



Sayreville Public Schools Vision 2030

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Dr. Richard R. Labbe, Superintendent of Schools
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Talk Sup Week 14 Review and Preview

December 11, 2017

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



Last Monday, members of the National School Boards Association (NSBA) visited Sayreville. Enjoy the pictures and click on blue highlighted words to view videos. They arrived at the Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) and were greeted by the [SWMHS Marching Band](#) and Cheerleaders.



After meeting some of the high school faculty and district administrative team, and having breakfast with the SWMHS Student

Council, they were treated to performances by our high school students in the auditorium. Our [Air Force Junior ROTC](#) began by presenting the colors for the Pledge of Allegiance and the [National Anthem](#) played beautifully by a trumpeter from the Marching Band.



The SWMHS Choir then wonderfully sang the [Sayreville High School Alma Mater](#), which was followed by theatre students masterfully performing the “Defenseless Creature” skit from the *Good Doctor* play.



After watching an amazing video produced by our TV Production students, Traffic on Washington, the SWMHS rock band, brought the NSBA members to their feet with a couple of

songs, most notably the Bon Jovi song [“Who Says You Can’t Go Home.”](#) Remarkably, Jon Bon Jovi, who viewed a tweet of the band playing his hit song, tweeted “There is No Place Like Home! Thanks.”



After taking a brief tour of the school district and stopping at a very familiar spot to have a hot dog, the NSBA members headed over to Samsel. Like SWMHS, they received a grand welcome by the students and staff there. Furthermore, after having lunch with student ambassadors, the Samsel Talented and Academically Gifted (TAG) students gave an exceptional [environmental preservation](#) presentation. This was followed by brief presentations by students on Let the Children Lead and the [Reading Café](#). The Samsel Chorus punctuated the visit with a rousing rendition of [“The Lion Sleeps Tonight.”](#)



The NSBA ended their day in Sayreville at the Grand Marquis for a special presentation of the Madrigal Dinner. The dinner, theatrical performance, and [holiday caroling](#) made for a truly a magical medieval experience. Bomber Nation salutes all the performers and James and Claire Craft for a wonderful evening of food, song, and laughter. Furthermore, prior to the dinner, Kimberly Harrington, New



Jersey Commissioner of Education, stopped by to say a few words to the members and to assist Mr. Ciak,



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Sayreville BOE and NSBA President, in commending and congratulating Katelyn Goroka, a SWMHS senior art student, whose holiday card was selected by the NSBA to be their official greeting card this holiday season. You are amazing Katelyn and so are your classmates: Niral Patel, Janae Elia, Alex Corrales, Rachel Chanowich, and Christian Kosnowski, whose cards were also recognized by the NSBA as being outstanding.



This week two more of our SWMHS students were recognized and commended for their outstanding efforts. We would first like to congratulate senior Bianca Kuzma, who is the 2017 Region Essay Scholarship Program Recipient. Bianca is also the Captain of SWMHS Color Guard. Her \$250 scholarship essay was entitled, "What Marching Band Means to Me," and was sponsored by the Tournament of Bands. Bravo Bianca! Next, we would like to congratulate senior Thomas Brennan, who was selected to become a member of the elite US Army All-American Bowl (AAB) Band. The AAB is the premier high school football game in the nation and features the nation's top high school senior football players and marching musicians. We are so proud of you Tom!



Saturday's snow storm was a chilly reminder that winter is here ☺ and that at times during it, the school district might be forced to close, delay opening, and dismiss early due to dangerous weather conditions. As you know, decisions to alter the school day are always very carefully considered and are particularly difficult given the fact that many parents still have to report to their respective jobs. Therefore, while our incredible custodial, grounds, and maintenance staff will be hard at work removing the snow with the Sayreville Borough workers on inclement weather days, we may get too much to safely open schools on time or at all. Hence, **please plan in advance NOW for potential delayed openings or school closings.**



Among other things, your preparations should include:

- Having contingency plans in place for child care if schools are closed for the day, dismissed early, or delay in opening.
- Having a secondary plan in place in case roads between your home and your workplace are closed.
- Ensuring that your contact information, including email addresses and cell phone numbers, as well as that of your delegated emergency contacts, is accurate and current.

We will do everything we 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. However, we also recommend that you check our [Facebook](#) page, [Twitter](#) account and News 12 New Jersey, Fios 1, and NJ 101.5.



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This week there will be several holiday concerts at our schools. This evening the Sayreville Middle School will hold their Holiday Concert in the SWMHS Auditorium. Likewise, the SWMHS Band and Choir will perform their holiday concert on Wednesday evening in the SWMHS Auditorium. The Arleth Elementary School Chorus will perform in both the afternoon and evening on Wednesday. Finally, the Wilson and Truman Elementary Schools will hold their holiday performance in the evening on Thursday.

Likewise, the winter sports season will begin at SWMHS this week. The Boys and Girls Winter Track Team will participate in a meet on Tuesday. The Lady Bombers Basketball Team will open its season at North Brunswick on Friday evening. Similarly, the Boys Basketball Team will play North Brunswick in the SWMHS Gymnasium on Friday evening. Finally, the Wrestling Team will grapple for the first time this season on Friday evening. To find the most current schedule information for all our winter athletic programs, click [here](#).

Please remember that as per the December Head of the Class Calendar located below, **today (December 11th)** we will **dismiss students early** so that our faculty can participate in professional development. In addition, the first trimester **report cards** for students in **Kindergarten through 5th grade** will be sent home on Monday, **December 18th**. Finally, on **December 22nd** we will **dismiss students and faculty early** in preparation for the holiday weekend and recess.

Have a wonderful week!

Dr. Labbe