



Springfield 2023-2024

Superintendent's Report

November 20, 2023

#SPSCompassionate&Extraordinary

Springfield Public Schools Vision & Mission

Vision:

Cultivating compassionate and extraordinary learners!

Mission:

Springfield Public Schools will challenge every student through meaningful, engaging experiences — empowering all students to flourish and contribute in an evolving world.

#SPSCompassionate&Extraordinary

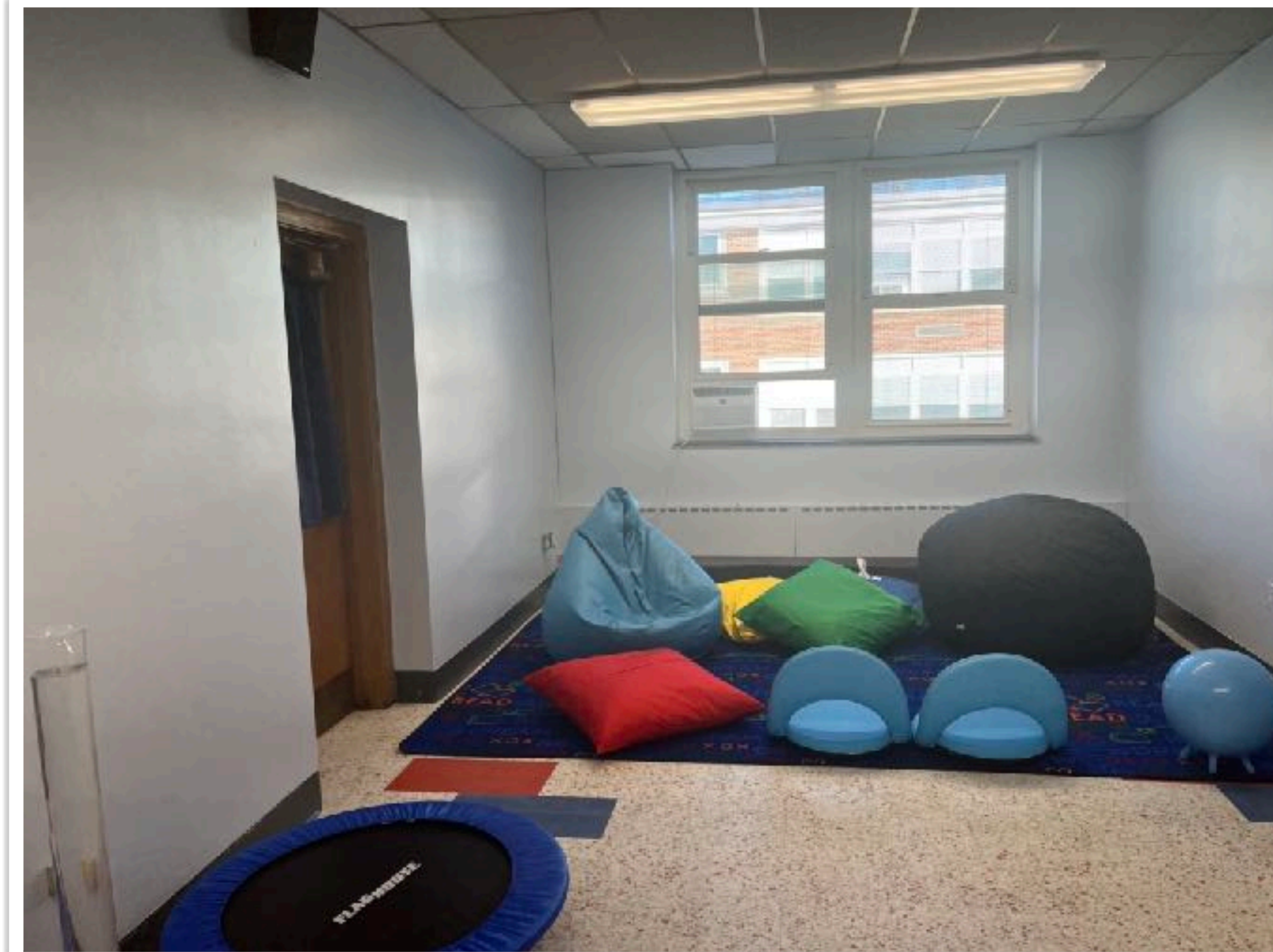
Report Overview

- Student Representative Report
- Chain of Communication Information
- Review of HIB Process & Resources
- Community Updates
- Calendar of Events

Welcome New Staff!

- JDHS:
 - Nurse Jeannine Pence
 - Mr. Christopher Moore, Physics Teacher
 - Walton:
 - Ashley Cicchino, School Counselor
 - Shannon Cuff, Art Teacher
 - Jill Marino, Leave Replacement
 - Central Office:
 - Siobhan Marshall, Office of Student Services
- #SPSCompassionate&Extraordinary

Facilities Updates



Facilities Updates



Congratulations

**JONATHAN DAYTON HS
PROUDLY PRESENTS**

Clue

Written by
Sandy Rustin

HIGH SCHOOL
EDITION



CLUE (HIGH SCHOOL EDITION) is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. (www.dramatists.com)

