### PITMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Robert J. Preston, Ed.D., Superintendent Robert O. Miles, III, Business Administrator/Board Secretary Central Office: 320 Grant Avenue, Pitman, NJ 08071

Main: 856-589-2145 pitman.k12.nj.us

January 31, 2025

Dear Community:

#### Referendum results

As you know, the bond referendum has passed. Thank you to everyone who participated in our town halls and Strategic Planning process; your engagement has been essential in paving the way for vital upgrades that will strengthen our schools, uphold Pitman's high standards, and help our students reach their fullest potential for years to come.

## Fair Funding

With Governor Murphy's budget address approaching in late February, Pitman and many other districts have reached a critical juncture in which we must do everything we can to push for a full restoration of last year's aid cuts. To that end and to advocate for fair funding, our District has taken several steps. Board President Mrs. Miller, Business Administrator Mr. Miles, and I have attended multiple school funding forums and provided testimony at the School Funding Hearing in Trenton before key Department of Education leaders. Additionally, on Monday, January 27th, we hosted a roundtable discussion with education leaders from across the county to explore strategies for securing these essential funds. Mrs. Miller gave a presentation and led a discussion. You can access the presentation here: Gloucester County Funding Formula Roundtable. We remain committed to doing everything within our power to advocate for our students.

## Highlights from the BOE mtg

At last week's Board of Education meeting, we celebrated the accomplishments of our students and staff. The meeting featured a performance by students who were part of the All-State Chorus, including those spotlighted for their achievements. These talented students not only received recognition but also performed for the Board and attendees, showcasing their dedication and skill.

The *Panther Award* was presented to the following students:

- Anthony Cappello
- Fiona James
- Megan Mazzola
- Clare Miller
- Ella Ralph
- Carly Razze
- Jonas Trum

We also recognized Mr. Jeffrey Flood, our talented district maintenance worker, in our Staff Spotlight, acknowledging his tireless work to do whatever it takes to make our school facilities top notch for our students and staff.

# **Monday after Super Bowl**

I've been getting some questions about Super Bowl Monday. I can't wait to celebrate (hopefully a big win!) with our Pitman students and staff the next morning. That said, as much as we all love a good game, school will be **running on a normal schedule on Monday, February 10th.** Balancing fun with responsibility is part of the game too, and showing up on time—even after a late night—is a championship-level life skill. Thanks for understanding, and GO BIRDS!

Sincerely,

Robert J. Preston

Robert J. But

Superintendent