

## 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

## Talk Sup Week 5 Review and Preview

October 9, 2017

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

As some of you may know, along with promoting anti-violence and anti-harassment, intimidation, and bullying awareness, the month of October is also Attention Deficit/Hyper Activity (ADHD) and Learning Disability Awareness Month. As such, I would like to thank our dedicated and talented teachers, guidance counselors, child study team members, and paraprofessionals for the remarkable manner in which they educate our students with disabilities, especially those with ADHD and specific learning disabilities. Likewise, I would like to thank our very supportive parents for their collaboration, cooperation, and assistance. Interestingly, ADHD and learning disabilities our generally considered comorbid conditions, which means that they are commonly diagnosed with one another. Unfortunately, this often compounds learning difficulties for students who are diagnosed with both. Nevertheless, it is imperative that our staff, parents, and even students learn as much as possible about each condition and the impact they can both have on learning. Moreover, it is crucial that we continue to develop and implement with fidelity individualized education plans (IEP) and 504 assistance plans that appropriately accommodate and effectively address the learning needs of children with ADHD and specific learning disabilities.

This week I had the pleasure of attending the World Smile Day celebration at the Eisenhower School. Along with proudly displaying their beautiful smiles, the staff and students at Eisenhower, led by Ms. Runfolo-McCormack, the school counselor, raised money to fund surgical procedures for children with cleft palates. Later, I was proud to witness the Breast Cancer Awareness and Walkathon fundraiser at Eisenhower. Similarly, while I was not able to attend them, last week the SWMHS Girls Soccer Team also raised funds and awareness for Breast Cancer during a home game. Likewise, the Boys Soccer Team raised funds and awareness for Melanoma Cancer during, while the Field Hockey Team did the same for Ovarian Cancer during respective home games last week. Finally, led by Ms. O'Hara, a teacher at the Truman Elementary School, members of our school community participated in a golf outing to fund a scholarship in the memory of Larry Helwig, a beloved teacher and golf coach, who was tragically killed in an automobile accident last year. This week our charitable campaigns will continue with a Breast Cancer Walkathon at the middle school, and the Walk to End Alzheimer's Disease and Multiple Sclerosis respectively at the high school.

In addition, please remember that today we will have an early dismissal for students so that our certificated staff can participate in their professional learning communities. Also, tomorrow we will be emailing and posting in the Parent Portal progress reports for all students in grades 6-12. In addition, on Saturday there will be PSAT testing at the high school. Likewise, on Saturday students and staff from the high school will participate in the annual Color Run and Walk. Finally, in preparation for Homecoming, which will take place at SWMHS on October 20<sup>th</sup>, I have been asked by the police department to notify our

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



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school community to expect higher than normal traffic delays on Washington Road just prior to the beginning of the football game, as well as during student arrival and dismissal times due to functions taking place at the Dwarkadhish Temple on Washington Road throughout the day. Thus, I would encourage staff and parents to arrive early to the Homecoming game and to avoid Washington Road to the best of your ability from 6:00 AM-9:00 AM, 11:30 AM-1:30PM, and 5:00 PM-9:00 PM on October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Have a wonderful week!

Dr. Labbe