November 16, 17, 18 | 7:00 PM

**\$15 adults
\$10 students**

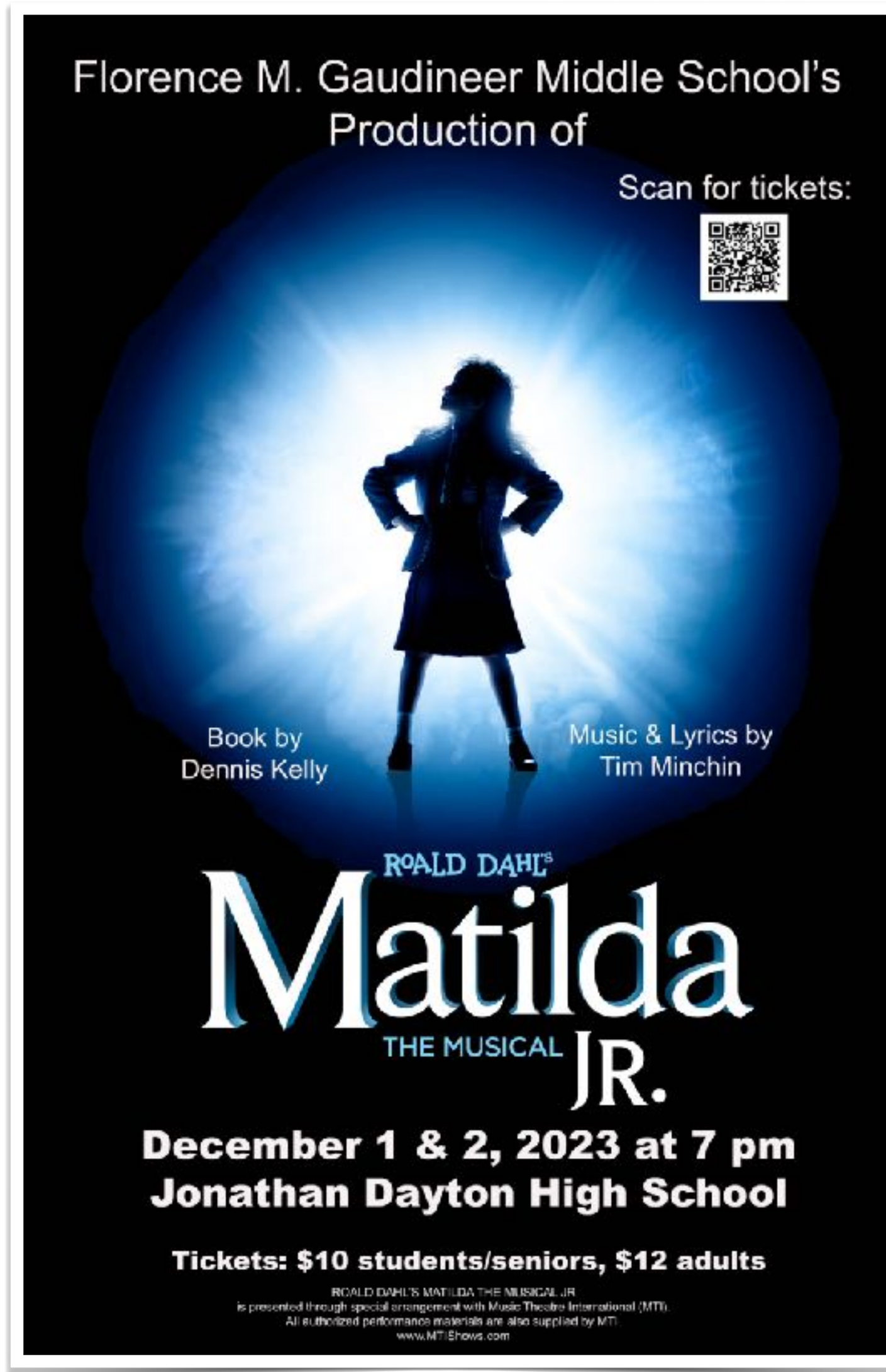
Halsey Hall Auditorium

UNION COUNTY
We're Connected to You!

Based on the Paramount Pictures Motion Picture, Hasbro board game CLUE, and screenplay by Jonathan Lynn : original music by Michael Holland | additional material by Hunter Foster and Gita Pille



