



Sayreville Public Schools Vision 2030

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Dr. Richard R. Labbe, Superintendent of Schools
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Mr. Eric Glock-Molloy, Assistant Superintendent
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Talk Sup Week 30 Review and Preview

April 9, 2018

Good morning Sayreville! I hope you had a blessed holidays and relaxing and enjoyable **Winter Break** ☺. Welcome to another edition of *Talk Sup Review and Preview*.



On Wednesday, March 28th, 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 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 middle school cheered on all the student athletes.



However, I was not the only person impressed and inspired by our students and staff, as Susan Collacello, New Jersey Special Olympics Director of Schools & Community Partners, John Worthington, NJ Director of Special Education Programs (SEP), and several other members of the NJDOE Office of SEP attended the event and commended Mr. Knaster, our Director of Special Services, and our district for the inclusiveness and competitiveness of our unified program. Thus, we thank and commend Mr. Knaster, his administrative team, and all the Bombers Unified Sports advisors and coaches, particularly Mr. Ivy,



for making this event so successful and memorable for the students who played in it and their families. Go Bombers Unified!



On Wednesday, March 28th, the Sayreville Middle School (SMS) Band and Chorus went on a trip to New York City (NYC). The students had a wonderful experience. In the morning, they attended a workshop on rehearsal techniques used by Broadway actors. It was conducted by the actual musicians and actors currently appearing in the Broadway musical *Anastasia*. After the workshop, the

students had lunch at Ellen's Stardust Diner, where they were entertained by singing and dancing servers. Naturally, our students sang along and had a wonderful time with them. To culminate the day, the students attended a performance of *Anastasia*. While at the performance, a parent chaperone was approached by an audience member who identified herself as a teacher. She complimented our teachers on the behavior demonstrated by our students. Therefore, we commend and thank Joyce Cambell, Dorothy Ruiz, Patsy Palma, Jen McGough, Tiffany Tarr, Debbie Mages, Alizea Ramalhosa, Lori





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Dobrzynski, Alyssa Jones, as well as the dedicated parent chaperones, who were all instrumental in ensuring that the 155 students who participated in the trip had a wonderful and safe experience in NYC! Likewise, we thank those amazing students for representing our district in such an impeccable manner. Bomber Nation salutes you all!



On Thursday, March 29th I had the honor of attending the Samsel Upper Elementary School (SUES) March Character Education Luncheon so that I could spend some precious time with the 4th and 5th grade Citizenship recipients at SUES. If you are not aware of this very special program, it is unique to Samsel, as it recognizes and celebrates students who are identified by their teachers for demonstrating one of the six pillars of character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship. The program was developed many years ago and continues to be coordinated and facilitated by Gineen Morosco, Special Education Teacher, Linda Zyzdik and Robert Lindemann, 5th Grade Teachers, and Mrs. Coglianesse, Principal. During the luncheon, we talked about what it means to be a good citizen and how little things like a firm handshake, eye contact, and the way in which we dress can make a lasting first impression. Finally, we also discussed the importance of honesty and integrity.

Prior to Spring Break, I was contacted by the Mayor and administration of the Sayreville Public Library. They expressed great concern about the high volume of students visiting the library (about 170 per day) without adult supervision and not for normal library purposes, between the hours of 2:30-4:30 pm. Unfortunately, they reported that this not only creates a disturbance and detracts from the experience of other patrons, it also creates a safety issue for library visitors and staff. Moreover, since some students are refusing to follow the Library Code of Conduct or to be respectful to the staff and adult patrons, effective immediately they informed me that they will begin suspending public library privileges for students.

Therefore, if your child does not need to use the library for normal purposes after school, please make arrangements to have them go to another location. The administration at the Sayreville Public Library has expressed that their staff cannot and will not serve as childcare providers and are not responsible for the safety and security of minors not accompanied by an adult. Please also be aware that the Library informed me that if these measures do not produce the desired results, it will consider amending their current policy for the upcoming 2018-2019 school year. Changes may include the prohibition of ALL unaccompanied minors from using the library between 2:30-4:30 PM. I hope you will agree that it would be most unfortunate if public library services for our students were to be limited and/or denied. Therefore, we ask for your assistance in remedying this problem.

Educating Today's Learners to Be Tomorrow's Leaders



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As you know, we are currently taking registrations online via InfoSnap ([Click here](#)) for our [Summer Enrichment](#) and [Camp XL](#) programs. Click on each to find more information on both programs. Each offers a variety of different thematic **activities** and **trips**. Also, please note that Camp XL students will be eligible for [after care](#) in Summer Enrichment **Mondays through Thursday from 12 – 4 pm** and on **Fridays from 8 am – 4 pm**. In addition, **Springboard Education** will



be providing before care services from 7 – 8 am and after care services from 4-6:30 pm. Click [here](#) for more information about Springboard.

If you have the time this month, please consider attending one the following functions, which have become staples in the Sayreville community. First, please consider attending the Brain Injured Child (BIC) Dinner on April 15th from 12 – 5 pm at the Grand Marquis in Old Bridge. If you are not aware of this organization, it was founded in 1968 with the purpose of raising funds for people with disabilities in Sayreville, particularly children. In fact, proceeds from the dinner will pay the tuition for a child to attend the annual BIC Summer Camp. For more information on the BIC Dinner, click [here](#). Likewise, please also give thought to joining the high school community in celebrating and honoring the 2018 SWMHS Hall of Fame inductees during our annual banquet on May 5th from 6-11 pm in the Sayreville Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall. For more information on the SWMHS HOF Banquet, click [here](#).

Due to the winter weather we experienced during nearly all of our Spring Break, most of the SWMHS spring sports activities were augmented or cancelled. However, the Bombers Baseball, Softball, and Girls and Boys Track Teams still managed to start their seasons with victories! Unfortunately, our Tennis and Golf Teams were unable to participate in their first competitions. Nevertheless, we look forward to following their progress throughout the remainder of the spring. Go Bombers!

As per the April Head of the Class Calendar, this Saturday there will be SAT and ACT testing at SWMHS.

Have a wonderful week.

Dr. Labbe