



Sayreville Public Schools

Vision 2030

P.O. Box 997
Sayreville, New Jersey 08871
Phone: 732-525-5200
Fax: 732-727-5769



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 29 Review and Preview

April 10, 2023

Good morning Sayreville! I hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday weekend. Welcome to another edition of Talk Sup, my weekly newsletter. **Please note** that during the March 21st Board of Education (BOE) Business Meeting, the Board approved a revision to the [2022-23 School District Calendar](#), which made **Friday, April 21st** a **school holiday** in observance of Eid al Fitr. Additionally, during the upcoming BOE Business Meeting on April 18th, the district will ask the BOE to approve another revision that will remove the three built-in hazardous weather days and make the **last day of school for students June 20th** and the **last day of work for 10-month faculty and staff June 21st**. Thus, if approved, the **Sayreville Middle School Promotion Ceremony** will take place in the evening on **June 19th**, followed by the **Sayreville War Memorial High School Commencement Ceremony** in the evening on **June 20th**.

As you probably know, **Thursday, April 27, 2023**, is designated as "**Bring Your Child to Work Day**." This activity is in conjunction with the national observance of "Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day" and is designed to help children ages **8-18** explore the workforce. Therefore, we anticipate that some of our students will be accompanying their parents/guardians to work on this day. Likewise, we anticipate that staff members will be taking their children to work for the same reasons. As we have done in the past, the parents of our students aged 8-18 that wish for their child(ren) to participate in this event at their place of employment and for them to receive credit for attending school, will be required to have their employer complete a form indicating their child(ren)'s participation and return it to their child(ren)'s school by **Tuesday, April 25, 2023**. If they have not already shared it with you, **contact your child(ren)'s principal for the form**. Similarly, staff members who wish to take their child(ren) aged 8-18 to school will also need to complete a form and submit it to their immediate supervisor and/or building principal by April 25th. **Staff should also contact their principal for the this form if it has not already been provided**. Our hope is that our students and the children of our staff members will benefit from the experience of "Bring Your Child to Work Day" and enjoy spending time with a parent/guardian in their workplace.

This past week the New Jersey Department of Education released the 2021-2022 New Jersey School Performance Reports. They are available on the "[District>Curriculum and Instruction](#)" page of our website and the NJ School Performance Reports webpage at <https://rc.doe.state.nj.us/selectreport/2021-2022/23/4660> for review. In addition, this week each individual school's report will be posted on their respective websites. If you are not aware of it, the School Performance Reports reflect the New Jersey Department of Education's (NJDOE) commitment to providing parents, students and school communities with a large variety of information about each school and district. These reports can be used as a tool to help evaluate whether all students have equitable access to high quality education. The NJDOE encourages you to use these reports to:

- **Learn more** about your school and district.
- **Start conversations** with school community members and ask questions.
- **Engage** with school communities to identify what schools are doing well and where they can improve.

Educating Today's Learners to Be Tomorrow's Leaders



Sayreville Public Schools

Vision 2030

P.O. Box 997
Sayreville, New Jersey 08871
Phone: 732-525-5200
Fax: 732-727-5769



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

The 2021-2022 School Performance Reports include nearly all data that was previously reported prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, such as assessment results and accountability data. However, the 2021-2022 reports will not include student growth data as measured by median student growth percentiles (mSGPs). This is because individual student growth percentiles (SGPs) were not calculated for the 2021-2022 school year due to lack of prior year test results for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years. The student growth section of the reports will include a link to an alternate measure of academic progress that was used for accountability determinations for the 2021-2022 school year. The NJDOE plans to resume reporting mSGPs for the 2022-2023 school year.

The NJDOE believes that it is critical to use the data in the reports, along with other information collected directly within districts and communities, to start conversations, identify gaps in information, and continue to find ways to address the impacts of COVID-19 and ensure all students receive the support and resources that they need. The School Performance Reports can and should be used in conjunction with available school and district data to identify priorities for upcoming year planning and the use of state and federal dollars. As data over the last three years was impacted by the pandemic in various ways, the NJDOE does recommend caution in comparing data from year to year. Therefore, the focus of the 2021-2022 reports was to resume reporting all assessment and accountability data. This will be the first time since the 2018-2019 reports that the following data will be included in the School Performance Reports:

- English language arts, mathematics, and science assessment results.
- English language progress toward proficiency.
- ESSA accountability indicators, updated status, and progress toward meeting long-term goals.

