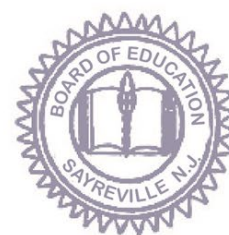




Sayreville Public Schools Vision 2030

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Talk Sup Week 11 Review and Preview

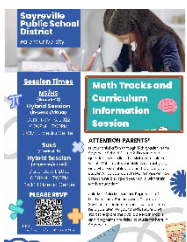
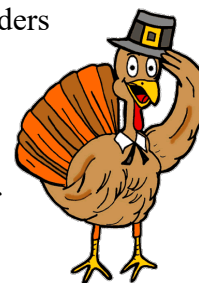
November 21, 2022

Good morning Sayreville! I hope you had a most relaxing and enjoyable weekend. Welcome to another edition of Talk Sup, my weekly newsletter. Please remember that all our schools will be **closed for students and staff** this **Thursday, November 24th and Friday, November 25th** in observance of Thanksgiving. Likewise, please note that we will **dismiss students and staff early** on **Wednesday November 23rd** so that they can get a head start on the holiday weekend. Finally, please remember that **1st Marking Period Report Cards** for students in **grades 6-12** will be issued on **Wednesday, November 23rd**.



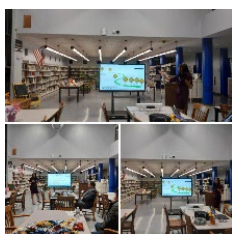
At this time of year, we pause so that we can think about the wonders of life that we have all been blessed with. Moreover, we think about the people in our lives who have profoundly impacted us and are forever grateful for those irreplaceable moments we have shared. Therefore, please know how incredibly grateful I am to have the privilege to work with and be a part of the lives of

our amazing students, their incredibly supportive parents, and our wonderful staff. Hence, on behalf of the Sayreville Board of Education and Administration, we wish you and your entire family a blessed and very Happy Thanksgiving.



Last Wednesday evening, Ms. Maharana, Supervisor of Mathematics Instruction and Mr. Howard, Supervisor of Professional Development, hosted a Parent University Workshop at Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) entitled Math Tracks and Curriculum Information. As they explained during the workshop, due to the pandemic, there has been a sharp decline in math scores as evidenced from multiple data points released at the district, state, and the national level. The following articles represent some of the research chronicling this serious concern:

- <https://www.npr.org/2022/09/01/1120510251/reading-math-test-scores-pandemic>
- <https://www.the74million.org/article/nations-report-card-two-decades-of-growth-wiped-out-by-two-years-of-pandemic/>
- <https://edsources.org/2022/stanford-harvard-research-translates-californias-test-scores-into-months-of-missed-learning/680590>



According to Thomas Kane, a professor and a faculty director of the Center for Education Policy Research at Harvard, which co-led this research, educators and parents think students are 95% recovered from the pandemic, yet the average learning loss, particularly in math is half a year. That's a critical message for parents to hear because surveys indicate most parents believe that students have already made up nearly all of what they hadn't learned. Thus, through this Parent University Workshop, Ms. Maharana and Mr. Howard, who will be holding another session soon, informed

parents of the current research and what they can do to assist their children's teachers in accelerating their progress and catching them up.

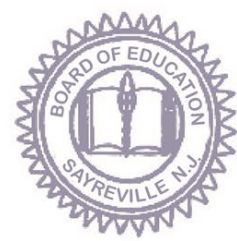
Educating Today's Learners to Be Tomorrow's Leaders



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Last Thursday, the district held the annual Bombers Unified Indoor Soccer Tournament at SWMHS, the Samsel Upper Elementary School (SUES), the Arelth



School, and at the Project Before at Cheesequake School. While the other schools played intra-squad games, the SWMHS team played against Perth Amboy High School for the



second consecutive year. During all three games, those in attendance were both impressed and inspired to watch our students with intellectual and pervasive developmental disabilities compete with and against their typically developing peers. Moreover, everyone 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. Finally, everyone 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. We thank and commend Ms. Carkeek, the district Unified Activities Coordinator, and all the Bombers Unified advisors, coaches, teachers, and paraprofessionals, for the tremendous job they did in coordinating this event and preparing their student athletes for it. Furthermore, we thank Mr. Howard, Supervisor of Professional Development and Humanities, for once again serving as the public address announcer.



Thanks to our magnificent teachers and instructional staff, our students had a ton of fun learning last week. In Project Before, students at the Selover School prepared for the first inaugural Bombers Beyond 18-21-Year-Old Program Turkey Trot where students and staff donated food in style with the turkey hats they made. Likewise, the students and staff at the Cheesequake School



donated non-perishable food items for the Turkey Trot. In addition to that, the students at Cheesequake created turkey prints with paint and pipe cleaners and continued to have a ball during their Grocery Store creative play centers. Similarly, students at Garden Friends on Main were also very busy shopping for Thanksgiving dinner items in their Grocery Store centers. Lastly, preschool staff, students, and families from every school celebrated the 94th birthday of Mickey Mouse during a PTO Day of Fun, which featured bingo, prizes, crafts, and visits from the birthday mouse himself, along with other special guests.



