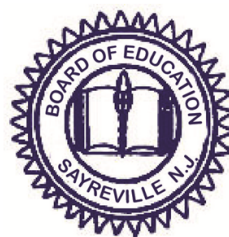




# Sayreville Public Schools

## Vision 2030

P.O. Box 997  
Sayreville, New Jersey 08871  
Phone: 732-525-5200  
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Dr. Richard R. Labbe, Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. David Knaster, Assistant Superintendent

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

### Talk Sup Week 36 Review and Preview

May 27, 2024

Good morning Sayreville! I hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable weekend. Welcome to another edition of Talk Sup, my weekly newsletter. Naturally, our schools are **closed** today in observance of Memorial Day. Please remember that our schools will also be **closed next Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>**, so that our staff can participate in a full day of professional development.



As we do each year at this time, we pause as a community and nation to salute and thank all the brave men and women in our nation's history who have sacrificed and dedicated their lives to protecting the liberties that make this country the greatest in the world. Furthermore, we also take the time to send our thoughts and prayers to the families of those courageous and selfless service women and men who have made the ultimate sacrifice for us and our country. Therefore, we pay great homage to and commend all the brave men and women who are and have served our great nation. May God bless them and the United States of America!

If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of



Education (BOE) Business Meeting held on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, here is what you missed. Sean Burns from Sayreville War Memorial

High School (SWMHS), and Ashten Poandl from the Sayreville Middle School (SMS) began the meeting by providing their respective Student Council Representative to the Board of Education Reports. Next, Mrs. Bloom expressed her opening remarks, as did Mrs. Napolitano, who also shared some district highlights. During the presentation portion of the meeting, the district recognized and



honored the 2024-24 Governors Educators of the Year, Magic 98.3 Teachers that Make Magic, and the SEA Education Support Professionals of the Year recipients. In addition, the district presented the final 2022-23 HIB Ratings. To view the presentation, click [here](#).



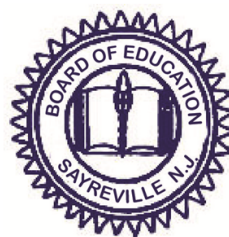
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The Board then moved the action items from the Superintendent's Report onto the Board Agenda and approved them all. To see the Agenda, click [here](#). To see the Agenda Addendum, click [here](#). To see all attachments, click [here](#). To view the video of the meeting, click [here](#). Among other motions, on the Vision 2030 Finance and Infrastructure portion of the agenda, the BOE accepted a generous donation from the South Amboy Knights of Columbus and The Cellar Dwellers Band to the Bombers Beyond Program, in the amount of \$200. In addition, the Board accepted the FY24 grant award for the Climate Change Education and Resilience Grant in the amount of \$31,875. The Board also approved self-insured medical, vision, prescription, and dental insurance coverage rates for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. Lastly, the BOE approved a lease agreement between 132 Main Street LLC and the Sayreville Board of Education for the period July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027.

On the Student Achievement portion of the agenda, the Board approved the long-term suspension of several students. On the Personnel portion of the agenda, as well as other motions, the Board of Education appointed new certificated and non-certificated staff for the 2023-24 school year. Likewise, the Board approved the transfer of certificated and non-certificated staff for the 2023-24 school year. In addition, the BOE appointed coaches for the 2024-25 school year with their stipends. Furthermore, they appointed faculty to work in the Middle School Credit Completion Summer School on an as-needed basis. Finally, the BOE renewed the employment of certificated administrative staff, certificated faculty, and paraprofessionals for the 2024-25 school year.

During the Open Public Comment portion of the meeting, a resident of Sayreville expressed disappointment that the Borough of Sayreville will not be sharing any of the money from the payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) program for the warehouses that were recently built off of Cheesequake Road with the school district and petitioned the Board to do something about it. In addition, a resident of Old Bridge asked if the district will be producing a report on why the minibus caught fire last week. Finally, one resident of Sayreville and several nonresidents expressed opposition to BOE Policy 5756 Transgender Students. During the Board Discussion portion of the meeting, Mr. Smith reviewed what was discussed during the last Finance and Infrastructure Committee Meeting, as did Mr. Pieloch for the last Personnel Committee Meeting. Mrs. Bloom also shared news from the Middlesex County School Boards Association.

