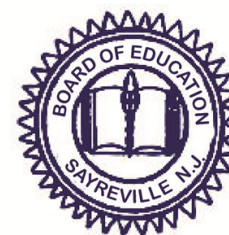




Sayreville Public Schools

Vision 2030

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Mr. David Knaster, Assistant Superintendent

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

Talk Sup Week 21 Review and Preview

February 5, 2024

Good morning Sayreville! I hope you are having a relaxing and enjoyable weekend. Welcome to another edition of Talk Sup, my weekly newsletter. Please remember that **today** we will **dismiss students early** so that our staff can participate in professional development.

Last Tuesday evening, the Superintendent Parent Advisory Council met at the Bombers Beyond Cafe. During the meeting, I provided an update on the transportation complex, the solar projects, and the referendum projects. We also discussed the Sayreville Graduation Policy revision, which will go into effect beginning in 2024-25, that dropped the number of credits needed to graduate from 130 to 120 and explained the rationale for the change. Likewise, we discussed the recently passed legislation that requires parents of 12th graders to complete and submit the Free Application for State Aid (FAFSA) in order for their children to graduate from high school. We provided an update and possible solution to the increase in class sizes at the Truman School and followed up on the lunch periods there. In addition, we discussed the efficacy of the Envision Math program in the elementary schools, as well as social studies and science at that level. Finally, we discussed, lighting in the middle school parking lot, a shared resource center at one of our elementary schools, a desire for parents to have program and curriculum resource books available for them, and the upcoming solar eclipse in April.



Last Wednesday evening, the district held a special meeting for the parents of all middle school and high school students about a new 24-hour tutoring service called *Pear Deck Tutoring* (formerly *Tutor Me*). During the meeting, Ms. Burt, Director of Special Projects, Ms. Grossman, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and a representative from *Pear Deck*, informed parents that all students are encouraged to use this highly effective tutoring service, which is available to them at any time during the day. Moreover, they introduced a special and very unique feature called Writing Lab, where students can submit drafts of writing assignments to their tutors for revision and editorial recommendation before they submit them to their

teachers. To see the video of the presentation, click [here](#). To review the presentation, click [here](#). Both are posted on the Grants and Curriculum and Instruction pages of the district website.



Last Thursday evening, the high school administration and guidance department welcomed the Class of 2028 by holding the annual Freshmen Tip Off. The orientation for students and parents provided an overview of the courses that students can register for, the over 100 clubs, activities, and sports they can join, and enabled them to experience a varsity basketball game.



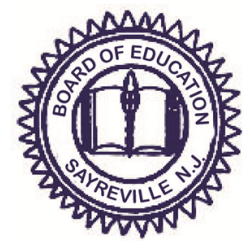
Educating Today's Learners to Be Tomorrow's Leaders



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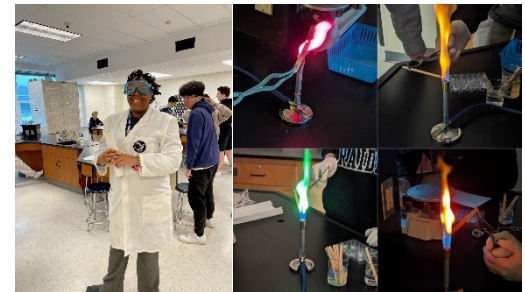
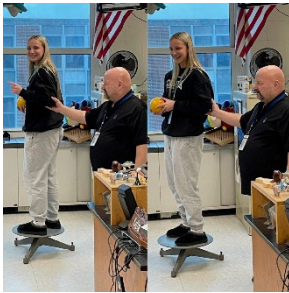
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Thanks to our magnificent instructional staff, our students had a very productive



Drawing class proudly displayed their end of semester illustrations, which included concept and fashion themes. In addition, with the help of one of his Physics students, Mr. Cicciari demonstrated Newton's Third Law. Likewise, students in Ms. Stokes Chemistry classes got "fired up" during a flame test lab, where they learned that when atoms are energized, they absorb that energy and the electrons move to higher energy levels. Furthermore, when those electrons move to a lower energy level and emit the energy in the form of light, which we see as color, different atoms produce different colors of light. This gives us information about the energy absorbed by that atom, which can actually be used to produce firework colors.



In Project Before, at the Selover School, after learning about hibernation, migration, and animal habitats, Miss Eileen's class made beautiful projects, in which each child chose an animal, showed it in its natural habitat, and wrote a



sentence explaining the picture. Additionally, students had a blast making new friends from different classes during Friendship Day. At the Cheesequake School, while they were waiting to find out if the groundhog saw his shadow, our preschoolers had a great time making shadows, drawing, crafting, and pretending to be a groundhog. Lastly, staff, students, and family members from Cheesequake, Selover, and Garden Friends on Main loved learning yoga poses together from Miss Jules during Yoga Night.



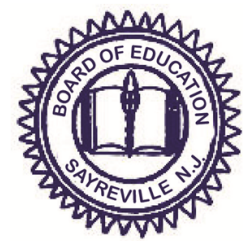
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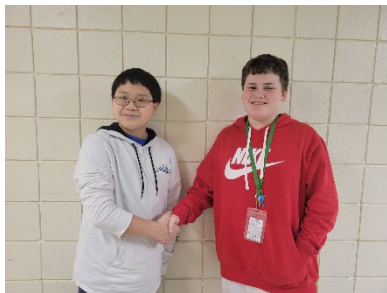
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At the middle school, students in Mr. Howard's class became junior paleontologists and went on a fossil dig. When they were finished, they completed a report on their discovery. At the Truman School, students and staff celebrated the 90th day of school, 90's style. At the Eisenhower School, students



and staff kicked off their annual SOUP-er Bowl where they bring in non perishable foods and make a prediction on who they think will win the Super Bowl on February 11th. The food will be donated to the local food pantry.



