderful week!

Dr. Labbe