The next meeting will take place at **7:30 pm on Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>** in the **SUES Board Room**. During this meeting, the district will recognize and honor the 2023-24 SWMHS Top 10 Students, MCSBA/MCASA Unsung Heroes, and the 2023-24 Middlesex County Secondary Administrators Student of the Year recipients. It will also honor the SWMHS Girls Track and Field Team, along with the Boys and Girls Lacrosse Teams for winning GMC White Division Championships this spring. The agenda for this meeting will be posted on the district website on **Friday, June 14<sup>th</sup>**. A complete copy of the **May 21<sup>st</sup> Business Meeting** minutes will be posted on the BOE Meeting Minutes page of the website once they are approved by the BOE during the next BOE Meeting on **June 18, 2024**.

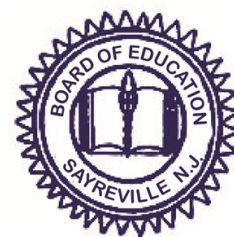




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Last Monday, the high school held a National Honor Society Induction ceremony where nearly 170 students were inducted into the SWMHS National Business, Math, English, Science, Computer and French Honor Societies. As is the case each year, each of these high school departments recognized and inducted the amazing juniors and seniors who have demonstrated excellence inside and outside of the classroom

this year in one or more of these departments. Thanks to the hard work and preparation by each honor society advisor, this year they once again combined each respective induction ceremony into one. We congratulate all our amazing students who were inducted into one or more of aforementioned honor societies and commend them for their hard work, dedication, and sacrifice. Moreover, we thank them for being the inspiration to many of our students. Finally, we thank Ms. Chuntz, Ms. Vasquez, Mr. Said, Ms. Conry, and Madame Sullivan for coordinating and facilitating a moving ceremony that recognized the outstanding academic achievement of our scholars.



Last Tuesday, the district hosted the Bombers Unified Track and Field Meet in the SWMHS Stadium. As always, we were impressed and inspired to watch our students with intellectual and developmental disabilities compete with and against their typically developing peers in traditional and nontraditional Olympic track and field events. This year the high school team competed against Perth Amboy High School. Moreover, we were moved to see the comradery and

friendship between our student athletes, which undoubtedly evolved during the process of practicing and preparing for the meet together. Additionally, we were overwhelmed with joy to witness the amount of staff members, parents, and students who came out to assist and support these incredible student athletes. Thus, we thank and commend Ms. Carkeek and all our Bombers Unified coaches, advisors, and paraprofessionals for making this event so successful and memorable for the students who competed in it and their families. Go Bombers Unified!

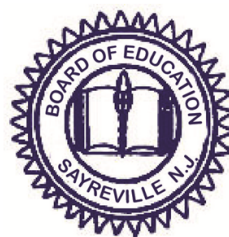






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Last Thursday evening, the district hosted a Title III Family Engagement event at the middle school, which was attended by about 80 children and parents/guardians. During it, families attended an interactive presentation by Dr. Solange Lopes Murphy on how to support students learning at home, and our amazing staff members hosted literacy activities, games, and crafts. Also present were Sayreville Public Library staff and door prizes were provided through a



Sayreville Education Association grant.



Thanks to our magnificent instructional staff, our students had a very productive and fun week of learning last week. At the Arleth School, the American Legion Lenape Post 211 celebrated Armed Forces Day with the third grade students.

Members of the American Legion were also on hand to present the colors, speak with the students about the different United States Armed Forces and the importance of the American flag. After a demonstration on the proper procedure, the students were able to participate in the folding of the flag. This program

was designed to educate the students on the importance of honoring our men and

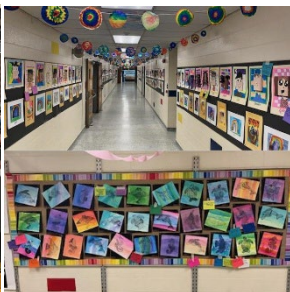


women in the military. It helped them understand that there are people who are making, or have made, great sacrifices so we can enjoy the freedoms that we partake in each and every day. In addition, students and staff



