

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



Mr. Eric Glock-Molloy, Assistant Superintendent Ms. Erin Hill, Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Dr. Richard R. Labbe, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Marilyn J. Shediack, Assistant Superintendent

#### Talk Sup Week 32 Review and Preview

May 1, 2023

Good morning Sayreville! I hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable holiday weekend. Welcome to another edition of Talk Sup, my weekly newsletter.



We begin this issue by wishing all our administrative assistants, secretaries, and clerks a belated happy Administrative Assistant Day and Week! Likewise, we commend and thank them for all they do every day to assist in the efficient operation of the school district and/or their school or department. Likewise, we are forever grateful for the positive outcomes that they have either directly or indirectly

promoted for all our students and staff. They are nothing less than AMAZING!



As you may or may not know, **National Educator Appreciation Month** takes place during the entire month of May each year. However, the majority of the festivities center on this week, which is the first full week of May. In fact, this week is commonly known as **Teacher Appreciation Week**. Moreover, the National Education Association (NEA)

designates the first Tuesday (May 2<sup>nd</sup>) that falls during Teacher Appreciation Week as National Teacher Appreciation Day. Likewise, next Wednesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> is National School Nurses Appreciation Day. Therefore, especially in light of ALL the EXTRAORDINARY efforts that our amazing teachers, nurses, therapists, child study team members, school counselors, media specialists, and paraprofessionals



have made to promote the best learner outcomes, please

consider contributing to the many activities that will take place this week and month to demonstrate appreciation for the hard-working, dedicated, and exemplary educators in Sayreville. More importantly, please take the time to express your sincere gratitude to the wonderful teachers, paraprofessionals, and educational support service providers working tirelessly to educate and develop yours and our

children. On behalf of the Sayreville Board of Education and Administration, we would like to commend our amazing educators and thank them for EVERYTHING they do for ALL our students. They truly are HEROES and they simply ROCK!



Last Thursday evening, I had the privilege of attending the Sayreville Middle School Junior National Honor Society (JNHS) Induction Ceremony. As is the case each year, the middle school recognized and inducted the amazing 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders









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who have demonstrated excellence inside and outside of the classroom this year. As always, the ceremony was rich with tradition and spirit, as the inductees took the time to describe and thank the wonderful teachers who they admire and are inspired by. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade students also shared their community service projects. We commend and thank Ms. Michele Gentile, Junior NHS Advisor, and all the staff members, who assisted her in coordinating such a memorable experience for our 2023 Junior NHS students and their parents.





This past week, our students, staff, alumni, and community members continued to impress us with their remarkable accomplishments. We begin by commending and congratulating Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS) senior Aayush Mehta for recently being awarded the 2022-23 Middlesex County Secondary Principals

Association Outstanding Student Award. We also congratulate and commend SWMHS students Kanika Madhok and Amanie Nasr, who recently recognized as winners of a New Jersey Affiliate of the National Center for Women and Information Technology (NCWIT) Aspirations in Computing Awards. The

NCWIT Aspirations in Computing Organization's mission is to provide a



community for female technologists from elementary school through higher education. Award recipients were selected for their aptitude and

interest in IT and computing, solid leadership ability, good academic history, and plans for

post-secondary education. In addition, we commend and congratulate SWMHS senior Alexis Cannon, who won the Virginia Kraft Scholarship for Leaders at the MAIN Winterguard Championships. Likewise, we congratulate and commend SWMHS art student Kyriaki Kakadelis, whose artwork will be proudly displayed at the New Jersey State Teen Arts Festival later this school

year, and SWMHS Woodshop 2 student Sevanna Coelho for the amazing garlic press she made. Furthermore, we commend and congratulate the following members of the SWMHS Distributive Education Club of America (DECA) who, out of 20,000 members competing, placed last week in the 2023 DECA World Championship in Orlando, Florida.