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Speaking of Bingo, last week SUES held its annual PTO Bingo Night, in which as is the case every year, all in attendance, including me, had a blast. Students and staff at SUES also donned their flannel attire during Spirit Week. At the middle school, students explored a menu of books by rotating among tables to sample the selections at

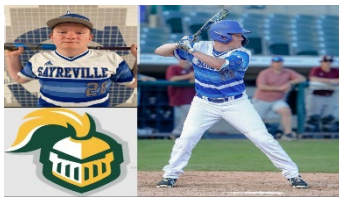


the Sayreville Middle School (SMS) Book Café. At the high school, students in Ms. Mojzsis's Advanced Placement Art History class traveled to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York city where they had the opportunity to see firsthand many of the works that are being studied in class. Other students in Ms. Mojzsis's Advanced Art classes used "carran d'ache" and pencil to create colorful still-life artwork. Finally, along with collecting food that had been donated across the district for the aforementioned Turkey Trot, students in the Bombers Beyond 18-21-Year-Old



Program learned about the various jobs available at the United Parcel Services (UPS) when they toured their South Brunswick facility.

This past week, our students and staff continued to impress us with their remarkable accomplishments. We commend and congratulate SWMHS senior Michael Novak on his recent decision to further his education and continue to play collegiate baseball at New Jersey City University. We also commend and thank Meghan and Tayler Miller for the generous donations of 20 *My Classroom Poems for Young Children* books authored by



former Wilson School teacher Michele Killian in the amount of \$319.60; the Sayreville Police Benevolent Association for donating trauma kit equipment valued at \$1,005.20; and Lucille Bloom, Board of Education (BOE) Member, for donating a lamp for the Bombers Beyond 18-21-Year-Old Program valued at \$250. Bomber Nation salutes all our students, staff, and community members for representing Sayreville in such an impeccable manner. They Rock!



In athletics, we commend and congratulate the 12 and Under (12U) Sayreville Junior Bombers Cheer Team on winning First Place in their division at the Big East Cheer Competition. The 8U Junior Bombers Cheer Team placed 4th while the 14U Team placed 5th, and the entire Junior Bomber Cheer Team won the overall Spirit Award. Likewise, we congratulate and wish good luck to the 14U Sayreville Junior Bombers Football Team which will be playing at MetLife stadium on November 27th after the New York Jets game. One of the players on the team, Michael Bialoblocki, was selected to play in the American Youth Football Nationals in December where he will be playing with and against other 12U All-Stars from across the country We also congratulate and commend the River Dogs 9U Sayreville Baseball Club for



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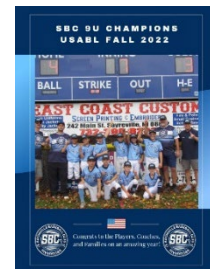
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winning the United States Amateur Baseball League Fall Championship. Win or lose, all our amazing student athletes continued to compete fiercely and demonstrate the teamwork and sportsmanship that makes us all proud to be Bombers. Thus, we thank them and their coaches for their hard work, dedication, and the manner in which they represent SWMHS and our community. Please remember that you can see all athletic team schedules and view all the action by watching them on the live streaming links posted on the Athletics page of our website or by clicking [here](#).



If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education (BOE) Business Meeting held on Tuesday, November 15th, here is what you missed. Gianna Pesci from Sayreville War Memorial (SWMHS) and Morgan Koonce from the Sayreville Middle School (SMS) began the meeting by providing their respective Student Council Representative to the Board of Education Reports. Next,

Mr. Esposito expressed his opening remarks, as did Mr. Walsh, who also shared a few district highlights.



The Board then moved the action items from the Superintendent's Report onto the Board Agenda and approved them all. To see the Agenda, click [here](#). To see the Agenda Addendum, click [here](#). To see all attachments, click [here](#). To view the video of the meeting, click [here](#). Among other motions, on the Vision 2030 Finance and Infrastructure portion of the agenda, the BOE approved a resolution determining the form and other details regarding the issuance of the \$97,474,000 in referendum school bonds. It also approved generous donations of 20 *My Classroom Poems for Young Children* books authored by former Wilson School teacher Michele Killian in the amount of \$319.60 from Meghan and Tayler Miller; a baby grand piano valued at \$4,000 from John Wrubel; trauma kit equipment valued at \$1,005.20 from the Sayreville Police Benevolent Association; and a lamp for the Bombers Beyond 18-21-Year-Old program valued at \$250 from Lucille Bloom. Lastly, the BOE approved the submission of the Division of Early Childhood Services, Annual Preschool Operational Plan Update and projected School Enrollment for the 2023-2024 school year.

