



Volume: XIV Issue: IV

January 2016

FRONT PAGE

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Parents & Guardians:

On January 19, our district was visited by the Department of Education's Office of School Preparedness and Emergency Planning, Sussex County Prosecutor's Office, and the Hardyston and Franklin Police Departments. The purpose of these concurrent (unannounced) visits was to observe the lock-down procedures of both schools and then make recommendations to enhance the efficiency our lock-down drills. The bad news is that bad people make it necessary to have these drills; they disrupt learning and are a stark reminder to young and old that we live in a violent world. The good news is that we are ready. Even with the possibility of an actual lock-down remote, our staff and students are well trained. Safety is our number one priority and we will continue to refine our practices by incorporating the recommendations.

Although the initiation of our paperless initiative has been briefly delayed, we expect to be providing details by March. Our goal is to virtually eliminate paper by providing parent notices and district information by using our website and Realtime. This will not only save the district time and money, we believe it will also be a more expedient means of communicating with parents and the community.

Finally, I am pleased to announce that four district staff members have been recognized by the New Jersey Department of Education for their outstanding service to our school community. Both Mr. David Hontz and Mrs. Sandy Burke are recognized as the "Teachers of the Year," and Mrs. Elizabeth Burdzy and Mrs. Amy Kohut have been selected as the "Educational Services Professionals of the Year." These four staff members have an unrelenting commitment to our students and deserve to be recognized for their outstanding service

Sincerely,
Richard R. Corbett, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

CONGRATULATIONS

to Our

Teachers of the Year

and

**Educational Services Professionals
of the Year**

(See article on Page 2)

DATES TO REMEMBER

1/04	SCHOOL REOPENS
1/05	BOE Reorg Meeting, MS, 7:00 PM
1/06	PTA General Meeting, ES, 7:00 PM
1/12	BOE Meeting, MS, 7:00 PM
1/15	TGIF (Grades 3-4), ES, 7:00-9:00 PM
1/18	SCHOOL CLOSED: Teacher-in-Service
1/19	SEPAG Meeting, MS Library, 7:00 PM
1/26	BOE Budget Workshop, MS, 7:00 PM
1/25-1/29	Kindergarten Registration Week
2/02	Report Cards are sent home
2/03	PTA General Meeting, ES, 7:00 PM
2/01-2/05	HMS Annual Basketball Tournament, MS, 3:30 PM
2/09	BOE Meeting, ES, 7:00 PM
2/15	SCHOOL CLOSED: President's Day

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

Happy New Year!

I hope that you and your family had a wonderful holiday season. With the coming of a new year there is always talk of the New Year's resolutions.

If you have not decided on a resolution I would like to offer an academic suggestion that you and your child can do together. We are often told by teachers, parents and the state test makers themselves that students today do not know their math facts.

One possible resolution would be to practice basic math facts. At the elementary level it involves basic addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. There are approximately 90 days of school left this year. If a student reviewed just five math facts each school day that would be 450 facts by the end of the school year. I guarantee that your child will improve with even this small effort!

The nice thing about elementary math facts is that it only takes a few minutes and can be done almost anywhere. You can make small games out of them and it can also serve to connect parents and children even for a short time each day.

If you are one of the parents who decide to take this resolution suggestion, please let me know how it is working for you.

Again, Happy New Year and let's have a great 2016!

GOVERNOR'S TEACHER RECOGNITION AWARD

Each year in New Jersey every school selects a teacher to be recognized for their contributions to the school, the children, the educational program, and to the field of education. A committee of teachers, administrators, and parents review the nominations for each school and make a selection. This year we would like to acknowledge two teachers and one support staff member who exhibit outstanding performance and strive for student achievement in every student. This year we recognize:

Elementary School

Mrs. Sandra Burke- 3rd grade Teacher

Mrs. Burke has been with our district for 17 years.



Middle School

Mr. David Hontz- 6th grade Teacher

Mr. Hontz has been with the district for 33 years.



Support Staff- Elementary School

Mrs. Amy Kohut- School Nurse

Mrs. Kohut has been with the district for 14 years.



Support Staff- Middle School

Mrs. Elizabeth Burdzy- School Nurse

Mrs. Burdzy has been with the district for 15 years.



They are certainly deserving of this recognition. They will be honored at a luncheon with the other recipients from Sussex County in Spring 2016.

