

Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools



A Community of Learners Seeking Excellence Together

A Message from the Superintendent

Dear Scotch Plains-Fanwood Community,

As we close another remarkable school year, I want to take a moment to reflect on what makes Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools so special – our students, staff, teachers, and families.



To our families and community members: thank you for your partnership and trust. Your involvement makes a meaningful difference every day.

To our teachers and staff: Your dedication and care for students is the heart of our district. Every word of encouragement or extra moment mentoring a student adds up to something powerful.

To our graduates, the Class of 2026: Congratulations! You have reached an important milestone and should be proud of how far you've come. As you move forward into your next chapter, whether that is college, career pathways, military service, or other opportunities, you carry with you a piece of SPF.

Have a safe and restful summer! We look forward to welcoming back our returning students in the fall.

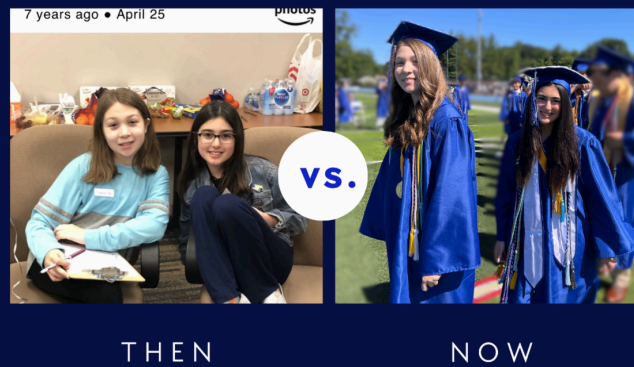
Sincerely,
Dr. Joan Mast
Superintendent of Schools

Know an SPFHS alumnus making an impact in their field or community? We'd love to feature them in an upcoming Alumni Spotlight. Alumni can submit their information through [this form](#).

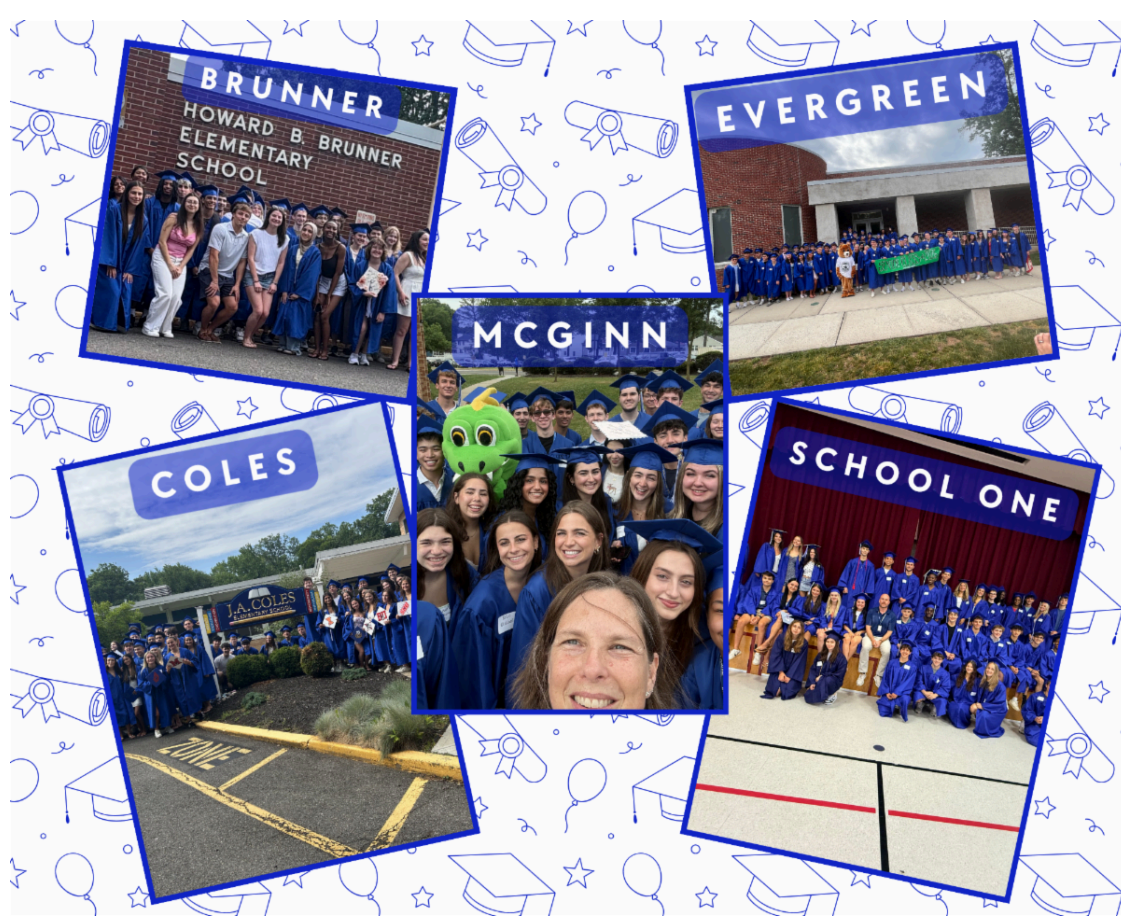
Congratulations, Class of 2026!