As per my email to the community prior to the spring recess, the Sayreville Public Schools and Board of Education have been discussing changing school start and end times at nearly all our schools next year (**2023-24**) in order to address the physiological, academic, and social and emotional needs of our high school students, increase busing efficiency, and reduce traffic and congestion on Washington and Ernston Roads, particularly in the morning. As you may or may not know, due to the empirical and generally unopposed research on the “teen brain,” many school districts nation-wide have changed their high school start times to 8:30 am or after because of what the research clearly states about the impact of sleep deprivation on teenagers, which includes but is not limited to: chronic absenteeism, tardiness, increased anxiety and depression, and academic decline due to the inability to focus and multi-task. Moreover, a vast number of districts across the country that have changed their high school start time to 8:30 am or later have reported a significant increase in student grade point average and average daily attendance, as well as a decrease in behavioral infractions, crisis intervention, substance abuse, and tardiness. New Jersey is actually considering making this change state-wide, as there are currently bills in both the Senate and Assembly mandating it. Thus, we feel that this change is inevitable and more importantly, what is best for our students. I encourage you to research this topic on your own, but have provided the following online articles for you to review at your leisure: [Adolescents And Sleep | Inside The Teenage Brain ...](#) and [Why Teen Brains Need a Later Start Time](#). Click on them to do so.

Educating Today's Learners to Be Tomorrow's Leaders



Sayreville Public Schools Vision 2030

P.O. Box 997
Sayreville, New Jersey 08871
Phone: 732-525-5200
Fax: 732-727-5769



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

Therefore, below please find the revised start and end times that we are currently considering for our schools and may possibly ask the Sayreville BOE to vote on during the **April 18, 2023** Board of Education Business Meeting. As you will see, the proposed start time for the high school would be pushed back to **8:30 am**, which will not only greatly help our high school students, it will push morning arrival outside of rush hour, which will drastically reduce traffic on Washington and Ernston Roads, and ultimately increase busing efficiency. Middle school and upper elementary school times will only be affected by 15 minutes, as the middle school will start and end 15 minutes earlier while the upper elementary school will start and end 15 minutes later. Unfortunately, while would have liked to start our elementary schools earlier, due to busing considerations, we actually had to push their start and end times back 25 minutes. There are no time changes being considered for the preschool because their times were changed last year in preparation of this.

Elementary	Kindergarten – Grade 3	9:30 A.M. – 3:45 P.M.
Upper Elementary	Grades 4-5	8:45 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.
Pre-K	Project Before	8:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.
Middle School	Grades 6-8	8:00 A.M – 2:30 P.M.
High School	Grades 9-12	8:30 A.M – 3:12 P.M.

Naturally, making a change of this magnitude will be complicated, disruptive, and inconvenient to some if not many stakeholders. Most notably, at the high school, it will impact the scheduling of after school athletics and cocurricular activities, while at the elementary school level it may result in childcare challenges. Thus, before we ask the Sayreville Board of Education to approve these changes on April 18th, we ask that you take a few minutes to provide us with your feedback by completing a very brief anonymous survey. Click [here](#) to begin. The survey will close this **Friday, April 14, 2023**.



School (SUES) as part of the annual “Let the Children Lead” program. During this very popular and unique activity, the selected 5th grade students actually performed in the capacity of a specific board of education member or administrators. Thus, except for a few occasions, the 5th

If you did not have a chance to attend the Special “Let the Children Lead” BOE Business Meeting held on Tuesday, March 28th, here is what you missed. During this meeting, the Board of Education (BOE) and Central Administration were joined by almost two dozen 5th graders from the Samsel Upper Elementary



Educating Today's Learners to Be Tomorrow's Leaders



Sayreville Public Schools Vision 2030

P.O. Box 997
Sayreville, New Jersey 08871
Phone: 732-525-5200
Fax: 732-727-5769



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

grade representatives for each, including Ms. Coglianese, Principal of SUES, and Mr. Tola, Assistant Principal of SUES, voted and commented publicly on behalf of the BOE member or administrator that they represented.

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 the purchase of 53 Dell Optiplex computers with 53 video adapters purchased from CDW Government/CDW Direct LLC through ESCNJ Cooperative Purchasing Pricing System Technology Supplies and Services ESCNJ/AEPA-22G in the amount of \$39,850.70.

On the Student Achievement portion of the agenda, among other motions, the BOE approved the long-term suspension of a student. Likewise, on the Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education appointed new certificated and non-certificated staff for the 2022-23 school year. Likewise, the Board approved the transfer of certificated staff for the 2022-23 school year.