This past week, our students, staff, alumni, and community members continued to impress us with their remarkable accomplishments. We commend and congratulate SWMHS musician Richard Kuzma who successfully auditioned for the New Jersey All-State Band and was selected to be a member of the band once again this year. Likewise, we congratulate and commend SMS musicians Nick Attix and Austin Yu on their acceptance into the 2024 Central Jersey Music Educators Association (CJMEA) Band and Orchestra

this year. They competed against 600 other student musicians who tried out for this prestigious honor and will be performing in concert at the beginning of March. We also congratulate SWMHS Science Teacher, Roshen Benoy, who was selected by the faculty at the high as the Teacher of the Month of January. Likewise, we commend SWMHS Math Teacher Rasha Abadir, who was recently recognized by the Association of Women in Mathematics for her excellence in teaching mathematics. Bomber Nation salutes all our students, staff, and community members for representing Sayreville an impeccable manner. They Rock!



In performing arts, the SWMHS Winterguard earned 2nd Place out of six teams in their first competition of the 2024 season. The Winterguard is under the direction of Angela DiPaolo, Lauren Buonpane, Caroline Wilfong, and Rachel Frejuste. The performance is titled "In the Shadows."



The team is looking forward to the next competition in Brick on February 17th. In addition, the SWMHS Marching Band and Colorguard celebrated their very successful 2023 season with their end of season banquet last Friday. We commend



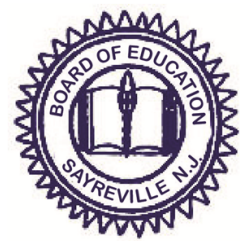
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and thank Dr. Caruso, Ms. Cambell, Ms. DiPaolo, and all the instructors for everything they did to promote the success of our student musicians and performers. Likewise, we commend and thank Mrs. Kuzma, Mrs. Selover, and all the parents on the Band Parent Association for their incredible support for the Marching Band and Colorguard and for making the banquet such a special and memorable event for all who attended.



In athletics the SWMHS Wrestling Team performed extremely well during the recent Greater Middlesex Conference (GMC) Wrestling Tournament. Connor Walsh won 1st Place and was crowned County Champion. Michael Zaunczkowski took 2nd Place. Bryce Bouchard and Robert Fritz took 5th Place, while Logan Appleby and CJ McCrea took 6th Place. Overall, the Bombers took 7th Place in the GMC. In addition, they defeated Rutherford High School (HS) to earn their 11th match

win of the season. As mentioned previously, the SWMHS Boys Basketball Team beat Perth Amboy HS



during the Freshman Tip Off and then later in the week defeated Steinert HS on Senior Night to improve their remarkable season record to 14-7. The SWMHS Girls and

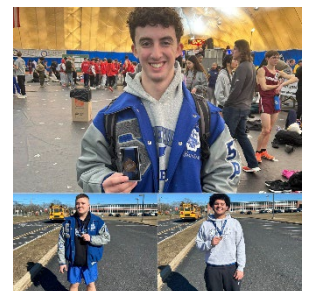
Boys Bowling Teams also performed extremely well during the GMC Bowlero Tournament. In fact, Jamaya Mayers, from the Girls Team, bowled a 278, which is her



season best, in the finals to capture the GMC Individual Girls Bowling Championship. For the Boys Team, Frank Serignese, placed 8th. The Boys Team also defeated John F. Kennedy HS in the first round of the GMC Bowling Tournament. Over the weekend, several SWMHS Indoor Track and Field athletes performed extremely well. Pole Vaulter Will Lewis won First Place during the New Jersey Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) Sectionals and advanced to the Groups. Likewise, Xavian Pena took 3rd Place and Jonathan (JD) Magaw



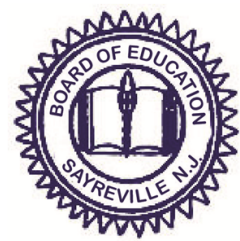
took 5th Place in the Shot Put and also advanced to the Groups. Finally, last week I reported that senior Michael Wiszenko from the SWMHS Boys Swim Team placed 3rd in the boys 200 Meter Individual Medley Race and 5th in the boys 500 Meter Freestyle. However, I failed to mention that Michael's 200 Meter Individual Medley swim broke a school record and that this is the third time that Michael has broken a school record over the past two years. 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 way they represent SWMHS and our community. Please remember that you can see all athletic team schedules by visiting the Athletics page of our website or by clicking [here](#).





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As per the [2023-24 School District Calendar](#), which you can view by clicking on it, there will be Board of Education Business Meetings tomorrow, February 6th and on Tuesday, February 20th in the SUES Board Room at 7:30 pm. Please remember that **2nd Marking Period Report Cards** for students in **grades 6-12** will be issued and viewable in Oncourse Connect on **February 6th**. In addition, please remember that we will **dismiss students early** today, **February 5th** so that our staff can participate in professional development, and that **our schools will be closed** on **February 19th** in observance of Presidents' Day.

On January 29, 2024, 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, 2024**) 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 [2024-2025 Project Before and Kindergarten](#) drop down menu: [New Student Registration Link](#) or [Returning Student Registration Link](#).

If you or 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