Valedictorian and Salutatorian from 7 years ago...



Senior Clapouts



At the Board of Education meeting, the district also recognized:

- Spring Track
- Boys Varsity Volleyball
- Grace MacDougall, Senior Board Rep., attending Boston College
- Patrick Leone, Board Meeting Videographer, attending Syracuse University



The Scotch Plains - Fanwood Board of Education also proudly approved the title change of Robert McGarry from Assistant Superintendent to Deputy Superintendent. This change reflects Dr. McGarry's extensive expertise in managing complex district systems—including curriculum leadership, grant management, and professional development—as well as his fierce advocacy for all students. The title of Deputy Superintendent accurately aligns with his responsibilities, which include serving as the district's acting leader in the Superintendent's absence. Congratulations to Dr. McGarry on this professional recognition!



Principal named as La Grande Elementary School prepares to welcome students



Scotch Plains-Fanwood Public Schools is pleased to announce the appointment of Megan McNally as the first principal of La Grande Elementary School, the district's new early childhood education center in Fanwood that is scheduled to open this September.

McNally, an experienced educator and principal, officially started on June 1 and has been leading preparations to open the district's newest school, which will welcome approximately 120 pre-kindergarten students in September.

For McNally, the opportunity to open a new school is both professionally and personally meaningful.

"I'm thrilled to be part of creating something new from the very beginning," McNally said. "From choosing our colors and mascot to shaping a vision and mission that reflect the values of our district, we have a unique opportunity to establish a school culture that inspires and supports our students, families, teachers and staff for years to come."

[Read more](#)

New Raider Business Academy expands opportunities at SPFHS



SPFHS is building on its already strong and growing business programs by offering a new Raider Business Academy for students interested in business, finance, marketing, entrepreneurship, management and more.

The academy will formally offer students greater flexibility, specialized pathways, dual-enrollment opportunities, and hands-on learning experiences designed to prepare them for college and future careers.

“We have been ahead of most schools in our region in terms of the number and quality of business courses we offer at Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School,” said Dr. Warren Hynes, principal of SPFHS. “The Raider Business Academy gives students more opportunities and choices as they explore their interests and future college and career goals.”

Launching in the 2026-2027 school year, students will start with introductory Consumer Finance, Business Technology, and Management courses in ninth grade. They will then take courses in three pathways (Marketing, Finance, or Management) or mix and match courses based on their interests. Courses range from Entrepreneurship to Accounting to Business in a Global Society – all developed in response to growing student interest in business careers.

