

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



CHPS WEEKLY

District News for the week ending May 20, 2016

UPCOMING
EVENTS

How Our

American Cancer
Society's Relay for Life

Gardens Grow!

Gardening season is upon us, and several of our schools are digging in to lessons in science, sustainability and community service.

In education, we often talk about the seeds of ideas, or the seeds of imagination, or the seeds of curiosity. We work to cultivate these seeds in our students to watch their knowledge and awareness grow. We work to cultivate these seeds in ourselves to keep ourselves motivated as lifelong learners. And this time of year, many of us in the Cherry Hill Public Schools guide students in planting seeds – literally – as part of lessons about the bigger world.

Some of our schools – [Cherry Hill High School West](#), [John A. Carusi Middle School](#), pictured above, and James Johnson Elementary School, for example – have earned grants to help make their garden projects a reality. Henry C. Beck for years has been tending their large vegetable garden each spring and summer. Woodcrest Elementary developed its "Peaceful Garden" two years ago and Johnson Elementary School continues to grow vegetables in its garden for sharing among their school community and the community at large. At the Alternative High School, students deliver the harvest from the Courtyard Garden to the Cherry Hill Food Pantry. [In 2015, the garden yielded 88 pounds of vegetables](#). The students at the [Alternative School just this week took their gardening skills to Spring Hills Cherry Hill Assisted Living](#) to set up vegetable gardens for the residents there.

All of these gardens and others throughout the district provide hands-on learning for our students not only about the science of plants, but about the rewards of group effort, the importance of sustainable living practices and the value of community outreach.

As students are growing successful gardens at our schools, we are helping them to grow into becoming successful citizens.

What seeds are you currently sewing or cultivating,

May 21, 4-10 pm
Beck Middle School

BOE Action Meeting

May 24, 7 pm
Malberg Administration
Building
45 Ranoldo Terrace

10th Annual Alex's Lemonade Stand

May 27, 9:30 am-3:30 pm
(Rain Date June 3)
Kilmer Elementary
*Also collecting hair
donations for Children with
Hair Loss Foundation*

SCHOOLS CLOSED Memorial Day

May 30

Curriculum & Instruction Committee Meeting

June 6 @ 6 pm
Malberg Administration
Building
45 Ranoldo Terrace

Policy & Legislation Committee Meeting

June 6 @ 7 pm
Malberg Administration
Building
45 Ranoldo Terrace

Business & Facilities Committee Meeting

June 7 @ 6 pm
Malberg Administration
Building
45 Ranoldo Terrace

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting

June 7 @ 7 pm
Malberg Administration
Building
45 Ranoldo Terrace

for growth this summer and into the fall?

I wish you a relaxing weekend. Although rain is predicted, it certainly will keep the gardens all around Cherry Hill thoroughly watered! If you have the opportunity, stop by Beck Middle School to participate in the American Cancer Society's "Relay for Life" on Saturday, May 21 from 4-10 pm.

Regards,

Joe Meloche

Joe Meloche

P.S. Be sure to follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for the very latest happenings around the District. Our [District Events Calendar](#) on the [District web site](#) is a great resource for updates about upcoming events. You'll find the [2015-2016 School Year "Overview" Calendar](#) here. For events and activities in the Cherry Hill Community, check out our [Community Bulletin Board](#) on our web site. And visit our [YouTube channel](#) for videos from around the District.



East Theater Students Win Big at "Foxy" Awards

Congratulations to the Cherry Hill High School East Theater students who brought home three top awards May 17 from the [Montclair Theater Night Awards](#), popularly known as the "Foxy" awards, for their work in the production of their 2015 Fall Show, *The Tempest*.



West Music Students Earn Top Honors at National Festival

Congratulations to the music students of Cherry Hill High School West for their excellent showing at the Music in the Parks Festival in Williamsburg, Va., May 13-16.

Out of the 17 schools from the five states participating, West Singers placed second (only .5 behind the first place group) and received the



East Jazz Band Brings Home Multiple Awards from Festival

Congratulations to the Cherry Hill High School East Jazz Band for their successful showing at the Neshaminy Jazz Festival on May 6. Jazz recording artists from the Tim Warfield Quintet adjudicated the event.

The East Jazz Band received a Superior

Peter Gambino, pictured above, right, and crew won for Outstanding Achievement in Special Effects and New Media. Cedric Middleton, center, won for Outstanding Performance by a Supporting Actor in a Classical Play. And Cherry Hill High School East won the biggest award of the night: Outstanding Overall Production of a High School Play. Also pictured above are, from left, Sarah Gagarin, Katie Aylesworth, Allison Shapiro, Noel Davis and Tom Weaver.

Cherry Hill East was one of 57 schools submitting a video submission of a play to this competition. East and Cranford High School received the most "Foxy" award nominations with 10 each.

top rating of Superior. Fermata placed second and also received a Superior Rating. Chamber Singers placed first and received a Superior Rating. Men of Note placed first with a Superior Rating and won the Best Overall Vocal Group for achieving the highest score of all vocal groups participating. Tomas Saed was selected as the Outstanding Vocalist for the entire competition. And the Symphonic Choir received a rating of Excellent.

Among Instrumental groups, the West Orchestra placed second with an Excellent Rating. The Combined Bands placed third (only 1.5 points separated third place from first place) and received the top rating of Superior. The Jazz Ensemble placed first in their category with a Superior Rating and a near perfect score, and won the Best Overall Trophy for having the highest score of the competition. Senior Dylan Hafner (piano) won the Best Jazz Soloist award.

Cherry Hill West will present its final concerts of the season with the Instrumental Pops Concert on June 1 at 7 pm, and the Senior Solo Night Vocal Concert on June 9 at 7 pm, both in the West Auditorium.

(highest) rating and the following awards:

Best Rhythm Section.

Soloist Award: Adam Abrams, clarinet.

Musicianship Award: Alex Glass, piano.

Overall Best Soloist of the Festival: Ben Turner, guitar.

This closes out the 2016 season for the Cherry Hill East Jazz Band with consistent superior, section and solo awards. The band will be bringing it home to Cherry Hill along with the award-winning Lab Band, Symphony and String Orchestras at the East Spring Concert.

The concert will take place May 26 at 7:30 pm in the High School East Auditorium.

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