



# 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

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### Talk Sup Week 24 Review and Preview

February 19, 2018

Good evening Sayreville! I hope you had a relaxing holiday weekend and managed to enjoy the warm weather today. Welcome to another edition of *Talk Sup Week Review and Preview*.

Our thoughts and prayers have been and will continue to be with the students, staff, and entire Parkland, Florida school community in the wake of the horrific high school shooting last Wednesday. Since this tragedy has traumatized children and adults across the country, the Middlesex County Prosecutors Office recently provided us with information from the Rutgers Behavioral Health Traumatic Loss Coalition for Youths on how to speak with children about what occurred in order to help them process it and hopefully alleviate some fear and anxiety that they may be experiencing. Click [here](#) to read it. In addition, as always, the Sayreville Police Department has been incredibly supportive since the shooting in helping to reduce fear and anxiety in the aftermath of this tragedy. In fact, the police provided each school with an increased officer presence during school arrival and dismissal times on Thursday and Friday, and made an effort to visit and walkthrough each school. As you may recall, a couple of months ago the Sayreville Police actually established a procedure in which officers would be required to visit the school in their patrol area once a day, barring an emergency or other matters prohibiting them from doing so.

Since the shooting, several parents have reached out to me to inquire about our district's safety and security procedures. Please know that thanks to the collaboration we have received from the Sayreville Police and Fire Department, the Sayreville Public Schools has developed very progressive and proactive school security and emergency management plans. As a matter of fact, based upon conversations and that I had and workshops that I attended this past week at the National Superintendent's Conference in Nashville, Tennessee, we are well ahead of the curve. Nevertheless, since the safety and well-being of our students and staff are by far our highest priority, our BOE/District School Security Committee, in conjunction with the Sayreville Police and Fire Department, will continue to remain vigilant in doing everything we can, within the boundaries of our budget, to protect our students and staff. However, remember that the number one way in which we can prevent violence in school is for students, staff, and parents to report to administration and/or law enforcement any suspicious activity. In fact, just today a potential school shooting was averted in Poughkeepsie, New York.

Finally, several parents have also contacted me to inquire if the district would be endorsing or supporting a student "walkout of class" movement being promoted on Facebook in order to force our legislators to change the current federal gun laws. Please understand that while we strongly denounce any form of violence, especially in schools, and will continue to work closely with law enforcement and our legislators to prevent it, as a public school district we cannot act in any manner that imposes or encourages a particular political point of view, especially one in which a constitutional right is at the center of its attention. Furthermore, it would be unsafe and violate our current school security procedures if we allowed for some students to leave class while others remained in it.

**Educating Today's Learners to Be Tomorrow's Leaders**



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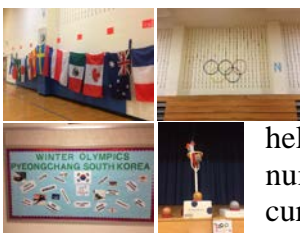
Well known and acclaimed ceramic artist and potter, John Neugebauer, visited Ms. LaScala's Advanced Ceramics Class on Wednesday and shared what he has learned over the past 30 years while working with clay. He also brought some of his completed ceramic pieces and other artwork. Finally, he impressed and enriched our students by demonstrating some throwing techniques on the pottery wheel. We commend Ms. LaScala and all our amazing art teachers at Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) and in the district for implementing the most innovative strategies for teaching their students.



While I was not able to attend, last Thursday, Ms Gordon's Pre-Vocational Program at the Sayreville Middle School hosted a Chinese New Year Celebration in the middle school Media Center. With the help of two Talented and Academically Gifted (TAG) students who have an Asian background, Ms. Gordon's students collaborated to make and distribute invitations, research the Chinese Zodiac and popular foods, create games, order party supplies, and to perform all of such within a specified budget. The students also proudly worked hand in hand to greet and seat guests, as well as to wait on tables. With



the help of the Ms. Dobrzynski, middle school Media Specialist/Librarian, a Google slide show was created and presented at the celebration, which was sponsored by the Sayreville Brain Injured Child (BIC) organization. In fact, good food and great fun was had by all! Later in the week, the students in the Project Before preschool program celebrated the Chinese New Year in style. Happy Chinese New Year or Hay Fat Choy to all 新年快乐!



In addition, this week the Samsel Upper Elementary School (SUES) physical education teachers kicked off a two week Olympic unit in SUES and Bomber style! In fact, they even held an opening ceremony and the students participated in a number of different Bomber/Olympic events, such as bobsledding, curling, hockey, etc. We salute our incredible physical education teachers at Samsel and all the remarkable students who competed



last week and will be doing so again this week in the SUES Winter Olympic Games!



As they do each week, our remarkable students from SWMHS continue to impress everyone with their amazing accomplishments. This past week Bomber wrestler Trevor Mastorio won the District Championship and will be advancing this week to the Regionals. Additionally, on Saturday Jasmine Vannote, from the Girls Track Team, threw the shot put 41'8.25" and placed 2<sup>nd</sup> at the State Groups Meet. Likewise, Kayla Rosario broke two school records and placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the



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1,600 meter race with a record time of 5:09.7, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the 3,200 with a record time of 11:10.01. Earlier in the week the Boys and Girls Basketball Teams had big wins again St. John-Vianney and Spotswood High Schools respective. The boys increased their season record to a 16-6. On a similar note, congratulations to the Bombers Freshman Boys Basketball Team, who defeated No. 1 Seed North Brunswick High School 61-55 to advance in the Greater Middlesex Conference (GMC) Freshman

**Baseball Tryouts**  
7th Grade: 2/19 & 2/20  
8th Grade: 2/21 & 2/22  
3:00-4:30  
Coach Zallo



**Softball Tryouts**  
2/27, 2/28  
3:00-4:30  
Coach Carnevale



**Track Tryouts (Girls)**  
3/1, 3/2, & 3/3  
3:00-4:00  
Coach Gioia



**Track Tryouts (Boys)**  
3/6, 3/7, & 3/8  
3:00-4:00  
Coach Martucci



Basketball Tournament. This week and next week, student athletes at the middle school will try out for spring sports.

Tomorrow evening (**Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>**) there will be a Board of Education (BOE) Business Meeting in the SWMHS Cafeteria at 6:30 pm. Click [here](#) to see the agenda. During the meeting, the following budget presentations will be made: Technology and Curriculum & Instruction. In addition, during the Open Discussion portion of the meeting, the Board will review and discuss the attached proposed purchased professional services (300); purchase property services (400); other contracted services, such as travel, transportation contracts and jointures, tuition, etc. (500); property and equipment (700); and other objects, such as interest, dues, fees, and other miscellaneous expenditures in the proposed 2018-19 School District Budget.

Last week, the district began preparations for **2018-19 Kindergarten and Preschool Registration**. Since our student information software next year will be **Oncourse**, online registration will naturally take place on it. Thus, this week we will make the finishing touches to the online registration format and documents so that we can commence registration for both programs at **8 am on Monday, February 26<sup>th</sup>**. In addition, in mid to early March, we will open registration for **Camp XL and Summer Enrichment**, but online registration for both of these programs will continue to be performed in **InfoSnap**.

Have a nice week.

Dr. Labbe