A message from the Superintendent of the Cherry Hill Public Schools.





# CHPS WEEKLY

District News for the week ending September 13, 2019

# **Getting the Facts**

This is a year of many changes, all around the District. WE are happy to answer your questions about what's happening.

The 2019-2020 school year has already proven to be a time of change in the Cherry Hill Public Schools, even just two weeks into the school year. I am a believer that change in the name of progress and improvement is a good thing, in needed and natural occurrences. The changes we've been making around the District all summer and into the fall have been changes for the greater good: our launch of full day kindergarten, our continuing work to improve safety and security, the interior building improvements and exterior cleanup efforts all are essential to meeting the needs of our students and staff – not only the academic needs, but the needs for healthy and safe environments in which to learn and thrive.

As anyone who has experienced maintaining any sort of home knows, certain projects and changes require things to look worse before they look and function better. This week, some of our community members expressed concern regarding the condition of the Memorial Garden at Cherry Hill High School West. Several people reached out to me directly, concerned about what they were seeing on social media and the suppositions posted by some who believed the garden had been destroyed.

I always greatly appreciate direct inquiries from community members, which enable me to address concerns immediately. In this instance, I was able to inform the larger community via <u>a statement regarding</u> the restoration of the garden. The statement was posted yesterday morning on our <u>District web site</u>, <u>Cherry Hill</u> <u>High School West's web site</u>, and our <u>CHPS</u> <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u> platforms.

Hundreds of improvement projects are happening around our District. As they are completed, more will begin throughout this school year and beyond. If you have questions about what's happening anywhere in the District, I strongly encourage you to contact us directly. UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **BOE Action Meeting**

September 24 @ 7 pm Malberg Administration Building 45 Ranoldo Terrace

#### **PSEG Road Work**

All of September This will affect certain routes to and from our schools.

PSEG has released an online statement regarding the roadwork.

SCHOOLS CLOSED September 30 & October 1

#### Policy & Legislation Committee Meeting

October 7 @ 5 pm Malberg Administration Building, 45 Ranoldo Terrace

#### Curriculum & Instruction Committee Meeting

October 7 @ 6 pm Malberg Administration Building, 45 Ranoldo Terrace

#### Business & Facilities Committee Meeting

October 8 @ 7 pm Malberg Administration Building, 45 Ranoldo Terrace

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Whether via our <u>Quick Question</u> portal, an email to <u>publicinfo@chclc.org</u> or an email directly to me at <u>jmeloche@chclc.org</u>, I promise you, you will receive an answer.

Change is necessary, and change can be hard. The best way to understand the need for change in the Cherry Hill Public Schools is to stay engaged with what's happening in your child's school and in the District as a whole. Join the PTA and attend their meetings. Read your school's e-newsletters and emails from the District (and I thank you for reading this right now), and follow your child's school, teachers, principals, CHPS and even me (<u>@MelocheJoe on</u> Twitter) on social media. Download the free District app from Google Play or the App Store – you can even automatically populate your own online calendar with your child's school events from the app! Attend Board of Education meetings or, if you can't attend in person, watch the meeting live stream or the tape of it on our YouTube channel, posted the morning after the meeting.

I appreciate the enthusiastic response we have received regarding full day kindergarten and our various orientation sessions at the middle and high schools before the beginning of the school year. Your suggestions for the years to come are very much appreciated as well.

I wish you a lovely weekend as we reach the midpoint of September. Share some kindness and a smile during your travels. I will be doing the same!

Regards,

Joe Meloche

Joe Meloche

Superintendent, Cherry Hill Public Schools

"Kindness and politeness are not overrated at all. They're underused." – Tommy Lee Jones October 8 @ 8 pm Malberg Administration Building, 45 Ranoldo Terrace

#### SCHOOLS CLOSED October 9

#### Board of Education Candidates Forum

October 10 @ 7 pm Malberg Administration Building, 45 Ranoldo Terrace

#### **Volley for Support**

October 11 @ 5:30 pm Cherry Hill High School East, 1750 Kresson Rd. Benefits the Cherry Hill Food Pantry

## GREAT NEWS FROM THE CHERRY HILL EDUCATION FOUNDATION!

Cherry

### Hill Education Foundation Announces Exciting District- Wide Grant Awards

The Cherry Hill Education Foundation

(CHEF), an all-volunteer, non-profit, charitable organization, has been a wonderful support to the Cherry Hill Public Schools since 2007. CHEF has awarded more than 300 grants and donations, totaling more than \$1 million, to our schools.

This week, <u>CHEF announced on video</u> <u>a new grant initiative to benefit each</u> <u>of our 19 schools at once.</u>

**WE** thank CHEF for their generosity, and can't wait to see the creative ways our schools use their awards!



Free and Reduced Price Lunch Applications Available; Families Already Receiving Benefits Must Reapply by October 15

Applications for the 2019-2020 Free and Reduced Price Lunch Program are available at <u>www.payschoolscentral.com</u>

PaySchools Central is a secure payment system that simplifies school payments in an easyto-use online portal. It enable parents to fund lunch accounts and pay required and optional fees quickly and easily. <u>More information about PaySchools</u> <u>Central is available online</u>. Also available is <u>a step-by-step</u> <u>guide to signing up for</u> <u>PaySchools Central</u>. Note that an application must be submitted **each year**.

Families already receiving Free and Reduced Price Lunch benefits must reapply by October 15. If an application is not submitted by October 15th and your child currently receives benefits, your child's status will change to full pay breakfast and lunch.



#### Confused about New Online Meal Payment System?

On August 19, 2019, parents were notified that the MySchoolBucks meal payment system is being replaced by PaySchools Central beginning this school year.

All money leftover in your MySchoolBucks account will automatically transfer to your new PaySchools account when you register on PaySchools Central.

Step-by-step instructions for registering on PaySchools Central are available online. You are receiving this email because of your relationship with Cherry Hill Public Schools. If you wish to stop receiving email updates sent through the Blackboard service, please <u>unsubscribe</u>. Cherry Hill Public Schools | 45 Ranoldo Terrace, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034 | 856-429-5600