5<sup>th</sup> Place Startup Business Plan

Lasya Bhattiprolu Aaryan Parikh Phillip Pazdur

#### 11th Place Integrated Marketing Campaign-Event

Rhena Johnson Wade Guerra Tyler-Odeh Abassi









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We also commend and congratulate the following new members of the SWMHS Hall of Fame who were inducted last Saturday evening: Ernest Holmes (Class of 2015), Herb Cannon (Class of 1972), Rich Belotti Class of (1990), Mark Marges (Class of 2007), Jamie Jarusiewicz (Class of 2002), Ken

Damato (Class of 1988), and Special Award recipient,

Janet Hefelfinger. Additionally, we commend the staff, students, and their families from the Project Before at Cheesequake School who raised \$6,290 for Parents of Autistic Children (POAC) during a recent walkathon. Finally, we commend Samsel Upper Elementary School (SUES) staff members Kyle Miller, Tina Loihle, Amanda Jedrusiak and Beth DeMaio, who successfully ran the Runapalooza Half-Marathon in Asbury Park in early April. Likewise, we congratulate Truman School staff members Meghan Brown, who also ran Runapalooza, along with Kelly Ciprian,



who ran the Cherry Blossom Half-Marathon Run in Washington DC. 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 last week. At all our schools, our staff enjoyed "Take Your Child to Work Day" with their children. At the high school, Mrs. Sicola, Director of School Counseling Services, and the high



school counselors presented the Junior Parent/Guardian Program for College and Career Planning. Information about college and post-secondary planning was presented so that parents and



guardians can guide their junior students through the college application and postsecondary planning process. Likewise, the Guidance Department and forty juniors visited the Woodbridge College Fair where they met with more than 45 colleges,

trade schools, and military branches. In addition, ten sophomores had the opportunity to go to Middlesex County College to attend the Young Women's Conference, where they listened to and met keynote speaker Joi Fisher, who is an author and advocate. They also attended different workshops, such as: What You

Need to Know About Vaping, Beauty and the Media, LGBTQ+, Unwind Your Mind: Practicing Self-Care, Understanding Your Mental Health, Budget Like a





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Boss, Human Trafficking: Knowledge is Power, Challenging Society, and Breaking the Box.

Furthermore, in honor of New Jersey High School Voter Registration Week, the SWMHS History



Department teamed up with the Student Council to hold a voter registration drive during the annual Student Council Election. Ms. Gaspar and Ms. Prignoli coordinated the effort and provided an organized voting booth experience for students to be able to cast their vote for their Student Council representatives to lead them next year. Additionally, graduating seniors were encouraged to make their way to the voter registration booth where they could ask questions, read information about voting, and complete a voter registration form if they wanted to become a registered voter. The High School seniors also celebrated College

Decision Day by proudly wearing their new college gear to school last Friday. These college-bound seniors sported baseball caps, sweatshirts, and t-shirts from colleges across the United States, including Harvard University, Princeton University, the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, Johns Hopkins University, Rutgers University, Penn State University, The College of New Jersey, the University of Connecticut, Monmouth University, Kean University, Rowan University, Pace University, Seton Hall University, San Diego State University, George Mason University, Clemson University, the University of Tennessee James Madison, Washington University, Georgia Tech University, Misericordia University, the Stevens Institute of Technology, New York University, New Jersey Institute of Technology,



Howard University, Indiana University - Kelley School of Business, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the University of Illinois, Middlesex County College, Montclair University, and many more.



Additionally, students in Mr. Evans' math classes revved up their critical thinking skills with a Building Thinking Classroom (BTC) approach. Lastly, students from the Theatre Society took part in a tour and interactive workshop at the

Museum of



Broadway. The museum is dedicated to preserving the history of Broadway and it includes elements of design, the creative writing process, and the performance aspect of theater. Likewise, the SWMHS Band performed at Busch Gardens in Virginia where they masterfully performed the following tunes: *Stand Up and Cheer, Eleanor Rigby, Hey Baby, 25 or 6 to 4, Radioactive, The Hey Song,* and *Patriotic Spectacular*.