uplifted the school with kind messages, as staff wrote their own kind messages for all to see. Finally, in honor of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of National EMS Week, the Sayreville Emergency Squad came to Arleth and gave students a tour of their ambulances and rescue truck. At the Eisenhower School, staff, students, and their

families had a wonderful time during their Art Show and Chorus Concert. The artwork was masterful and the chorus performed magnificently. At the Truman School,



students in Ms. Anderson's class had a ball dressing up during "Important Historical Figures Day." One of her 1<sup>st</sup> grade students, Alani Pellot-Satchell, dressed as Ruby Bridges, the first African American child to

desegregate an all-white school. Another student, Leonardo Garcia, dressed as President John F. Kennedy. Finally, Abraham Segarra dressed up like Abraham Lincoln.

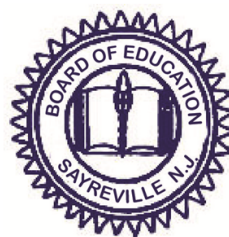


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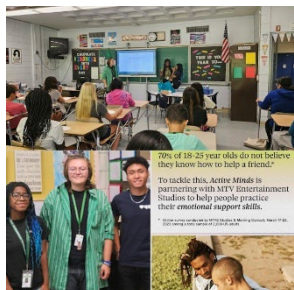
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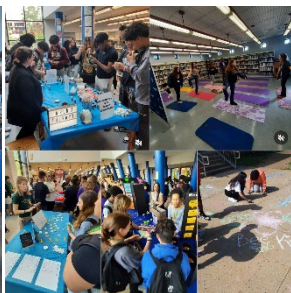
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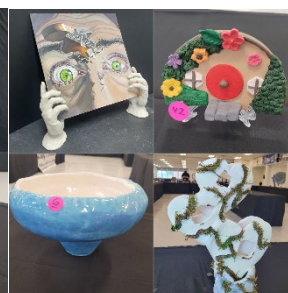


Led by Doreen Consulmagno and Lauren Sacs, Student Assistance Coordinators (SAC) at the middle school and high school respectively, 10<sup>th</sup> grade students from the high school connected with 8<sup>th</sup> grade students from the middle school as part of the "How to Help a Friend" program. During this very powerful program, the 10<sup>th</sup> graders turnkeyed skills they learned during the Middlesex Wellness Summit that they recently attended to help 8<sup>th</sup> grade students identify and include trusted adults into their support systems, as well as to assist in supporting their peers to seek assistance

when needed, including learning about hotline resources. In addition, the high school students shared personal examples of their stress-relieving skills, how to balance their school/life responsibilities, who their trusted adults are, and why mental health month is important to them. According to Active Minds, a college-level mental health advocacy club, 70% of young people aged 18-25 felt that they didn't know how to help a friend. At the middle school, some students had an exciting day at Merck-Rahway becoming scientists and learning about DNA and other opportunities available.



At the high school, students and staff participated in the annual Mental Health Fair.



The Art Department also hosted the annual Clay in Mind ceramic competition in the cafeteria. The following students had works entered into the competition: Natalie Borusewiz, Alyssa Downey, Barbara Lugo, Raphael Pereira, Jessica Sasson, Jamie Tuquero, Gabriella Yannuzzi, and Lily Zakrezewski. Of all the works that were entered into the competition by numerous districts through the state, the artwork of three SWMHS students were chosen to go on display in the gallery space at the Noyes Arts Garage in Atlantic City. In fact, they will be holding a closing reception at The Noyes Arts Garage on Saturday, June 15, from 2-3:30 pm, where the students and their families will be invited to view their work in the gallery space. Students will receive awards and prizes will be given. In addition, students visited the CMC Steel factory in Sayreville to learn about recycled steel production.



