

BERGENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT DISTRICT NEWS



SPRING BUDGET EDITION - MAY 2023



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FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

By Christopher M. Tully Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools



As we continue to spring forward through the 2022-23 school year, I am reminded of a quote made by actor Gene Wilder while playing the role of Willy Wonka. He said, "We have so much time and so little to do." He then went on to correct himself with, "Strike that, reverse it!" I could not agree more with the sentiment that there always, in fact, seems to be *so much* to do with *so little* time. Regardless of there being less than two months remaining before the end of the year, I am thrilled to report that we are on course to finish this busy school year strong.

More than fifteen years ago, the Bergenfield Board of Education established the goal of moving from "Good to Great." They achieved this goal through investments in our professional development, curriculum, technology, and facilities to elevate the achievement of all students. These investments continue to pay dividends today, as our students are being accepted to some of our country's most prestigious and competitive colleges and universities.

The district has made a commitment to continuous improvement, focused on providing the children of Bergenfield with a world-class educational experience. We are fortunate to have a talented, caring, dedicated, and professional teaching and support staff, all working together to realize our goals.

As a result, Bergenfield High School continues to be recognized as a top school on the *U.S. News & World Report's* "Best High Schools" survey, ranking within the top 5% in the nation. Also, for the fourteenth year in a row, the school district has been recognized as one of the "Best Communities for Music Education" by the NAMM Foundation. Year after year, our schools, teachers, and students continue to receive well-deserved awards and recognition.

Still, we remain committed to raising the bar. We believe we can always reach new heights. While it's important to celebrate achievements, we cannot rest idly and be satisfied with our outstanding accomplishments. As we have said in the past, it remains our mission to climb towards the pinnacle of excellence in education.

Benjamin Franklin once wrote, "Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning." We appreciate your continued support and partnership as we continue our educational journey together.

UNsung HERO



Shivam was honored at a county event on March 30th.

Senior Shivam Poonith received the 2023 Unsung Hero Award from the New Jersey School Boards Association and Bergen County School Boards Association. Shivam was nominated by BHS Principal, Mr. Fasano, for his model citizenship and quiet strength that stands out among the Class of 2023.

A CHARITABLE EVENT



BHS students keep score at the game.

Students from Bergenfield High School volunteered at the Bergen County PBA charity basketball game at the Rothman Center at FDU on March 16th. All proceeds from the event went to the Tomorrows Children's Fund, which aids children in treatment for cancer.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Schools will be closed May 30th, June 6th, and June 9th due to unused emergency days.



DISTRICT NEWS

CONTRAST OF THE 2022-23 AND 2023-24 SCHOOL BUDGETS

INSTRUCTION	Budgeted for 2022-23	Budgeted for 2023-24
Regular Programs	23,805,662	23,624,747
Special Education	9,299,608	10,186,098
Basic Skills	331,899	338,887
Bilingual Education	827,654	910,896
School Sponsored Co/Extra Activities	415,816	415,426
School Sponsored Athletics	711,898	710,970
Total Summer School	127,000	127,000
Community Services Programs/Operations	6,155	6,155
Total General Current Expense	\$ 35,525,692	\$ 36,320,179
SUPPORT SERVICES		
Tuition	4,602,896	5,482,661
Health Services	961,498	950,554
Speech, OT, PT, Related & Extra Services	512,572	561,980
Other Support Services	1,262,689	1,727,097
Guidance	1,339,361	1,404,121
Child Study Teams	1,555,362	1,585,894
Improvement of Instructional Services	16,768	16,768
Educational Media Services/School Libraries	906,414	950,940
Instructional Staff Training Services	9,784	9,784
General Administration	1,560,590	1,580,821
School Administration	3,255,522	3,390,603
Central Svcs	667,109	734,770
Admin Info Technology	187,610	190,872
Operation & Maintenance of Plant Services	6,303,143	6,248,665
Security	1,014,775	985,775
Student Transportation Services	2,878,145	3,368,823
Employee Benefits	11,993,016	13,143,528
Total Support Services Expenditures	\$ 39,027,254	\$ 42,333,656
TOTAL CURRENT GENERAL EXPENSE	\$ 74,552,947	\$ 78,653,837
CAPITAL OUTLAY		
Equipment	783,757	372,861
Facilities Acquisition/Construction	2,802,343	10,486
Capital Reserve: Transfer to Capital Projects	0	2,967,060
Total Capital Outlay	\$ 3,586,101	\$ 3,350,408
SPECIAL SCHOOLS		
Special Schools	38,283	38,283
Transfer of Funds to Charter Schools	96,116	213,896
OPERATING BUDGET GRAND TOTAL	\$ 78,273,447	\$ 82,256,424