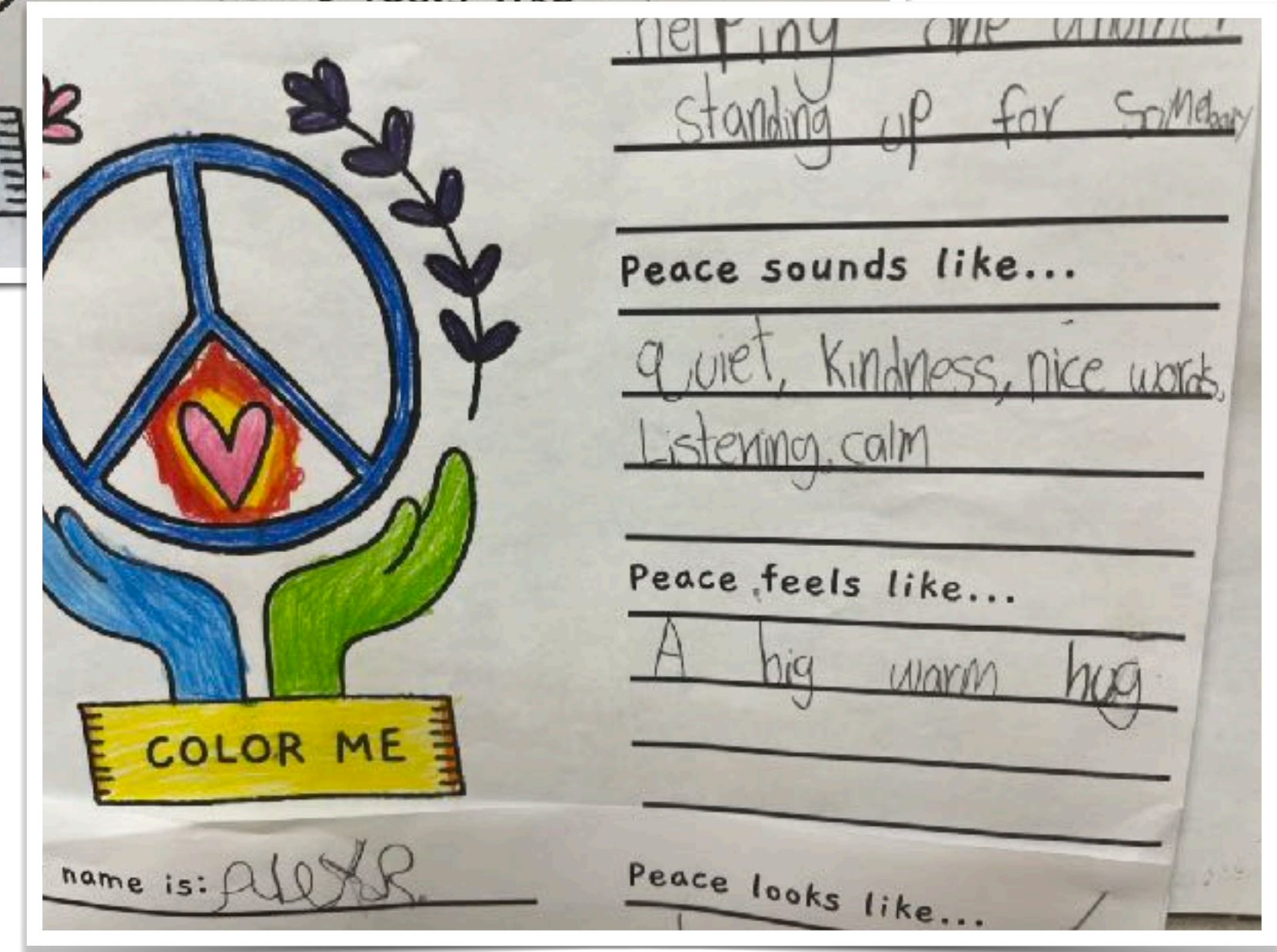
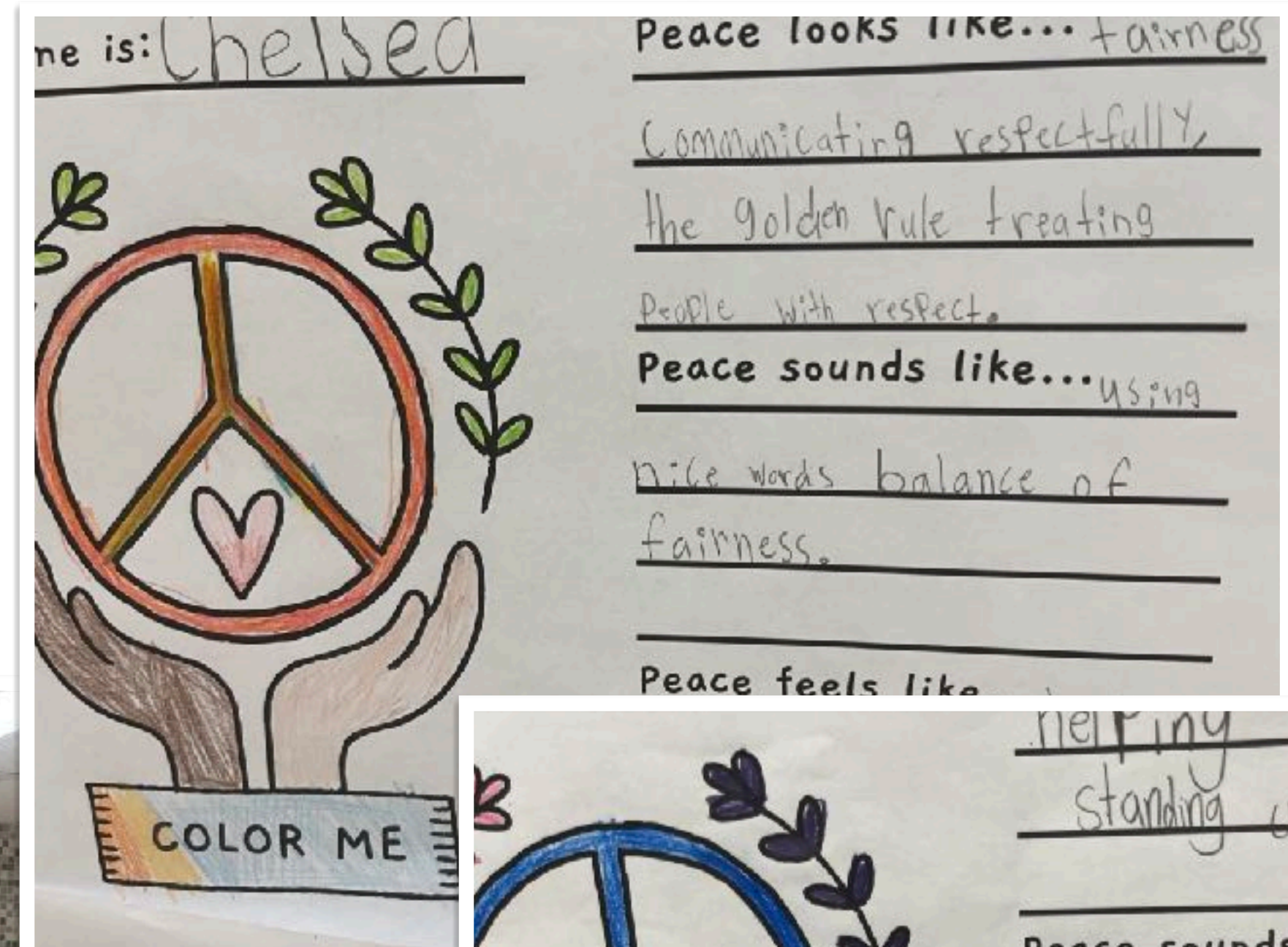
In Our Schools