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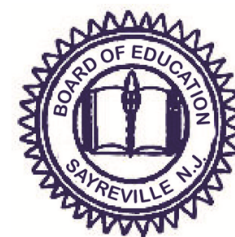




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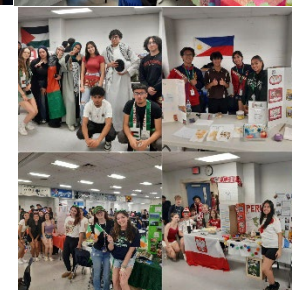
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The 11<sup>th</sup> graders and 12<sup>th</sup> grader girls also faced off against one another on the gridiron



during the annual Powder Puff Football Game, which was won by the Class of 2024. The Air Force Junior ROTC Cadets visited the USS Bataan during Fleet Week in Manhattan. The International Society had a wonderful time visiting the Philadelphia Art Museum. Students also displayed their cultural and ethnic heritage pride during the Student Council World Cultures Day. Finally, The Sayreville Police Department visited with 12<sup>th</sup> grade



students to teach them the effects of impaired driving by taking their simulator Crash Course.



In Project Before at the Selover School, students in Miss Hanarae's class learned about lady bugs, where they raised their own and released them into the wild. At the Cheesequake School, students planted seeds as part of STEAM Week. Students in Miss Colleen's class also had



a ton of fun participating in Game Day. In addition, students had so much fun practicing their names and writing new words to connect to their guided Elephant and Piggie drawings. Finally, our preschoolers had a blast during their Field Day.



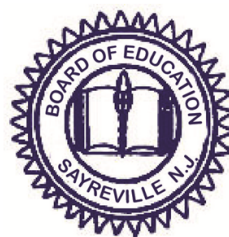
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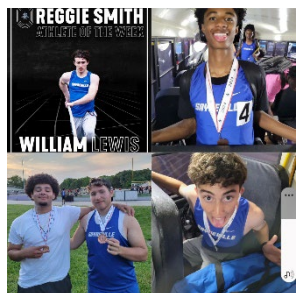
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This past week, our students, staff, alumni, and community members continued to impress us with their remarkable accomplishments. We begin by commending and congratulating the SWMHS Band for earning the top rating during the High Note Music Festival in Marlboro. They received a rating of Superior, which is the highest rating offered by the festival after performing a concert band selection, drum line



cadence, and a rousing patriotic medley that featured the color guard. Groups from throughout the state were judged on repertoire, tone quality, rhythmic accuracy, and accuracy of tuning. We also congratulate and commend Cindy Gallagher, Secretary to the Principal at the Samsel Upper Elementary School, for winning the Montclair State University Foxy Award for Outstanding Achievement in Period/Fantasy Costume Design for a Musical for last year's musical production of The Little Mermaid. Bomber Nation salutes all our students, staff, and community members for representing Sayreville in such an impeccable manner. They Rock!



In athletics, the Boys and Girls Track and Field Teams performed well during the Greater Middlesex Conference Meet. On the Boys Team, William Lewis won 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in the Pole Vault, Aaron Losada earned 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in the Discus, and Chase Rogers (Intermediate Medley Race) and Xavian Pena (Discus) took 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Place respectively. In addition, led by the outstanding pitching of Logan Kaufman and the superb hitting by Jake Romanello, who went two for three with a double and triple, the SWMHS Baseball Team defeated Hightstown High School in the First Round of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic

Association (NJSIAA) Group 4 Central Jersey Tournament. Likewise, the SWMHS Softball Team beat John P. Stevens High School to improve their season record to 13-8. 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 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](#).



As per the [2023-24 School District Calendar](#), which you can view by clicking on it, our schools are **closed** today, **Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup>** in observance of Memorial Day. In addition, there will be a **BOE Business Meeting** on **Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>**. Please also remember that our schools will be **closed next Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>**, so that our staff can participate in a full day of professional development, as well as on **Monday, June 17<sup>th</sup>** in observance of Eid al-Adha and on **Friday, June 21<sup>st</sup>** in observance of Juneteenth. In

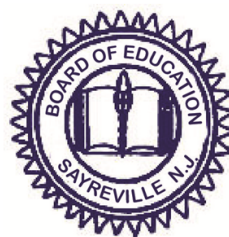
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addition, please note that we will **dismiss students early on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup>**. Likewise, please remember that the **last day of school for students and 10-month staff will be June 24<sup>th</sup>**. Finally, please note that the **end of the Grades K-5 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester and the Grades 6-12 4<sup>th</sup> Marking Period will be on June 24<sup>h</sup>**. Therefore, **Report Cards** for all students will be issued on **June 27<sup>th</sup> and June 28<sup>th</sup>** respectively.

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](http://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 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