During the Board Discussion portion of the meeting, Mrs. Napolitano reviewed what was discussed during the last Governance Committee Meeting. She also reviewed what transpired during the last Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Meeting. Mrs. Bloom also shared news from the Middlesex County School Boards Association, as did Mr. Fernandez regarding the Sayreville/South Amboy Rotary Club. Finally, each student representative shared their feelings on what they are most excited or nervous about going to the middle school next year.

The next meeting will take place at **7:30 pm on Tuesday, April 18th** in the **SUES Board Room**. The agenda for this meeting will be posted on the district website on **April 14th**. A complete copy of the **March 28th Business Meeting** minutes will be posted on the BOE Meeting Minutes page of the website once they are approved by the BOE during the next BOE Meeting on **April 18, 2023**.

This past week, our students, staff, alumni, and community members continued to impress us with their



remarkable accomplishments. During my last edition, I highlighted SWMHS senior twin sisters Triscia and Trischelle Afihene, who were accepted to and received full four-year scholarships to Johns Hopkins University as Pre-Medicine students. I am proud to also share with you that prior to spring break they were accepted to attend Harvard University. Likewise, during my last edition, I commended the SMS Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) who competed very successfully in the New Jersey-FBLA State Leadership Conference at Kean University, in which of the 36 members, 31 placed. Below please find the

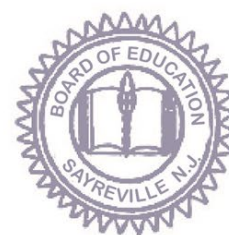
individual results.



Sayreville Public Schools

Vision 2030

P.O. Box 997
Sayreville, New Jersey 08871
Phone: 732-525-5200
Fax: 732-727-5769



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

Individual/Team Competitive Event - National Qualifiers	
Mariami Nemsadze, Sara Rafique	Sophia Dela Cruz
Business Ethics	Career Exploration
2nd Place	2nd Place
Top 10 Place Winners for Individual/Team Competitive Events	
Gia Modi	Isla Ebbighausen
Career Exploration	Career Exploration
Ashi Kotadia	Dhruv Patel
Exploring Technology	Exploring Technology
Rachael Nupe Arachchi	Aanya Patel
Leadership	Leadership
Diya Yeruva	Aarya Gedam, Sophia Kim
Career Research	Critical Thinking
Aarav Dhebariya, Arnav Gandhi, Rohan Sembhi	Aditya Kondur, Josh Patel, Dev Patel
Business Ethics	Exploring Business Issues
Kevin Yassa, Yash Shah, Jared Zivanovic	Tanvi Argawal, Ava Patel, Shaili Shah
Exploring Business Issues	Multimedia & Website Development
Angelica Biernacki, Armanii Peder-Kemp	Isha Kanodia, Kristen Previlon
Multimedia & Website Development	Marketing Mix Challenge
Amelia Kowalec, Khushi Patel, Judith Yassa	
Critical Thinking	



In addition, we commend and congratulate SWMHS students Sofia Muller (9th grade), Quinn Guerra (10th grade), Joseph Avery (11th grade), and Zachary Rogers (12 grade), who were selected by the faculty to be the March Students of the Month. Bomber Nation salutes all our students, staff, and community members for representing Sayreville in such an impeccable manner. They Rock!

Thanks to our magnificent teachers and instructional staff, our students had a ton of fun learning the week prior to the spring recess. At the high school, the SWMHS Theatre Society celebrated another incredible year which included two wonderful performances: *Alice in Wonderland* and the *Little Mermaid*. We

Educating Today's Learners to Be Tomorrow's Leaders



Sayreville Public Schools

Vision 2030

P.O. Box 997
Sayreville, New Jersey 08871
Phone: 732-525-5200
Fax: 732-727-5769



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



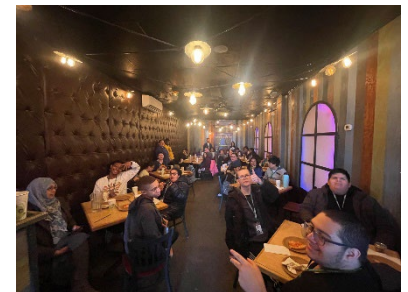
commend and congratulate Ms. DiStaulo and all our amazing staff and students who contributed to these two phenomenal productions. In fact, 44 students were awarded varsity letters in Performing Arts, while another 22

earned the JV endorsement. In addition, 11th grade students toured The



College of New Jersey, while other students toured the Sayreville Police Headquarters where students learned about different job responsibilities and how police officers

help in the community. After that, they returned to the high school where they transplanted their spring flowers and veggie garden in DIY and tire planters. When they were finished, they ate at Nunzios.



