

# CHPS WEEKLY

A weekly update from the Cherry Hill Public Schools

#### A Message from the Acting Superintendent

#### Greetings!

Our school communities have been humming with activity this week, with classes, sports seasons, music and theater rehearsals, and our general momentum returning since winter break ended. Wintertime, with the challenges of the weather and the short span of daylight every day, can feel like the longest of the four seasons. I believe, though, that having a variety of joyful activities to focus on is the best strategy for facing even the most challenging days with positivity.

This long weekend, with our schools closed for the Martin Luther King Day of Service on Monday, offers a great opportunity to add a joyful, meaningful activity to your schedule. In honor of Dr. King, I encourage everyone this weekend to complete an act of service – or multiple acts of service – that will make a difference for someone else. This could be as simple as offering a helping hand to a neighbor, or, if you prefer, participating in an organized effort such as <a href="Cherry Hill Township's MLK">Cherry Hill Township's MLK</a> Day of Service for Nature. Our schools will be holding a variety of service-related activities as well. Carusi Middle School, for example, will be holding their annual MLK Week Service when we return to school on January 16. Carusi students are asking for donations of travel sized toiletries, toothbrushes, Ziploc bags, individually wrapped snacks such as granola bars and cheese crackers, peanut butter, jelly and bread for their project to provide necessities to <a href="The Unforgotten Haven">The Unforgotten Haven</a>, the Ronald McDonald House and Cathedral Kitchen. Any unused, unopened food items will be delivered to the <a href="Cherry Hill Food Pantry">Cherry Hill Food Pantry</a>. Donations may be dropped off at the school's lobby next week.

As we end the week, I leave you with these words from Dr. King: "Life's most persistent question is, 'What are you doing for others?"

Sincerely,
Dr. Kwame Morton
Acting Superintendent, Cherry Hill Public Schools



#### Kindergarten & 1st Grade In-Person Registration Begins January 16, 2024

For your planning purposes: In-person kindergarten and 1st grade registration, for children entering public or private school for the first time, begins January 16, 2024 at the Lewis Administration Building, 45 Ranoldo Terrace. Dates and times are as follows: January 16-19, 8:30 am-2 pm: January 23, 25, 26 and 31, 8:30 am-2pm; January 30, noon-7 pm; and January 31, 8:30 am-2 pm. Students must be five years old on or before October 1, 2024, to be eligible for kindergarten. Please go on the <u>District website</u> to begin the online pre-registration process for the 2024-2025 school year. Detailed registration <u>information and the pre-registration link can be found directly on the District website</u> or by calling (856) 429-5600, x4429. Only the student's legal guardian may register a student for school. It is not necessary to bring your child with you to registration. Please allow one hour to complete the process and bring ALL required documentation with you for registration.

### **Board of Education Determines Candidates To Be Interviewed in Superintendent Search**

The Board of Education in Executive Session on January 8, 2024, determined the candidates they will interview for the superintendent of schools position. The interview process will be held in Executive Session on January 20 and January 27.



WE thank the community for their engagement in focus groups and surveys in the fall. Contracted search firm <a href="Hazard">Hazard</a>, Young</a>, Atea & Associates (HYA) has released the resulting Desired Leadership Characteristics and Qualifications, the Survey Report and the Leadership Profile Report, all available on the <a href="Superintendent Search page">Superintendent Search page</a> of the District website. We encourage all community members to read these important documents.



# Save the Date! School Age Child Care Registration Opens May 15, 2024

Wondering what's up with School Age Child Care (SACC) registration? 2024-2025 SACC registration for the 2024-2025 school year will be available on the <u>School Age Child Care and STEP page of the District website</u> on **Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 4 pm** (date and time subject to change). Full information on the SACC program is available on the <u>School Age Child Care and STEP page</u> as well.

# **Black History Month Essay/Poster/Video Contest Now Accepting Entries**

The Cherry Hill African American Civic Association and the Cherry Hill Public Library announce the 2024 Reverand Ivan George



Essay/Poster/Video Contest for Black History Month. The contest is open to ALL public school students in Cherry Hill in grades K through 12. The theme for this year is "Their Stories Matter:



#### **Preschool Expansion Quick Question Page Answers Your Questions**

The Malberg Early Childhood Center website now includes a Preschool Expansion Quick Question page. Have a preschool-related question that's of interest to the larger community? Submit it via the portal on the page for a public answer! Also available on the page: the Preschool FAQ.

#### **Upcoming Events**

January 15, 2024 - SCHOOLS CLOSED - Martin Luther King Day of Service

**January 23, 2024** - Board of Education Action Meeting, Arthur Lewis Administration Building, 45 Ranoldo Terrace, 6:30 pm. This meeting will also be live streamed.

Join the meeting via a computer or mobile device at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81694410918

Join the meeting by phone:

646-558-8656 or 301-715-8592

Dial the Meeting ID followed by # when prompted

Meeting ID: 816 9441 0918

Board of Education Committee Meetings, Arthur Lewis Administration Building, 45 Ranoldo Terrace.

**February 5, 2024:** Policy & Legislation Committee, 6 pm; Curriculum & Instruction Committee, 7 pm

**February 6, 2024:** Strategic Planning Committee, 5 pm; Business & Facilities Committee, 6 pm.

**February 13, 2024** - Board of Education Work Session, Arthur Lewis Administration Building, 45 Ranoldo Terrace, 6:30 pm. This meeting will also be live streamed.

Join the meeting via a computer or mobile device at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81694410918

Join the meeting by phone:

646-558-8656 or 301-715-8592

Dial the Meeting ID followed by # when prompted

Meeting ID: 816 9441 0918

February 16, 2024 - SCHOOLS CLOSED - Teacher In-Service Day

February 19, 2024 - SCHOOLS CLOSED - Presidents Day