Get your tickets for FMG's
Performance of Matilda!

In Our Schools

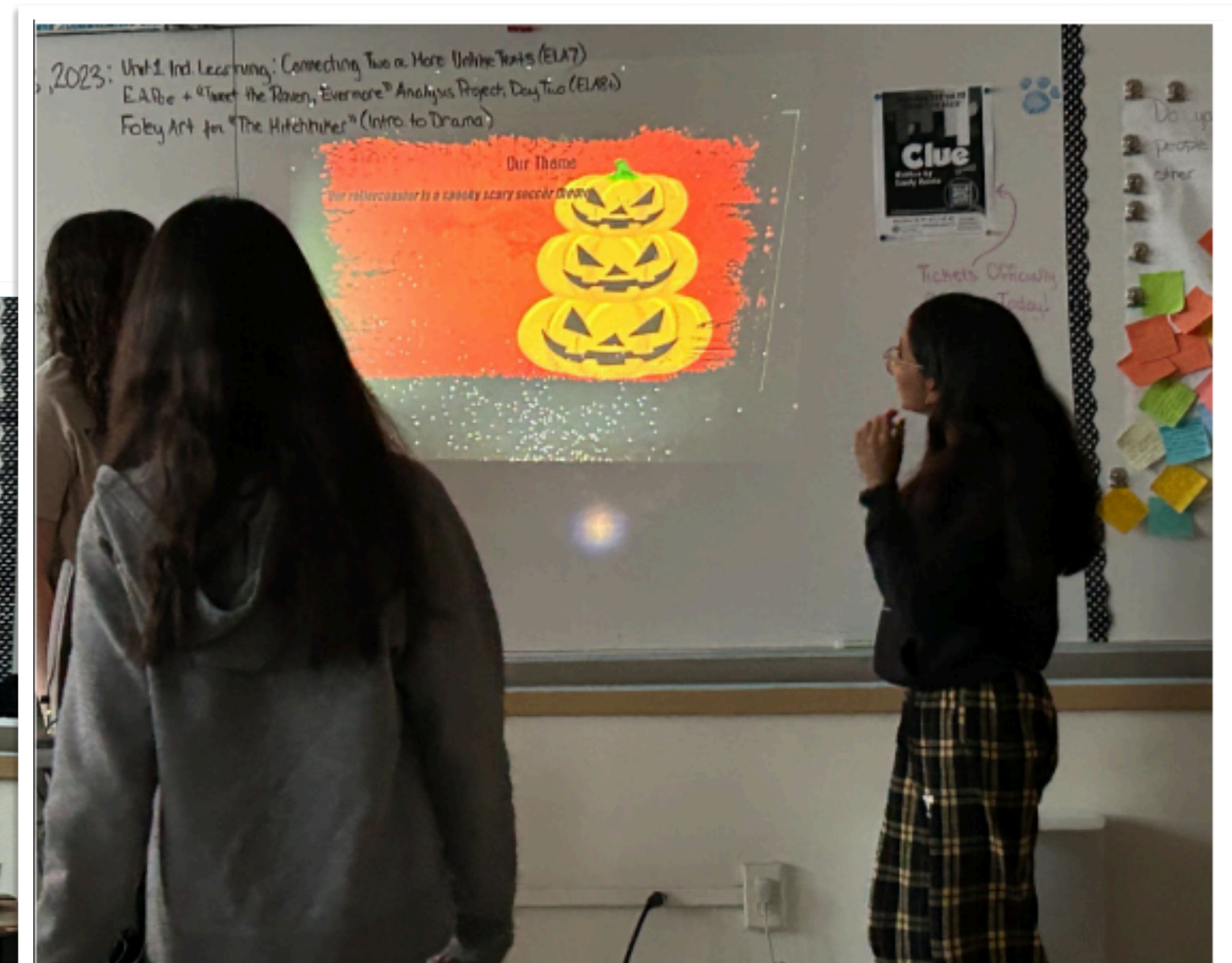
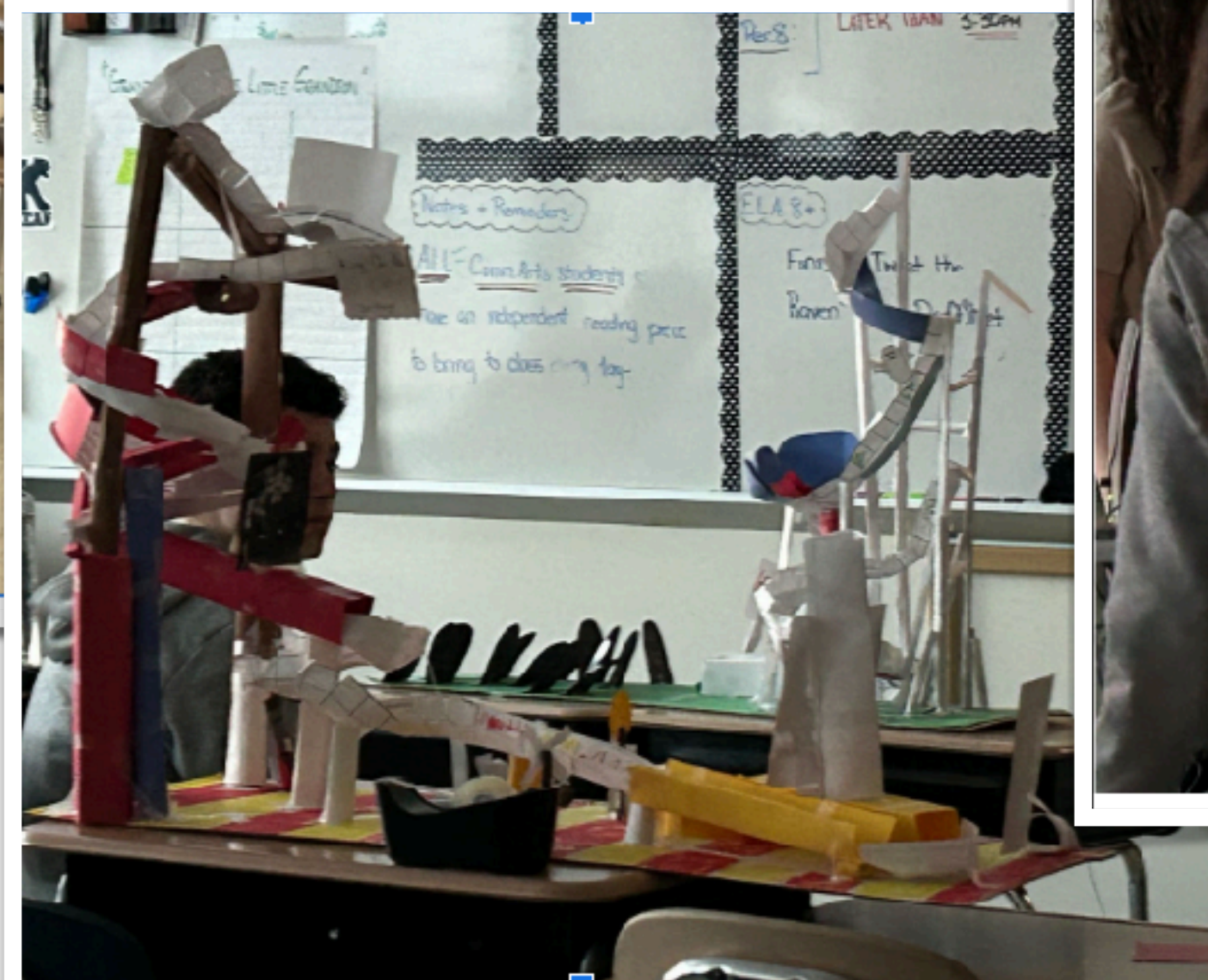
Sandmeier's Hallways Celebrate Peace!



