# BERGENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NEW NEW YORK NEW YORK

# **SUMMER EDITION - AUGUST 2024**



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# FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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



As we begin to watch the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris, France, there is a strong sense of excitement and anticipation in the air. Just as athletes from around the world are gearing up to showcase their talents on a global stage, our school district is preparing for another exciting and successful school year.

Although we recently experienced the loss of our beloved High School Principal, Mr. Fasano, when I look back on the past year, I am immediately filled with tremendous pride and gratitude for our world-class, devoted faculty and staff. Their unwavering dedication and hard work have,

once again, guided us through another excellent school year.

To each staff member of our educational learning community, I extend my heartfelt thanks. Your commitment to your students is both inspiring and unmatched. I wish you all a well-deserved, relaxing summer break to rest and reload for another fantastic year in September.

While some of our staff are taking the time to rejuvenate, our maintenance and custodial staff are working hard to ensure the school buildings are in pristine condition for the 2024-25 school year. Their collective effort in preparing our facilities is crucial to creating a safe, inviting, and welcoming learning environment. Thank you all for going above and beyond to make each of our schools shine.

This summer, we are also undertaking several important capital construction projects to enhance our district's facilities. These projects include:

- Classroom air conditioning and electrical upgrades at each school
- HVAC installation in the server rooms at Lincoln and Washington Schools
- HVAC installation in the gym at Hoover School
- HVAC installation in the upper gym and cafeteria at RWB
- HVAC installation in the woodshop and green tech classroom at BHS
- Boiler replacement project at BHS

We are pleased to announce that we have received a ROD Grant from the New Jersey Department of Education for the boiler replacement project. This grant will cover 40% of the cost, resulting in a \$1.9 million savings for the tax-payers of Bergenfield.

As we enjoy the remaining days of summer, I would like to thank our entire community for their continued partnership and support. Together, we are providing a nurturing learning environment and outstanding academic and extracurricular opportunities for our students to set them up for success and propel them towards achieving their fullest potential.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and make happy memories, as we look forward to beginning another remarkable school year in September. Remember, knowledge is power—so keep on reading!

















#### 2024 Unsung Hero



Isabella Myers was honored as an "Unsung Hero" by the New Jersey School Boards Association. She was presented with the award at a recognition ceremony on March 5th.

Throughout the year, Isabella exemplified model citizenship, and dedicated herself to improving the school community at BHS. As a participant in the graphic arts program, Isabella worked with her instructor, Mr. Melendez, in the creation and development of various literature and promotional materials that enhanced the school climate.

Isabella will be attending St. Thomas Aquinas College this fall.

# THE JAMES FASANO "IT'S A GREAT DAY TO BE A BEAR" SCHOLARSHIP

As you may already know, High School Principal, Mr. Fasano, passed away on June 27th. A scholarship fund has been created in his memory so he can continue to help students.

Please consider donating via **check made out to** the **Bergenfield Board of Education**, C/O James Fasano It's A Great Day To Be A Bear Scholarship, 225 W. Clinton Ave., Bergenfield, N I 07621

He will forever be in our hearts.

# DISTRICT NEWS

# We are Bergenfield: A Snapshot of the Class of 2024



Kristen Caraig Salutatorian, STEM graduate, Peer Leader, Honors Symphony, AP Scholar, Rutgers University



Irasel Sawyers Soccer/track captain, HOSA Future Health Professionals, BCCA multi-sport athlete, Rutgers University



Kayla Porter French Honor Society President, softball captain, Seal of Biliteracy, College of New Jersey



Janelle Carr
Science National Honor Society, Rutgers CTE/Health
Science Program Award,
University of Connecticut



Celine De La Rosa Student Congress President, Rho Kappa Honor Society, AP Scholar, Florida Atlantic University



Brandon Singh STEM graduate, French & Science Honor Societies, AP Scholar, SUNY-Binghamton



Gabrielle Hugo English Honor Society, Student Congress, Honors Symphony Orchestra, Boston University





Jasmine Viray
Art Honor Society, allconference softball, Student Congress Secretary,
Temple University



Rosita De Real Valedictorian, AP Scholar, varsity soccer, Honors Orchestra, STEM graduate, Northwestern University

# DISTRICT NEWS

# BERGENFIELD REPRESENTS AT COUNTY TREBLE CHOIR FESTIVAL



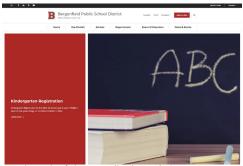
Students from all over Bergen County performed together at the festival in Fair Lawn.

Music Educators of Bergen County, Inc. sponsored their annual Fifth and Sixth Grade Treble Choir Festival at Memorial Middle School in Fair Lawn on April 20th. Each school in the county was able to nominate up to 8 students to participate in the festival, which culminated with an afternoon concert.

Sponsoring teachers and their pupils practiced vigorously throughout the months of March and April in preparation for the festival. Bergenfield's forty-five musicians, representing six of our schools, comprised nearly half of the entire choir.

During the event, our teachers observed some best practices in choral music instruction, while the students sang gleefully. A special thanks goes out to the Bergenfield Friends of Music for contributing \$15 per student and purchasing music for each teacher.

#### NEW WEBSITE LAUNCHING



Sneak peek of the new district website.

The district will be launching a new-look website this summer. The mobile-friendly website will feature a modern, sleeker look, and aims to be easier for users to navigate and find the resources they are looking for. We are excited for its launch and look forward to publishing it for the public to enjoy before the new school year.

## **BOE PRESIDENT HONORED**



Dr. Amara receives his plaque and certificate.

Board President, Dr. Joseph Amara, was recognized by New Jersey School Boards Association at the May 7th Bergen County School Boards Association meeting for his 30 years of service on the Bergenfield Board of Education. Congratulations on this tremendous milestone, and thank you for your commitment to our schools.



Franklin choir students with Ms. Korath



Washington choir students with Mr. Lavery.



RWB choir students with Dr. Sassi

## TEACHER SAVES STUDENT



Ms. Monaghan with Jacob Modesto.

On May 2nd, Lincoln School teacher Christine Monaghan quickly jumped into action and administered the Heimlich Maneuver to rescue her student, Jacob. Ms. Monaghan's heroic efforts serve as a reminder of the importance of learning first aid. Please consider signing up for first aid courses—you may just save a life.

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## **DISTRICT NEWS** | AUGUST 2024

#### **District Central Administration**

Dr. Christopher M. Tully, Superintendent of Schools JoAnn Khoury-Frias, Business Administrator/Board Secretary Darlene Markman, Asst. Superintendent of Curriculum Shane Biggins, Director of Personnel

#### **Board of Education**

Dr. Joseph Amara, President Guadalupe Ruiz-Catala, Vice-President Fanny Cruz-Betesh, Trustee Deborah Podwin, Trustee Dr. Nelson Reynoso, Trustee







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# DEDICATED IN REMEMBRANCE OF MR. JAMES FASANO

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