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At the middle school, the Career Club visited Middlesex County College where they toured the campus and had the opportunity to win free merchandise by answering questions. Students in Ms. Ciampa's classes did a wonderful job of creating "My Five Senses Poems"



while celebrating National Poetry Month. In addition, students began practicing for the long jump and relay



Meet. Additionally, students in Ms. Iglesias' Art classes created beautiful Cherry Tree paintings.



races at the upcoming Unified Bomber Games, which will take place on May 23<sup>rd</sup> in the SWMHS Stadium. Speaking of the Unified Bomber Games, last week at the Project Before at Cheesequake School, students had a ball participating in their Unified Track



Furthermore, staff, students, and their families had a blast

during a Family Fun Night. At the Selover School, staff, students, and their families had a great time reading and participating in the Storytime Pajama Jam. In addition, students in Ms. Eileen's class studied plant life, where they learned the parts of a plant and how they grow before making



a delicious pot of vegetable soup. Lastly, students in Ms. Heather's class welcomed Small Fry, the first of several chicks they hope will hatch.



At SUES, students participated in Disabilities Awareness Week to help raise awareness and promote



acceptance of all types of intellectual and developmental disabilities. Some 5th graders also attended a Holocaust presentation in which Farah Kraus (granddaughter of a survivor) and Danny Goldsmith (surviving hidden child) shared stories of this atrocity in a very age-appropriate manner. The students also



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visited a Silent Holocaust Library. In addition, staff and students took the time to celebrate the students who were recognized by their teachers for showing the character trait of Citizenship. At the Truman school, students celebrated National Parks Week with Mrs. Thornton, where they learned why our national parks are so important,



especially when it comes to our ecological footprints. Finally, students and staff participated in "Light it Up Blue" to kick off their Autism Acceptance Week.

In athletics, the SWMHS Baseball Team continued its winning ways, as it defeated Colonia and Metuchen



High Schools (HS) last week to improve its season record to 10-3. Likewise, the SWMHS Girls Lacrosse Team defeated St. Thomas Aquinas HS last week during the Boys and Girls

Lacrosse Teams Senior Night to improve its record to 5-4. The SWMHS Boys Golf Team improved its record on the season to 10-7 with match wins over

Calvary Christian and St Thomas Aquinas High Schools last week. Lastly, the SWMHS Girls Golf Team won their first match of the year last week over New Brunswick HS. 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.

Tomorrow evening at **7:30 pm**, there will be a Board of Education (BOE) Business Meeting in the new **BOE Room at the Samsel Upper Elementary School**. During the meeting, the district will present the 2023-24 School District Budget and hold the required public hearing before voting on it. It will also present its New Jersey Department of Education approved 2021-22 Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying Grades. To see the agenda for the meeting, click <u>here</u>. To access the live streaming of the meeting click <u>here</u>. Since the viewing of the live stream will be handled by YouTube, you must be viewing the stream on a browser or application that is live stream compatible. If you are unable to hear audio you may need to try a different



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browser/application. The live stream will only be available during the real-time duration of the meeting. Directions for public participation during the meeting will be provided on the above-mentioned live stream page of the website. Finally, if on Wednesday you wish to view it or other past-recorded BOE meetings, click <u>here</u>.

As per the <u>2022-23 School District Calendar</u>, which you can view by clicking on it, there will be **BOE Business Meetings** tomorrow, **May 2<sup>nd</sup> and on May 16<sup>th</sup>**. Please also remember that we will **dismiss students** <u>early</u> on Monday, **May 15<sup>th</sup>** so that our staff can participate in professional development. Likewise, please note that our schools will be <u>closed</u> on **Monday**, **May 29<sup>th</sup>** in observance of Memorial Day. Finally, please remember that 4<sup>th</sup> **Marking Period Progress Reports** for students in grades 6-12 will be issued on **May 17<sup>th</sup>**.

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 (<u>www.sayrevillek12.net</u>) as "<u>Student Registration</u>". 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 <u>2023-2024 Project</u> <u>Before and Kindergarten</u> drop down menu: <u>New Student Registration Preschool and Kindergarten or <u>Returning Student Enrollment Update for students entering grades PreK and Kindergarten during the 2023-2024 school year</u>.</u>

If you or someone you know would like to **advertise** with us on our **website** and via **Bomber Blasts**, you should click <u>here</u> 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 <u>here</u>.

Have a great day and wonderful week!

Dr. Labbe