In Our Schools

FMG

Mrs. Hernandez's Discovery Class presented their STEAM Paper Roller Coasters and their Digital Haunted Escape rooms



In Our Schools

Giving Thanks at Walton



Varsity Athletic Updates

Congratulations Girls Volleyball Team!

4x Sectional Champions!



Save the Date!

Wreaths Across American Ceremony

Jonathan Dayton High School Auditorium

6:30-7:30 pm

December 12, 2023

In 2022, Wreaths Across America and its national network of volunteers placed more than 2.7 million sponsored veterans' wreaths on headstones of our nation's service members at 3,702 participating locations. This was accomplished with the support of more than 5,000 sponsorship groups, corporation contributions, and in-kind donations from the transportation industry across the country.

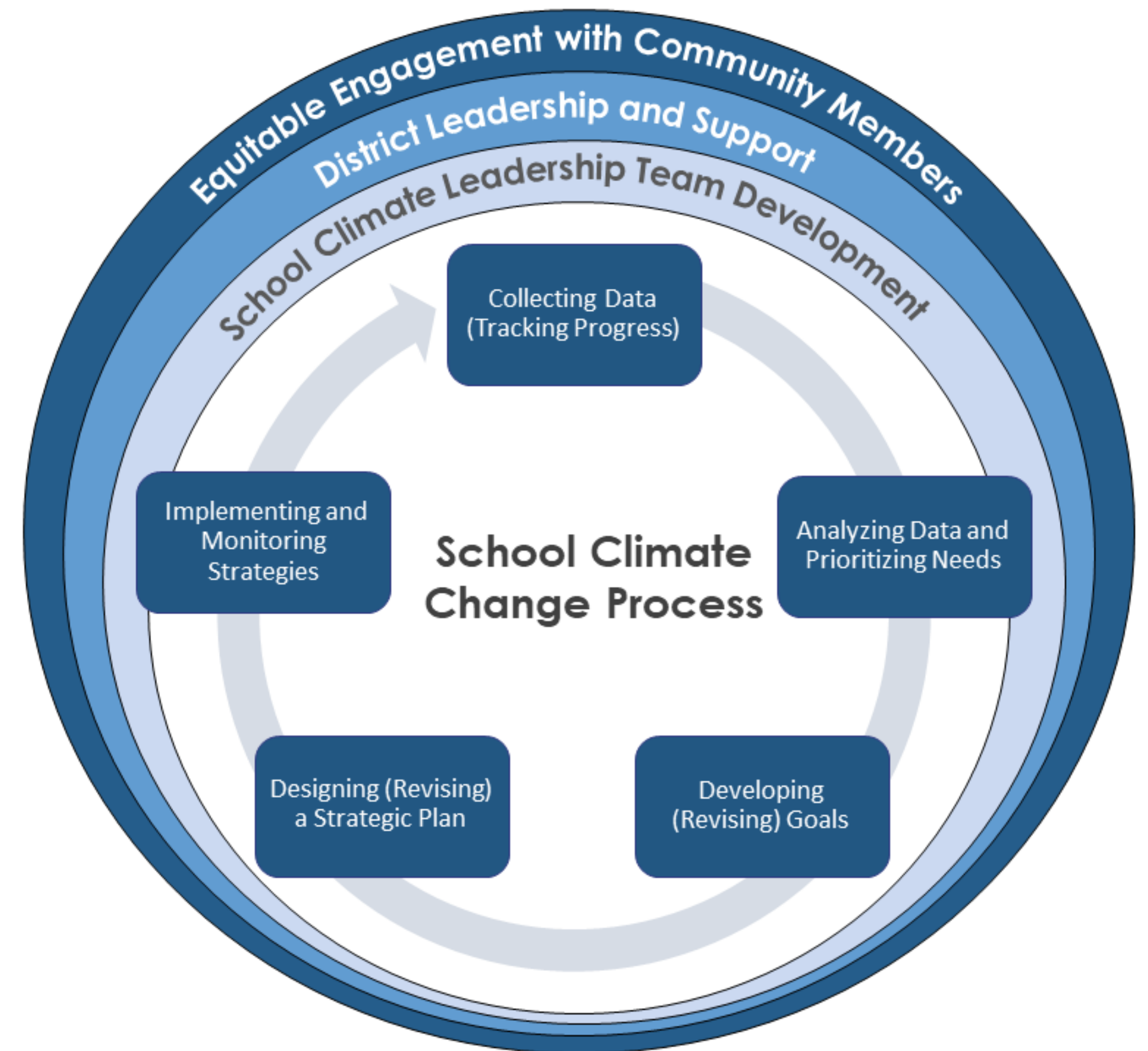
The wreath-laying that began more than 30 years ago is still held annually, on the second or third Saturday of December. WAA's annual pilgrimage from Harrington, Maine to Arlington National Cemetery has become known as "the world's largest veterans' parade." Every year the convoy of trucks, local law enforcement, staff and supporters stop at schools, monuments, veterans' homes and communities along the way to talk about the Wreaths Across America mission and remind people how important it is to remember, honor and teach.

Learn More: <https://www.wreathsassamerica.org/>



Building the Climate & Culture in Our Schools

- New Jersey School Climate Platform & Survey
 - Rutgers University & New Jersey Department of Education
 - <https://njschoolclimate.org/>
 - Survey encourages feedback from students, staff and families
- JDHS Administered in June 2023
 - Dr. Francis will join us to share the results in an upcoming meeting
- FMG will administer in December



What is HIB?



SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

139 Mountain Avenue
Springfield, NJ 07081
United States
[973-376-1025](tel:973-376-1025)

[District Calendar](#)
[Disclaimer](#)
[Anti-Bullying Information \(HIB\)](#)
[Map & Directions](#)

[TRANSLATE](#) | [f](#) | [@](#) | [t](#)

[DISTRICT HOME](#) | [SCHOOLS](#)



SPRINGFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Cultivating Compassionate and Extraordinary Learners

[Quick Links](#) • [Staff Resources](#) [Q](#)

[Board of Education](#) | [Administration](#) | [Athletics](#) | [Schools](#) | [Community Updates](#) | [Registration](#) | [Employment](#)

ANTI-BULLYING INFORMATION (HIB)

Anti-Bullying Information (HIB)

[HIB Policy Updates](#)

- [Video Presentation of Updated HIB Policy](#)
- [Slide Deck of Updated HIB Policy Only](#)
- [Parent Letter](#)

[HIB Reporting Forms](#)

- [Families/Caregivers](#)

