A message from Dr. Joseph Meloche, Superintendent, Cherry Hill Public Schools.







# National Education Week

#### WE had so much to celebrate this week!

Today marks the last day of National Education Week, during which we celebrate public education and honor the individuals who help ensure that every child receives a quality education. It was the perfect backdrop for many celebrations around the District this week!

On Tuesday, November 13, the Board of Education recognized our staff who have served the Cherry Hill Public Schools for 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 consecutive years. This is an annual CHPS tradition, and it is always my great pleasure to congratulate each year's honorees in person at the recognition. This year, our honorees represent a total of 1,120 years of service to the District! One in particular, Mrs. Patricia Ingelido, has worked at Stockton Elementary School as an educational assistant for 40 years. Not only were we able to recognize her extraordinary dedication to our children at the BOE meeting, but I invited her to be my special guest for my Minute with Dr. Meloche on Wednesday, November 14 -Education Support Professionals Day. If you were not able to extend your appreciation to any of our education support professionals on their special day, please be sure to offer a "thanks" when you do see them. They are essential to our children's success, and to our success as a school district and community.

We kept the celebrations going on Thursday, November 15 with a special <u>live broadcast kickoff of</u> <u>our week-long National District of Character</u> <u>Celebration</u>. The Cherry Hill Public Schools is one of only five school districts in the nation to earn this distinction, and we will hold the title for the next five years! What better way to start the celebration than with an event featuring a combined musical group of students from both the West and East (WE) Marching Bands, and both high schools' Cheerleading Squads, pictured above? The energy and talent these students – as well as mascots Westley the Lion and Crimson the Cougar – brought to the event was fantastic! I look forward to continued collaborations

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Bond 2018 Community Info Session

November 18 @ 11 am Temple Beth Sholom 1901 Kresson Road

### SCHOOLS CLOSED

November 22 & 23 Thanksgiving Break

## Conferences for Elementary & Middle School Students

November 26-29 Early Dismissal for Middle and Elementary School Students ONLY

## Board of Education Action Meeting

November 27 @ 7 pm Malberg Administration Building

#### Bond 2018 Community Info Session

December 2 from 1:30- 3 pm Cherry Hill High School West Media Center 2101 Chapel Ave.

## Policy & Legislation Committee Meeting

December 3 @ 6 pm Barclay Early Childhood Center APR 1220 Winston Way

Curriculum & Instruction Committee Meeting December 3 @ 7 pm among our students from all of our schools.

If you are an elementary parent, I hope you were able to attend a visitation day at your child's school this week. These visits are a wonderful opportunity to get a brief glimpse into your child's school day, and were one of my favorite parts of my daughters' elementary years! If your schedule doesn't allow for such visits, please contact your building principal regarding other opportunities to become involved and informed. Joining your PTA, if you haven't already, is a wonderful way to stay connected.

Staying connected is particularly important this year, as we approach the December 11 Special Election for the Bond Referendum, with polls open that day from 3-8 pm and vote by mail as an option. As I have explained previously, 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. I encourage you to visit our Bond 2018: Building a Solid Future page on the District web site for information about the Bond, including a recently 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. The Bond 2018 page is updated regularly, so be sure to check back in the coming weeks for additional information. I also would be happy to speak to any group in the community, no matter how large or small, about the Bond. Please contact my administrative assistant, Janet Cohen, at jacohen@chclc.org to make arrangements.

Please continue to stay informed, not only via this weekly e-newsletter, but by following us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u>. Subscribe to our

Barclay Early Childhood Center APR 1220 Winston Way

#### Business & Facilities Committee Meeting

December 4 @ 6 pm Henry C. Beck Middle School Library/Media Center 950 Cropwell Rd

### Strategic Planning Committee Meeting

December 4 @ 7 pm Henry C. Beck Middle School Library/Media Center 950 Cropwell Rd

## Bond 2018 Community Info Session

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

### SPECIAL ELECTION: BOND REFERENDUM

December 11 from 3-8 pm Cherry Hill Polling Places or Vote By Mail YouTube Channel. Download the free District App from the App Store or Google Play. Attend our Board meetings listed at right and on the <u>District Events</u> <u>Calendar</u>. Come out to the Bond 2018 Community Meetings, linked from the <u>Bond 2018 button</u> on the District web site. Please be sure to submit your questions to <u>publicinfo@chclc.org</u>, or via our <u>Quick</u> <u>Question portal</u>. Questions and answers are posted for the public.

I am wrapping up this celebratory week with great gratitude for our students, employees, parents and the community at large who contribute to our atmosphere of good character, of continually striving to improve, and of treating one another with kindness.

Let's all remember that uncivil behavior is best met with a civil response. Kindness is contagious. I will continue to spread it, and I hope you will, too!

Regards,

Joe Meloche

Joe Meloche

Superintendent, Cherry Hill Public Schools



West Special Ed Students Show Work at Art Show



Student Performing in Professional Musical

Congratulations to Kate Bove, a 6th grader at Rosa International Middle School, pictured above, who is in the cast of the Walnut Street Theatre's production of *Matilda the Musical*, playing at



## Community Bulletin Board Offers Information on Community Activities and Programs

Be sure to click the <u>Community Bulletin</u> <u>Board link</u> at the bottom of the District website home page. You'll find

Congratulations to the students in the Cherry Hill High School West special education program on their Art Show on November 13 at the University of the Arts UArts) in Philadelphia. The show was the culmination of the students' Community-Based Experience with 12 students pursuing masters of arts inteaching degrees at UArts.

The graduate students welcomed the West students as part of the UArts class " Art and Inclusionary Education." The course, as described by UArts, recognizes that "student diversity is one of the main characteristics that defines today's classroom. The course helps educators build the capacity to understand, honor and support the ever-increasing diversity of educational needs within classrooms. Educators are expected to differentiate instruction and work to develop proficiencies and build engagement across diverse populations of students with developmental and learning differing abilities; sensory challenges; and a wide range of cultural, ethnic, racial, gender, socio-economic and primary language backgrounds."

the theater in Philadelphia through January 6, 2019!

Kate joins Kilmer 4th grader Akiva Schostak (featured in the November 7, 2018 edition of CHPS WEEKLY) in the weekend cast of the production. Kate plays Amanda.

Kate was seen in last year's Cherry Hill High School West production of *A Christmas Carol, The Musical,* as pictured in the rehearsal photo above.

Each student has a discount code that takes \$10 off tickets to *Matilda the Musical.* The codes are KATEB and AKIVAS and may be used for phone orders at (215) 574-3550 or online at walnutstreettheatre.org

"Break a leg," Kate and Akiva!

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

The UArts students and

West students collaborated on group art projects which were then displayed at the Art Show, pictured above.

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