MIDDLE SCHOOL GUIDANCE OFFICE

The theme for the month of January is honesty. Honesty is the quality of being upright, honest and fair. It is to be free of deceit or fraud. The color for the month is **purple** and the next spirit day is scheduled for Tuesday, January 26. In honor of the upcoming Superbowl and the Hardyston Middle School basketball tournament, our spirit day will be "Sports Day." Students and staff are encouraged to wear their favorite jerseys and sports attire accessories. Once again the highest participating homeroom from each grade level will be announced as well as an overall grade level winner. We will be having a pizza party this month to honor those homeroom winners from November and December. Good luck to everyone!

"Life comes down to honesty and doing what's right. That's what's most important." - **Bob Feller**

THE GIVING TREE

What a wonderful sight greeted visitors as they entered the Hardyston Elementary School during the month of December. Our "**Giving Tree**" in the main hallway had every branch covered with gloves, mittens, hats and scarves. Hardyston students, families, and staff were very **Giving**! When totaled up, the count greatly exceeded any donations that had been given in the past years. These generous gifts were donated to various organizations and charities in our area to help keep some very happy children warm for the winter.

The **Heart of a Hornet Committee** wishes to thank everyone who donated the gift of warmth this season and for **BEE-ing** so giving.



2016-2017 KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten Registration will be held the week of January 25th through 29^h at the ES from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. No appointment is necessary and the child does not need to be present. Original birth certificate, record of immunizations, and proof of residency are required to complete the registration process.

For more information call 973-823-7000, ext. 8203.

WHAT'S IN YOUR CLOSET?

The Hardyston Teacher's Education Association is hosting a Clothing and Toy Drive to raise money for the Philanthropic Fund (a fund for graduation awards).

- Wearable and Used Clothing
- Shoes, Belts, Handbags
- Linens
- Stuffed Animals
- Hard Toys

All items being donated need to be tightly tied in plastic bags.

Please drop off all bags to the Elementary School between January 25 and January 29 during school hours only. All donations need to be here by 2:00 PM on Friday, January 29th.

CAMPBELL SOUP LABELS



We have brought back our Campbell's Soup Labels for Education collection! Please send in your Campbell's Soup Labels. For a list of participating products visit:

<http://www.labelsforeducation.com/Earn-Points/Participating-Products>

HEALTH OFFICE NEWS

The Health Office hopes everyone is staying well during this relatively mild winter! Keep an eye on those fluctuating temperatures and be sure your child is dressed appropriately for the bus stop. Please continue to encourage handwashing and covering coughs and sneezes; *honestly, it really does help every one of us to stay healthy!*

February is “American Heart Month”, a month set aside to remind us about heart disease and how it can be prevented. Heart disease is the leading cause of death in men and women in the United States, in fact every year 1 in 4 deaths are the result of heart disease. We can help our children be heart healthy by modeling healthy choices as adults. Teaching those good habits will bring lifelong benefits and we all know that it is very easy to teach by example. Here are some things to consider:

You don’t have to be perfect all the time, but if your child/children see you are trying to make healthy choices they will see that good health is important.

Keep things positive; tell them what they **can do** instead of what they **can’t**.

Get the family moving, plan times that the family can move together. Go for walks, hikes, bicycle, even a game of hide-and-seek has exercise benefits.

Set goals, but keep them realistic; small and gradual changes can make the biggest differences.

Limit the TV, video and computer time; these are sedentary habits which increase the risk of obesity and heart disease.

Experiment with different activities so your child/children can find something they really love to do.

Pick rewards for a job well done that are not candy, snacks or video time.

Make family dinner an important part of the day. Studies show that when everyone sits down together there’s less chance of eating the wrong foods and snacking. Let your child/children help you cook and plan meals.

Read food labels and teach your child/children to do the same. Stress the importance of serving size and make them conscious of what they eat.

Teach about cholesterol, blood pressure and family history, remind them that their healthy lifestyle the family history in a positive way.

It really is not so hard to do, for more information go to www.americanheartassoc.com

Being heart healthy is a smart way to live and making a healthy home is advice we should literally “take to heart!”