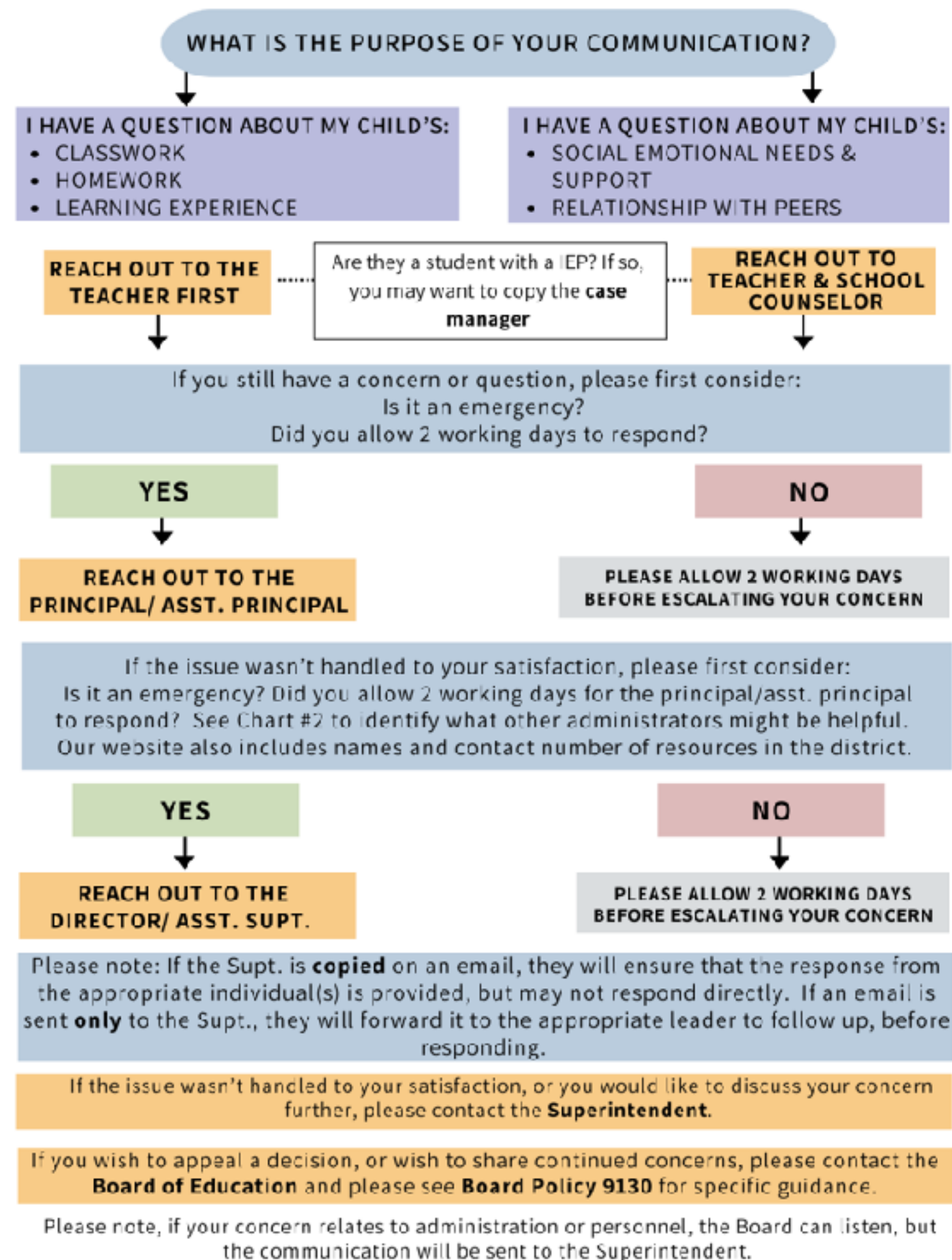
Links

[HIB Updated Policy Presentation](#)

- [Video Presentation of Updated HIB Policy](#)