At the middle school, students celebrated Twin Day and attended the Scholastic Book Fair in the library. In addition, the Sayreville English as a second language community proudly celebrated diversity and their accomplishments during ESL Family Night. Likewise, staff, students, and



their families attended Family Literacy Night, which featured a Magazine Poetry Station in the media center. At SUES, students attended a special Harlem Wizards assembly as a prelude to the big Harlem



Wizards vs Sayreville Teachers Basketball Game on April 14th. Students also finished competing in this year's "March Mathness" competition, in which Mrs. Grimm's homeroom, took the crown. Additionally, students who were selected by the faculty for demonstrating the character education pillar

of responsibility were rewarded with delicious chocolate chip cookies during lunch at the Character Café. Finally, staff, students, and their families had a ball during the PTO Family Fun Night.



Educating Today's Learners to Be Tomorrow's Leaders



Sayreville Public Schools

Vision 2030

P.O. Box 997
Sayreville, New Jersey 08871
Phone: 732-525-5200
Fax: 732-727-5769



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



For the past three years at Wilson School, students have been participating in the March Madness Book Tournament. This year, students read and reread "sweet 16" books since January. Prior to the spring recess, they narrowed the books down to the Elite Eight, Final Four, and Championship Books until *Endlessly Ever After* won this year's prestigious honor of being Wilson's Best Picture Book of 2023. At the Truman School, KidZdent visited to



teach students all about their teeth and how to take good care of them. In Project Before, the administration, faculty and PTO celebrated Para Day by, among other treats, providing our wonderful and very dedicated paraprofessionals will an appreciation breakfast. In addition, each school welcomed back alumni to read to students. At the Cheesecake School, students participated in National Scribble Day, which was created to inspire children to learn kindness through art. Lastly, at Garden and Friends, the Easter Bunny hopped over to spread some love and happiness.



In athletics, before the spring recess, the SWMHS Girls and Boys Swim Team held their end of the season banquet to celebrate another very competitive season in which the Boys Team ended the season with a record of 4-3 and the Girls Team was 4-4. Moreover, Head Coach Andrew Rice was named Greater Middlesex County White Division Coach of the Year. We

commend and congratulate Coach Rice on this amazing accomplishment, as well as Lauren Gassman, Assistant Coach, and all our amazing girls and boys swimmers for a great season. In addition, the SWMHS Baseball Team won three out of its first four games this season with victories over Piscataway, Middlesex,



and Woodbridge High Schools (HS). They have been led by the strong pitching of



Aayush Mehta, Jake Romanello, and Tom Schlaline, along with the timely hitting of Michael Colonnello, Michael Novak, Aayush Mehta, Jake Romanello, and Tom Schlaline. Likewise, the SWMHS Softball Team recorded its first win of the early season after defeating Spotswood HS last week. They are now 1-1 on the season as are the SWMHS Boys Tennis Team, which



Educating Today's Learners to Be Tomorrow's Leaders



Sayreville Public Schools
Vision 2030

P.O. Box 997
Sayreville, New Jersey 08871
Phone: 732-525-5200
Fax: 732-727-5769



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

defeated Edison HS last week. Finally, the SWMHS Boys and Girls Lacrosse Teams are currently 1-0 on the season after beating Bick Township HS and Rutgers Prep HS respectively last week. 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](#).

As per the [2022-23 School District Calendar](#), which you can view by clicking on it, there will be a BOE Business Meeting on **April 18th**. Please remember that our **schools will be closed on Friday, April 21st** in observance of Eid al Fitr. In addition, please note that the **3rd Marking Period** for students in **grades 6-12** will **end on April 13th** and that **report cards** for these students will be populated in Oncourse on **April 20th**.

On January 30, 2023, the district officially opened registration for our **free Full-Day Project Before Preschool and Kindergarten Programs**. Therefore, parents of ALL eligible (**must be 3 for preschool and 5 for kindergarten by September 30, 2023**) preschool and kindergarten students are invited to visit our website in order to register via **Oncourse Connect**, our online registration software. The link to student registration will be clearly identified on our district website homepage (www.sayrevillek12.net) as “[Student Registration](#)”. Once on this registration page, you can obtain pertinent information regarding the registration of all students including preschool and kindergarten students, and you can begin completing the online registration application by clicking on one of the following links noted in the [2023-2024 Project Before and Kindergarten](#) drop down menu: [New Student Registration Preschool and Kindergarten](#) or [Returning Student Enrollment Update for students entering grades PreK and Kindergarten during the 2023-2024 school year](#).

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