



CHPS WEEKLY

District News for the week ending December 7, 2018

Bond 2018: VOTE!

WE encourage all community members to cast an informed vote in the December 11th Special Election.

Voting Day for the 2018 Bond Referendum is just four days away! On Tuesday, December 11, the polls will be open from 3-8 pm for all registered Cherry Hill voters to cast their vote, at their regular polling place, on this important issue. Early Voting and Vote by Mail options also are available.

I cannot emphasize enough the importance of being an informed voter before casting your vote. For those unfamiliar with how bonds work: Bonds are a way for school districts to raise money – which they then must pay back over a period of years typically to finance building projects or other capital projects. Although we and the administrators, Board of Education members, and concerned citizens of the community before us have vigorously sought the funding we are owed from the state for decades, our lack of state funding has forced us to make tough choices. We have chosen to maintain small classes, important programs and quality staff. What little money has been left, even after using grant funding, has not been enough to fully cover our needed facilities improvements. We continue to fight to secure our fair share of funding, but even when we finally receive the \$29 million we should annually, our needs will far exceed those funds.

If you haven't already, please visit our <u>Bond 2018:</u> <u>Building a Solid Future page</u> on the District web site for information about the Bond, including a recently

UPCOMING EVENTS

Cherry Hill High School East Fall Play

The Man Who Came to Dinner

December 7 & 8

@ 7:30 pm

December 9 @ 2 pm

Cherry Hill High School

East

1750 Kresson Road

Bond 2018 Community Info Session:

"Bonding Over Breakfast" Sponsored by the Cherry Hill Education Association

December 8 Breakfast Buffet from 9:30-11 am Rosa Middle School Media Center 485 Browning Lane

Sit & Chat Sessions with Dr. Meloche

December 8 11:30 am- 1 pm Cherry Hill Public Library 1100 Kings Highway North

1:30-3 pm

added link to Bond Referendum project costs at a glance, as well as projects listed by school, frequently asked questions, and a tax impact calculator to estimate the effect of the Bond on your property taxes.

Our in-person informational sessions are a great way to understand the Bond and have your questions answered. This weekend I will be "on the road" to meet with folks around the community, starting with the "Bonding Over Breakfast" event on Saturday morning, December 8, in the Rosa International Middle School Media Center. Breakfast – sponsored by the Cherry Hill Education Association – will be served beginning at 8:45 am. I'll speak about the Bond beginning at 9:30, followed by a Q&A session until 11 am. Then, that same day, I'll be heading to two informal "Sit & Chat" sessions around Cherry Hill. The first will be at the Cherry Hill Public Library from 11:30 am-1 pm. I'll then be at the Short Hills Deli from 1:30-3 pm. I'll be doing another "Sit & Chat" series on Sunday, December 9, first from 9-10:30 am at the Cherry Hill Health & Racquet Club; then from 11 am-12:30 pm in the JCC Lobby; and finally at Ponzio's from 1-2:30 pm. I hope you will take the opportunity to have your questions answered at one of these events!

I do understand that not everyone can come to meetings. As I've said many times, the best source for information about the Cherry Hill School District is the District itself. While it may be tempting to crowdsource information on social media, there is a great deal of misinformation out there. If you have questions and can't come to one of our information sessions, please contact me at jmeloche@chclc.org, or submit your questions to publicinfo@chclc.org, or via our Quick Question portal. Questions and answers are posted for the public.

I've held dozens of informational meetings about the Bond over the past months, and it's been my pleasure to meet with so many parents and grandparents who have told me "we moved here for the schools," echoing the reason my parents moved to Cherry Hill in 1977, "for the schools." One of my favorite informational meetings to date was this past Tuesday at the Trinity Preschool. The young parents who invited me to speak are engaged and

Short Hills Deli 486 East Evesham Road

Sit & Chat Sessions with Dr. Meloche

December 9
9-10:30 am
Cherry Hill Health &
Racquet Club
1820 Old Cuthbert Road

11-12:30 pm JCC Lobby 1301 Springdale Road

1-2:30 pm Ponzio's Diner 7 West Route 70

SPECIAL ELECTION: BOND REFERENDUM

December 11 from 3-8 pm Cherry Hill Polling Places, Early Voting or Vote By Mail inquisitive. It's heartening to see that their preschoolers, who have a whole Cherry Hill educational journey ahead of them, are already embracing their journey with joy. As I entered the building, several of the preschool students greeted me and said, "Have fun!" It's a sentiment I believe we all should have about entering a school, about the adventure of learning.

As we encourage an attitude of fun in our children, let's also remember to model kindness. I wish you a wonderful weekend filled with both!

See you at the polls on Tuesday, December 11 from 3-8 pm!

Regards,

Joe Meloche

Joe Meloche

Superintendent, Cherry Hill Public Schools



Folder Design Contest Open to All Fourth Graders

The Partnership for a Drug-Free New Jersey invites all fourth graders to enter the



Students Celebrate Food Drive Success with Teacher's Rooftop Overnight Stay



Community Bulletin Board Offers Information on Community Activities and Programs contest to design the organization's 2019 "Fun Things to Do Instead of Drugs" folder.

Rules and criteria for entries is available on the Partnership for a Drug-Free New Jersey's web site. Submission deadline is Saturday, December 8, 2018. Students at Richard Stockton Elementary School on Monday afternoon were treated to 5th grade teacher Mr. David Sondheim making good on his promise to spend the night on the school's roof if the students collected 2,000 cans of food for the Cherry Hill Food Pantry.

The students, who collected a total of 2,077 cans, waved to Mr. Sondheim as he reached his perch at about 2:45 pm on Monday, December 3. He spent the night on the roof and returned to his regular "earthbound" routine on December 4 at 9:30 am.

The story of the students' achievement, Mr. Sondheim's part in their reward, and details of his rooftop stay are included in <u>a story in the Courier-Post!</u>

Be sure to click the

Community Bulletin Board link

at the bottom of the District website home page. You'll find information about after school programs, league sports, seminars, community events and other activities around Cherry Hill.

To post information on the Community Bulletin Board, please email the public information office at publicinfo@chclc.org

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