[Read more](#)

District joins in Guru Vandana celebration to give thanks to teachers



Students, families, teachers and administrators recently gathered for Guru Vandana, a celebration honoring educators and their impact on students' lives. Organized by the

newly established local chapter of Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh (HSS), the event marked the chapter's first Guru Vandana since its founding in February 2026.

Guru Vandana means “showing reverence to one’s teachers” – a way for a student to give thanks to a teacher, expressing his/her gratitude. This program provides a platform for students to honor their teachers for imparting knowledge and wisdom to them, according to Board of Education member Sonali Barve, whose family is a member of the new chapter of HSS.

Parents and students from Scotch Plains-Fanwood participated, along with teachers and administrators including Dr. Joan Mast, Dr. Robert McGarry, Dr. Justin Fiory, Ms. Caitlin Disney, Ms. Nikki Glinski, and Ms. Marina Forlenza. Current and former Board of Education members also joined, including Dr. Karen Kulikowski, Amy Winkler, and Barve.

At the celebration, HSS presented mantras, a skit and a song for the teachers. They then played audience participation games and honored the teachers by giving them a gift and bowing to them. Food, a photobooth and a henna artist finished off the event.

Thank you to all who participated in this special event!

SPFHS celebrates inaugural Mu Alpha Theta induction ceremony



Special Thanks To:

Dr. Joan Mast, Superintendent
Dr. Robert McGarry, Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Warren Hynes, Principal
Mrs. Karen Taylor, Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Behhinn Marconi, Administrative Assistant
Mr. Evan Perotta, Technology Department
Mrs. Cathy Truncale
Mrs. Marjorie FitzGibbon
SPFHS Mathematics Department
SPFHS Custodial Staff

**Mu Alpha Theta
Math Honor Society
Induction Ceremony**



**Celebrating Academic Excellence
in Mathematics**

*Scotch Plains - Fanwood
High School
June 2, 2026*



Scotch Plains-Fanwood High School recently celebrated academic excellence in mathematics during its first-ever Mu Alpha Theta Induction Ceremony, recognizing 55 juniors and seniors for their achievements and dedication to the subject.

Mu Alpha Theta is the national mathematics honor society that promotes scholarship, leadership and a passion for mathematics. Students in grades 11 and 12 are eligible for membership if they have completed at least two years of college preparatory

mathematics, are enrolled in a third year of mathematics, and demonstrate strong overall academic achievement.

The induction ceremony, held in the high school auditorium, formally welcomed students into the organization. Each student received a certificate from the national organization and a membership card while being recognized by Principal Dr. Warren Hynes, Superintendent Dr. Joan Mast, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Robert McGarry, and Mathematics teacher and chapter advisor Melissa McGahan.

McGahan, who has taught at SPFHS for six years, said the idea for the chapter stemmed from her own experience being inducted into a mathematics honor society while in college.

"While we have honor societies that recognize achievement in other academic areas, we didn't have a way to specifically recognize students who excel in mathematics," McGahan said. "This honor society celebrates their hard work while encouraging continued growth and involvement in mathematics."

"The inaugural Mu Alpha Theta induction ceremony marks an exciting milestone for our district," said Superintendent Dr. Joan Mast. "The chapter not only recognizes students for their academic accomplishments but also encourages them to explore future opportunities in STEM and use their talents to support and inspire others."

[Read more](#)

Select Music Ensembles 'wow' at Music in Our Parks



Photo Credit Katy Reiser



Photo Credit Pamela Romanchuk

Nettingham and Terrill Middle Schools' Select Music Ensembles competed in the Music in our Parks festivals at Dorney Park this month. Both groups were wonderful ambassadors from the district and were categorized in different festival groups so they were not in competition with each other.