On the Student Achievement portion of the agenda, among other motions, the BOE approved of SWMHS to hold a delayed opening on May 23-26, 2023 for NJSLA and NJSLAS testing. Therefore, on May 23rd through the 26th, students in grades 10 and 12 will have a delayed opening starting at 9:40 am. Since students in grades 9 and 11 will be testing, they will arrive at the normal time of 7:30 am. In addition, the Board approved a new Advanced Placement Pre-Calculus course for the 2023-2024 school year at SWMHS. Lastly, it approved a new Operation Smile Club with Darci Santella as the advisor, and a new Hindu Society Club with Jyothsna Kuchibhatla as the advisor, at SWMHS.

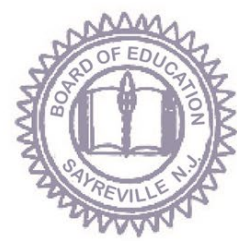
Likewise, on the Governance portion of the agenda, the Board of Education approved [BOE Policy 2425 Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction](#) and [Regulation 2425 – Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program](#); and [Policy 5512 – Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying](#) for a Second Reading

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and Adoption. Click on each to read them. It also approved a revision to the 2022-23 School District Calendar, which essentially changes the early dismissal days for Parent/Teacher Conferences from the week of January 30, 2023 to January 17-20, 2023; and makes June 6, 2023 a holiday for students and a full day in-service for staff. Click [here](#) to see it. Finally, the BOE approved the 2022 School Safety and Security Plan Review Statement of Assurance.

On the Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education accepted the retirements of Jeanine Caccio, Art Teacher at the Arleth School, and Mary Cinalli, Language Arts Literacy Teacher at the Sayreville Middle School (SMS), effective July 1, 2023. It also appointed new certificated and non-certificated staff for the 2022-23 school year. Likewise, the Board approved the transfer of certificated and non-certificated staff for the 2022-23 school year. In addition, the BOE also appointed personnel for Tier 3 Tutoring, Career and Technical Education Coordination, and for the Unified Sports Summer Track and Field Season. Furthermore, it named the 2022-23 Anti Bullying Specialists at each school, as well as the Coordinator for the 2022-23 school year; and approved of paid Cooperative Education students to work in the Bombers Beyond Café during the 2022-2023 school year. Finally, the Board retroactively approved the adjusted salaries of Sayreville Education Association (SEA) certificated and non-certificated staff for the 2021-22 school year in accordance with the 2021-2026 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Sayreville BOE and SEA.

During the Board Discussion portion of the meeting, Mr. Fernandez reviewed what was discussed during the last Finance and Infrastructure Committee Meeting, as did Mr. Walsh for the last Personnel Committee Meeting. Mrs. Bloom shared news from the Middlesex County School Boards Association and Mr. Fernandez did the same with regard to the Sayreville/South Amboy Rotary Club.

During the Open Public Comment portion of the meeting, a community member made several inquiries about the issuance of bonds for the Facilities Improvement Referendum, which was approved by voters in Sayreville on October 6, 2022..

The next meeting will take place on **December 20, 2022**. During the meeting the district will present the 2023-24 Food Services Budget. The agenda for this meeting will be posted on the district website on **Friday, December 16th**. A complete copy of the **November 15th** meeting minutes will be posted on the BOE Meeting Minutes page of the website once they are approved by the BOE during the next regular business meeting on **December 20, 2022**.

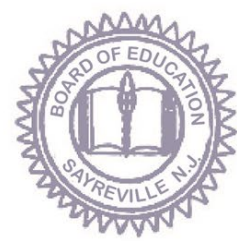
As per the [2022-23 School District Calendar](#) and the [November Schools Activities Calendar](#), which you can view by clicking on each, please remember that all our schools will be **closed for students and staff** this **Thursday, November 24th** and **Friday, November 25th** in observance of Thanksgiving. Likewise, please note that we will **dismiss students and staff early** on **Wednesday November 23rd** so that they can get a head start on the holiday weekend. Finally, please remember that **1st Marking Period Report Cards** for students in **grades 6-12** will be issued on **Wednesday, November 23rd**.

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If you or someone you know would like to **advertise** with us on our **website** and via **Bomber Blasts**, you should click [here](#) and submit an inquiry with ***School Revenue Partners***. Naturally, we will continue to Bomber Blast activity information and community service announcements for our schools and the greater community at no cost. Likewise, if you would like to advertise on our **buses**, click [here](#).

Have a great day and wonderful week!

Dr. Labbe