DISTRICT NEWS



BE OUR GUEST: OPENING NIGHT AT BHS



Belle and the Beast dance before a jubilant crowd during the musical's opening night (Photo: Kenneth Gregorio).

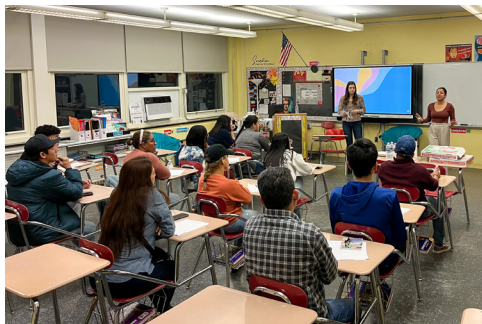
On Thursday, April 27th, Bergenfield High School presented its first musical in several decades with its presentation of "Beauty and the Beast." The event continued through Saturday, April 29th.

Crowds filled the Dr. Bernard T. Baggs Auditorium over the course of the three-day engagement. Young fans could be seen dancing in the aisles. Overall, this high-quality production was captivating and left the audience hungry for more.

Under the direction of Ms. Kathryn Osborne, over 90 students participated in one or more aspects of the production. The performance was accompanied by a talented orchestra led by Dr. Brian Timmons.

Thank you to all of the directors and students who made the show possible. We are all looking forward to what comes next in Spring 2024!

LATINO FAMILY NIGHT



Parents and students receive college planning info.

In April, BHS hosted its first meeting of the Latino Family Literacy Project. The program, which focuses on college preparation, the application process, and decision-making strategies, was designed for parents and their 10th and 11th grade ELL students. The program will continue into June.

MS. SCHULTZ ROCKS!



Ms. Schultz attended the WDMA FM awards banquet.

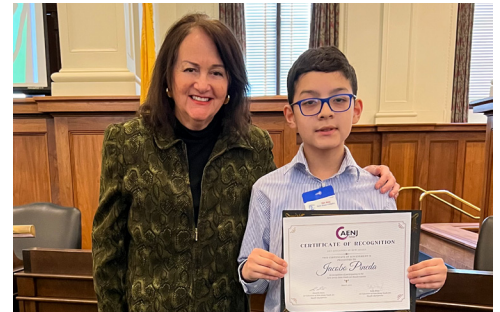
Ms. Jacqueline Schultz was selected into WDMA FM radio's "Teachers Who Rock!" Class of 2023. The program recognizes outstanding teachers for their important contributions to society. Nominated by colleague Ms. Marissa Lopes, Ms. Schultz was also the Franklin School's 2022-23 Teacher of the Year.

YOUNG ARTIST SHINES



Birds with their ancestor, a dinosaur.

Hoover School fifth grader Jacobo Pineda Saenz once again captured a spot in the New Jersey State Youth Art Month Exhibit. Jacobo juxtaposed two birds with their ancestor, a dinosaur with wing-like hands. His design draws a connection between birds and their prehistoric progenitors, reminding the viewer that "what's past is prologue." This is Jacobo's second time being recognized at this annual exhibition!



Jacobo with his art teacher, Ms. Anolik.

MISS NEW JERSEY VISITS



Miss New Jersey addresses the THRIVE Club.

The BHS THRIVE Club held its annual Women's History Month forum in March. The keynote speaker—Miss New Jersey USA 2023, Derby Chukwudi—shared her experience, knowledge, and a powerful story about creating your own path and following your dreams. This was followed up by a Q&A with the students.

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DISTRICT  NEWS



OPENING NIGHT AT BERGENFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

(PHOTO BY KENNETH GREGORIO)

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