Nettingham Jazz Band

1st Place with a Superior Rating in Middle School Jazz Ensemble
Best Overall Jazz Band
Outstanding Jazz Soloist Award - Violet Ricks, Flute

Crimson Choir

1st Place with a Superior Rating in Middle School Choir
Both Crimson and Nettingham Jazz received the Music in the Parks Esprit De Corps Award!

Terrill Jazz Band

1st Place with a Superior Rating in Middle School Jazz Ensemble
Outstanding Jazz Soloist - Victor Messina, Percussionist

Terrill Select Choir

1st Place with a Superior Rating in Middle School Choir

Best Overall Choir

Outstanding Soloists - Jordan Benedicto, Paris Charles, and Harshal Joshi

Music in the Parks Esprit De Corps Award!

Award-winning cast of *Guys and Dolls* performs at Papermill Playhouse



The cast of ***Guys and Dolls*** performed at the Papermill Playhouse as a part of the Rising Star Awards Ceremony, with their performance of *Sit Down You're Rocking the Boat* brought down the house!

To make the evening even more special, SPF won two of the top music awards.

Outstanding Performance by a **Chorus**

Outstanding Musical Direction for **Brent Geyer and Trey Shore**

Congratulations to the students and our staff members, Morgan Knight, Kelly Ruggieri, Brent Geyer, Trey Shore, Kyra Robinson, Joanne Sprague, and Evan Perrotta, for their hard work in preparing the students!

Nettingham's International Sports Week introduces students to new activities





Students at Nettingham Middle School recently participated in International Sports Week, an annual event that introduces them to unique sports and activities. International Sports Week was created in 2021 with the goal of inviting coaches from diverse athletic backgrounds to introduce sports and activities that Nettingham students and staff may not typically experience in New Jersey. This event takes place during the first week of June each year.

This year marked the first time International Sports Week was expanded to include three different instructors:

- Martial Arts – Led by Mr. Sackett, whose dojo is located in Scotch Plains. His program helps connect our community to traditional Japanese martial arts.
- Double Dutch – Led by Ms. Floyd. Her Double Dutch team has won a world championship and will be competing for another title later this month in Ohio.
- Indian Dance – Led by Ms. Khatri, a Brunner teacher who generously volunteered her time to combine her educational expertise with the Indian dance traditions she regularly teaches in Scotch Plains.

Sarah Catherina, a Physical Education and Health teacher at Nettingham, said the staff takes great pride in the event each year.

"International Sports Week provides us with the opportunity to learn new activities that can be incorporated into our curriculum while also watching our students become excited about trying something new," Catherina said. "Thank you to Dr. Mast, Dr. McGarry, Dr. Dumaresq, Ms. Durand, the Nettingham P.E. staff, and everyone else who helps make this program possible each year. Their support and dedication have been instrumental in helping International Sports Week continue to grow and thrive."

Barn and Berry Petting Zoo brings selfies and smiles after final exams



SPFHS students were treated to a petting zoo with Barn and Berry, a local rescue farm. Sponsored by the Junior and Senior Student Councils, the Environmental Club and the Educational Enrichment Foundation of Scotch Plains and Fanwood, the program helped students de-stress from final exams by meeting, cuddling, and taking selfies with bunnies, chickens, ducks, goats, sheep, and a mini-horse. The event was a huge success that brought the whole community together, and we can't wait to have Barn and Berry visit again next year!



SPIFFY SAYS

*"Stay up to date with
District events using
the calendar!"*

Enjoy the summer break!

[SPF Calendar](#)

**Community Members can Sign Up for the Newsletter,
too!**

Do you know any community members who are interested in receiving SPF news? Our monthly newsletter is open to everyone – alumni, residents, and community members.

Subscribe to stay connected to student achievements, district updates, post-bond referendum updates, and all the good happening across SPF.



www.spfk12.org | (908) 232 - 6161
512 Cedar Street, Scotch Plains, Nj 07076



Scotch Plains-Fanwood Board of Education | 512 Cedar St | Scotch Plains, NJ 07076 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!