



Sayreville Public Schools Vision 2030

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Dr. Richard R. Labbe, Superintendent of Schools
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Mr. Eric Glock-Molloy, Assistant Superintendent
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Talk Sup Week 38 Review and Preview

June 12, 2023

Good morning Sayreville! I hope you had a relaxing weekend. Welcome to another edition of Talk Sup, my weekly newsletter. Please remember that our schools will be **closed this Friday, June 16th** in observance of Juneteenth. In addition, please note that we will **dismiss students early this Thursday, June 15th**, as well as next week on June 19th, and 20th. Finally, please remember that the **last day of school for students** will be **Tuesday, June 20th**, while the **last day for 10-month instructional staff** will be **Wednesday, June 21st**.



We hope that all our families take the time to celebrate and discuss with their children the importance of the upcoming Juneteenth holiday for our country, and especially African Americans. As you probably know, the holiday commemorates the day in which the abolishment of slavery was made into law in Texas and the final slaves were freed in Galveston on June 19, 1865, which was two years after President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation and nearly six months after the 13th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which abolished slavery, was ratified.



Although President Biden declared this a federal holiday two years ago, Texas has recognized it as a state holiday since 1980. However, people across the country, particularly in Galveston and Buffalo, New York, have been celebrating this very special day of freedom long before that. While the federal holiday this year is June 19th, since New Jersey passed legislation in September 2020 recognizing the holiday on the 3rd Friday of June each year, our schools would be closed in observance of it on June 16th.



Last Thursday evening, I attended the 2023 Senior Awards Night at Sayreville War Memorial High School (SWMHS). During this wonderful activity we recognized and honored the students in the SWMHS Class of 2023 who received awards, recognition, and scholarships. As always, it was a wonderful program filled with the tradition and elegance necessary to honor, recognize, and celebrate all our incredible seniors at

SWMHS for their outstanding performances this year in and out of the classroom. This year, once again, more students received more awards, which are sponsored by the Sayreville Board of Education and a plethora of local, state, and national organizations and companies. In fact, many of the awards were monetary in the form of post-secondary education scholarships. Thus, we cannot possibly thank enough all these amazing organizations for their generosity. It is inspiring to know that parents and organizations in our greater community value the importance of



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collaboration, charity, and community; and to that end are willing to sacrifice time, funds, and/or property to benefit our students and staff. Furthermore, we commend and thank Ms. Sicola, Director of School Counseling Services; Mr. Rubino and the high school assistant principals; Ms. Wlodarczyk and Ms. Gelpke, Administrative Assistants at SWMHS; and the Class of 2023 Advisors for all the meticulous planning and coordination that they performed to make the evening so memorable for our 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 congratulating and commending SWMHS senior Jayden Presholdt for achieving the very prestigious Girl Scout Gold Award. For her Gold Award project, she created the EPIC (Exceptional People Initiating Change) Society,

which is dedicated to recognizing the achievements of exceptional students who have overcome learning challenges. Last week, the EPIC Society inducted its first 16 students into it based on their achievements in academics, service to the school and community, and character. Hence, we congratulate and commend those students as well. We also commend and congratulate Samuel Jones (9th grade), Mackenzie Keegan (10th grade), Ciara Pitts (11th grade), and Michael Justice (12th grade), who were selected by the faculty at SWMHS as Students of the Month of May. Likewise, we congratulate and commend

Justin Maher (9th grade), Eva Alimi (10th grade), Gargi Gupta (11th grade), and John Kovalchuk (12th grade) for being selected as the Students of the Month of June. In addition, we congratulate and commend SWMHS Computer

Science Teacher Atiya Conry for receiving a New Jersey Regional Teaching Excellence Award in Computer Science for her steadfast commitment to her students and innovative teaching methods.

Finally, we commend and congratulate Project

Before student teacher Angela Spadavecchia, who was recently recognized and honored by the New Jersey Commissioner of Education for being one of the top 15 student teachers in Jersey this year. Bomber Nation salutes all our students, staff, and community members for representing Sayreville in such an impeccable manner. They Rock!





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Thanks to our magnificent teachers and instructional staff, our students had a ton of fun



learning last week. At the high school, as mentioned previously, thanks to senior Jayden Presholdt, the EPIC Society honored and recognized the achievements of more than a dozen students. In addition, women



engineers from CME Associates visited to speak with students in chemistry and biology classes as part of Women in Engineering Month. They were also joined by SWMHS Class of 2017 graduates Rachel Hunter and Isi Enahoro. Students in Ms. Goldstein's Forensic Science class

performed autopsies on pickles. Lastly, students danced the night away during

the Senior Prom, which was held at the Imperia in Somerset. In Project Before, parents visited each school to learn more about our free full-day preschool education services during the annual Project Before Open House.