PEANUT ALLERGY INFORMATION

When sending in any food products to school, parents and guardians need to pay close attention to nutrition labels. In order to provide the safest environment for all of our students with food allergies, we are asking that you follow a **VERY STRICT, NO PEANUT OR TREE NUT** policy when sending in foods that **are to be shared**. Every food item that is made at home must also be accompanied by the labels of the ingredients that you used in your food preparation. Please make sure that there are NO PEANUT / TREE NUT INGREDIENTS in any food products that you send in. If either peanuts or tree nuts are part of the ingredients, the food item will not be sent to the classroom and will have to be sent back home. Also, please be sure to look for any disclaimers that state **“This product may be manufactured in a plant that also processes peanuts or tree nuts.”**

CLEAN HABITS FOR STAYING HEALTHY

Washing hands thoroughly and often is your best defense in staying healthy. Always wash hands:

- After coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose
- After using the bathroom
- Before and after preparing or eating food
- Before and after changing a diaper
- Before and after any contact with someone who is sick or injured
- After touching an animal or animal waste
- After household chores or yard work

Good hygiene makes good sense...it helps everyone stay well!

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NURSE’S OFFICE

**Due to Medical and Privacy Issues
The School Nurse will NOT be available for
Ingredient checks and Consultation from
8:40am through 9:10am
and
2:45pm through Dismissal**

REMINDERS

STUDENT ABSENCE

Please remember that if your child is going to be absent for any reason, you need to call the school nurse on the day of the absence. **Upon your child's return to school he/she must bring in a written excuse as to the reason for his/her absence.** (973) 823-7000

Elementary School Nurse: Amy Kohut, 8220

Middle School Nurse: Elizabeth Burdzy, 1010

DELAYED OPENINGS

In preparation for the upcoming winter months, we would like to remind you about school procedures regarding **delayed openings** or **early dismissals**. Please listen to any of the local radio stations, WSUS (102.3 FM), WNNJ (103.7 FM), WHCY (106.3 FM) and WNNJ (1360 AM) and local television channels (ABC, News12, NBC, Fox5), for reports of delayed openings, early dismissals or school closures. Our parent notification system will also be activated. Please visit our website for more information and please be certain to let us know of any change in contact information.

In the event of a **delayed opening**, school will begin ninety (90) minutes after the normal opening time. Therefore, for a delayed opening the Middle School will open at 9:30 AM and the Elementary School at 10:10 AM.

NOTE: STUDENTS MAY NOT BE DROPPED OFF BEFORE THESE TIMES.

EARLY DISMISSAL

Early dismissal time due to inclement weather may vary depending on the circumstances that may surface at those times. Early dismissal time is 12:35 PM at the MS and 1:15 PM at the ES for the normal pre-approved scheduled half days for holidays, conferences, etc. Again, AM and PM pre-school students are to follow the schedule that was sent home previously. Please be reminded that no elementary school student will be dropped off at a bus stop without a parent or guardian present.

BUS STOPS

Many of our bus stops are contained areas where students and parents do not have many options of where to stand. As a result, we are asking our parents not to smoke at the bus stops. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

LITTELL COMMUNITY CENTER

January 2016

- Middle School Dance (grades 5-8), January 9, 7:00-9:00pm, \$5.00/F/H/H residents, \$10.00 non-residents
- After School at the Movies, January 13, 4:00pm, Showing, "Jurassic World", \$2.00/F/H/H residents, \$4.00 non-residents
- Open Play (ages 2-5), Thursdays, 11:00am-12:00pm \$2.00/F/H/H residents, \$4.00 non-residents
- Music and More (Ages 1-5), Thursdays, 9:30-10:10am & 10:20-11:00am, \$5.00/F/H/H residents, \$8.00 non-residents
- Kiddie Kraft (Ages 2-5), January 25, 11:00am, \$3.00/F/H/H residents, \$5.00 non-residents
- Happy Walkers, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 9:00-10:00am, Littell Center Gym, Strollers welcomed
- Book Club, January 26, 10:00am-12:00pm, \$2.00/F/H/H residents, \$4.00 non-resident
- Senior Movie Bunch, January 13, 1:00pm \$1.00/F/H/H residents, \$2.00 non-residents
- Senior Exercise Group, Mondays & Wednesdays, 10:00-11:00am, \$2.00/F/H/H residents, \$3.00 non-residents
- Senior Leisure Group, January 22, 11:00am-1:00pm, \$2.00/F/H/H residents, \$3.00 non-residents

Littell Community Center
Franklin/ Hardyston/ Hamburg Joint Recreation
10-12 Munsonhurst Road
Franklin, NJ 07416
Phone: 973-827-9734

ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN

Please be advised that our Asbestos Management Plan is located in the business office for your review. Our program coordinator is Carl Platvoet. If you have any questions regarding this please call Mr. Carl Platvoet at 973-823-7000, extension 5000