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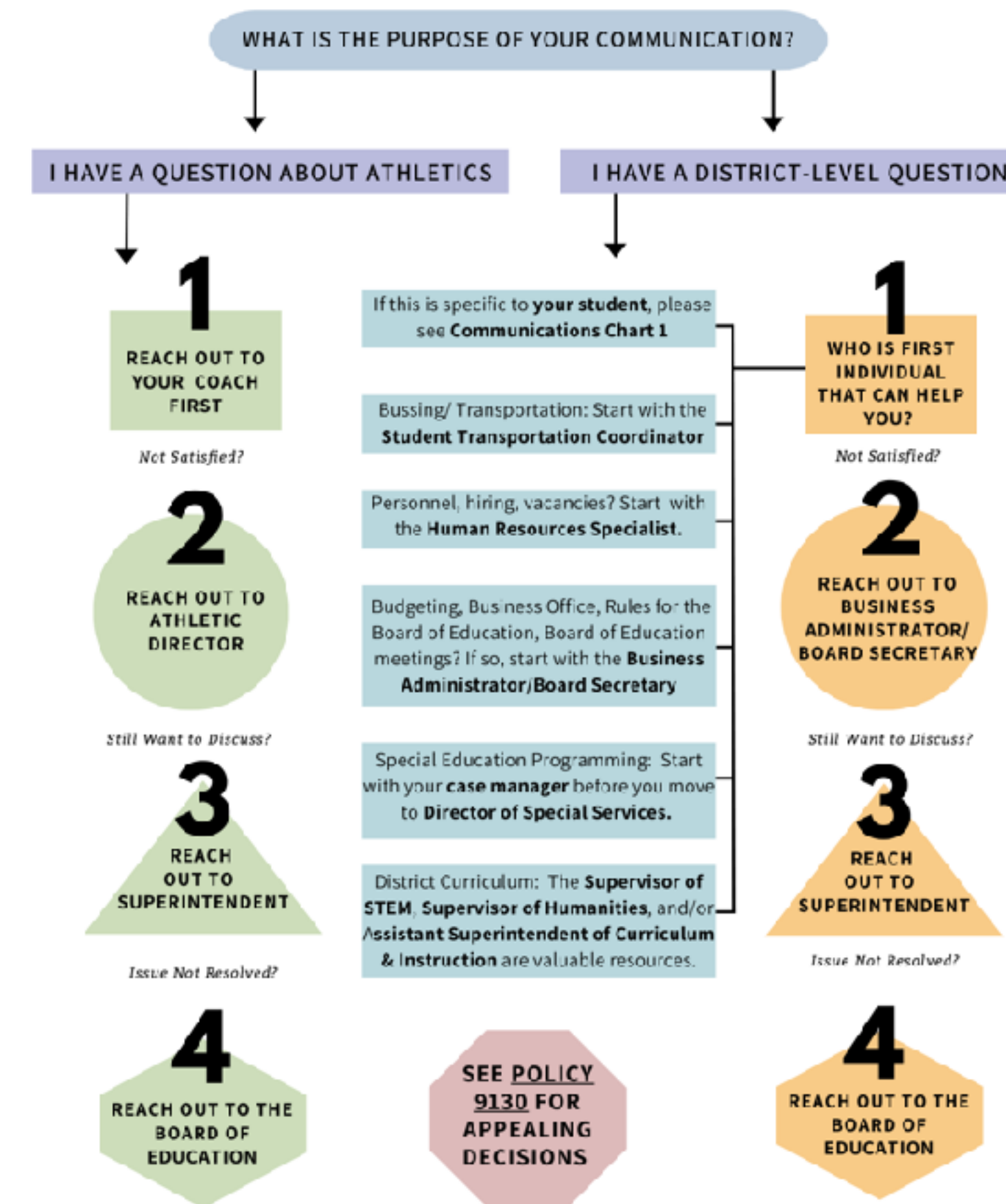
Chain of Communication & FAQ