At the Peace Rose School, students continued to learn all about insects, especially butterflies and lady bugs. In fact, their caterpillars are all chrysalis or butterflies at this time and their ladybug larvae

are now pupa except for the one ladybug that has hatched. Additionally, Cindy Terebush, an early childhood consultant and author, met with teachers to talk to them



about boundaries, rules, and the positive approach to developing behavior. Likewise, at the Truman School, students had the pleasure of an author visit from Lori Herschkowitz-Skala, a teacher from the Eisenhower School. Lori recently published her first book to tell her story about overcoming serious life obstacles in the hopes of helping others

experiencing challenging times. Speaking of overcoming challenges, at the Arleth School, Lilly the comfort dog visited Mrs. Lacey and Mrs. Berfeldt's class. Lilly is an expert on making people feel comfortable and helping them forget any worries



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they may have. Finally, at the Samsel Upper elementary School, 5th grade students had an amazing time “glowing” it up at the 5th Grade Social.



In athletics, Kellie Koranteng from the SWMHS Track and Field Team placed 3rd Place in the Triple Jump at the Central New Jersey Group 4 Sectionals. Likewise, Loicy Anning placed 5th in the 400 Meter Sprint Congrats, as did Will Lewis in the Pole Vault. All three will advance into the next round of the New Jersey Interscholastic Athletic Association Track and Field Championships. In addition, we congratulate SWMHS Baseball players Jake Romanello,

Aayush Mehta, Michael Colannello, and Michael Novack for being named to the All-Greater Middlesex Conference (GMC) White Division Team. Jake Romanello was also named to the All-Greater Middlesex Conference Team. Furthermore, Head Coach Novack was named the GMC White Division Coach of the Year. Lastly, we congratulate Sayreville Middle School (SMS) wrestler Matthew Brown, who won seven out of eight matches against some of the toughest wrestlers in the nation at the Virginia Beach National



Wrestling Tournament.

His club wrestling team also placed 16th in the country. 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 **Board Room at the Samsel Upper Elementary School**. To see the agenda for the meeting, click [here](#). To access the live streaming of the meeting click [here](#). 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 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 [here](#).

As per the [2022-23 School District Calendar](#), which you can view by clicking on it, there will be a **BOE Business Meeting** tomorrow, **Tuesday, June 13th**. Please remember that our schools will be **closed** this **Friday, June 16th** in observance of Juneteenth. In addition, please note that we will **dismiss students early**

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on **June 15th, 19th, and 20th**. Likewise, please remember that the **last day of school for students** will be **June 20th**, while the **last day for 10-month instructional staff** will be **June 21st**. Finally, please note that the **end of the Grades K-5 3rd Trimester** and the **Grades 6-12 4th Marking Period** will be on **June 20th**. Therefore, **Report Cards** for all students will be issued on **June 27th**.



The Sayreville Board of Education will be once again offering subscription busing for the 2023-2024 school year for middle and high school students whose transportation is non-mandated. **Non-mandated transportation applies to 6th through 8th grade students who live less than two miles (2.0) from the middle school, and 9th through 12th grade students who live less than two-and-a-half (2.5) miles from the high school as per N.J.S.A. 18A:39-1 and specified under the criteria of N.J.A.C. 6A:27-1.4.** “Distance shall be measured using the shortest route along public roadways or public walkways between the entrance of the student’s residence nearest the public roadway or public walkway and the nearest public entrance of the school the student attends.” Families who wish to participate in the subscription busing program must be registered in the district prior to applying.

Subscription busing applications will not be processed unless all fees and fines (ex. Food service account balances, book fines, Chromebook fines, etc.) are paid in full by June 30th. All applications are to be submitted by **June 30, 2023**. Applications will be reviewed, and seats will be granted based upon the distance from their home to their school, giving priority to those that live furthest from the school. Bus stops will be centrally located for all students, who will be assigned to the stop closest to their home. No changes or requests for additional stops will be accepted. The cost for subscription busing is \$550.00/per student, however, **no fee is required for students who are eligible for free/reduced meals based on their free/reduced meal application for the 2023-2024 school year**. Parents will be notified via email by **July 15, 2023**, if their student has been assigned a seat. To apply for a subscription bus seat, [click here](#) or go to the [Transportation Page](#) of the district website.

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](#).



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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