Springfield Public Schools Chain of Communication Chart #1



UPDATED 11.1.23

Springfield Public Schools Chain of Communication Chart #2



Please note, if your concern relates to administration or personnel, the Board can listen, but the communication will be sent to the Superintendent.

UPDATED 11.1.23

Chain of Communication & FAQ

Springfield Public Schools Chain of Communication FAQs

WHAT ARE THE DO'S AND DON'TS FOR COMMUNICATION WITH THE SCHOOL DISTRICT?

COMMUNICATION DO'S

- Do start with the person closest to the student or issue. Use the charts to identify who that might be, and use the district website to get direct contact information.
- Do expect that the individuals in the school system want the best for every child in the district. Demonstrate your understanding by using respectful language and avoiding personal attacks.
- Do review our website and district policies related to your concerns. They are available and updated regularly.
- Do provide an appropriate amount of time during working hours for a response.
- If two working days have gone by without a response, and it is not an emergency issue, please send a follow-up message before escalating the communication.
- Do ask questions from the district before repeating information heard from a second or third hand source. Repeating unfounded rumors hurts our school community.
- Do understand that your rights related to personnel records, other student's information, or other parents' information is limited by law. Any communication that we share is governed by state and federal law.
- Please share ideas and opportunities that will help our district work toward our vision and mission!

COMMUNICATION DON'TS

- Don't start with social media. You may be violating your own, your child's or another individual's right to privacy. Social media will not make a difficult situation better—only directly reaching out to the school and leaders will result in an appropriate response.
- Don't be disrespectful or use personal insults. If the tone of the email is disrespectful, a teacher or administrator has the right not to reply.
- Don't expect an immediate response. A wide variety of factors go into responding to individuals. Some answers are easy, some are more complicated and require research. If it is an emergency, please let us know.
- Don't expect a response over a weekend or outside of working hours. You may get a response during those times, but it is not guaranteed. If it is an emergency, please let us know.
- Don't post messages meant for an individual response to a social media feed. It creates a lack of trust that impacts future communications.
- Don't malign the district for following laws, especially related to privacy.

WHEN DO I REACH OUT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT?

Any person can reach out to the Superintendent at any time, and communication will be most productive if you have used the communication chart process to answer school or student-specific questions. If the Superintendent is copied on an email, they may not respond, rather they will follow up with other individuals on the email to ensure the concern was followed up appropriately.

If you have a specific request or would like to schedule a meeting, the Superintendent will work to respond or share your question with the appropriate administrator. In addition, the Superintendent has multiple venues for communicating questions beyond email including public "Office Hours" monthly and Board of Education meetings.

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE SCHOOL BOARD IN THE COMMUNICATION PROCESS?

The Board of Education (BOE) is the last step in the communication chart, primarily because they do not function as administrators. Ultimately, if an issue comes to the BOE for resolution, it is essential that they are able to make an impartial judgment on the concerns presented.

When presented with a concern at a public meeting, the Board will refer back to the Superintendent to identify if the communication process has been shared. Frequently, the concerns shared have not been brought to the school leader or the Superintendent prior to the Board Meeting, and will be sent through the communication process before coming back to the BOE.

[New Jersey School Boards provides a helpful FAQ on the role of the BOE.](#)

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I SEND AN EMAIL TO THE FULL BOARD?

Due to rules regarding public meetings, participation of more than 5 board members (5 board members represents a quorum) in any discussion must follow the rules of the Open Public Meetings Act, including notice timelines and public access to the discussion. As a result, when an email is sent to the full board, individuals may receive a response that only includes the Board President. It is the responsibility of the Board President to relay or share any responses in an appropriate form with the members of the Board. [New Jersey School Boards provides a thorough description](#) of these practices.

Mark Your Calendars!

November 30th:

Dr. Goldberg at SEPAG- FMG 7:00 pm

November 22nd:

Early Dismissal- Thanksgiving

November 23rd-24th:

Schools Closed- Thanksgiving

December 1st - 2nd:

FMG Presents Matilda!

December 12th:

Wreaths Across America



Springfield Public Schools
wishes you and your family

Happy Thanksgiving

We Are Grateful



Springfield Public Schools
Wishes to All Who Celebrate



Happy Hanukkah