



FRONT PAGE

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Parents & Guardians:

Next month we will begin the administration of the PARCC assessment. The results of this very important assessment will assist in identifying curricular strengths and weaknesses while providing valuable data regarding individual students that will help us improve instruction. I encourage you to support your child in their effort to perform well on this assessment. As more information regarding the PARCC is disseminated, feel free to contact our building principals with any questions.

In order to more effectively communicate with families, and to save money while protecting our environment, the Hardyston School District will be going paperless. Beginning March 11, all information concerning the district will be posted on REAL-TIME. However, individual teachers may still use paper to provide information to parents. Please check Real-Time regularly and contact the school regarding any technical issues.

Finally I would like to congratulate our two newest members of the Hardyston Board of Education, Susan Pohl and Michael Restel. Both are committed to making our district the best. We thank you (all our board members) for your service.

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

DATES TO REMEMBER

3/02	PTA General Meeting, ES, 7:00 PM
3/08	BOE Meeting, MS, 7:00 PM
3/11	PTA Winter Social, MS, 6:00-9:00 PM
3/15	SEPAG Meeting, MS, 7:00 PM
3/22	BOE Budget Workshop, MS, 7:00 PM
3/25	SCHOOL CLOSED: Good Friday
3/28-4/01	SCHOOL CLOSED: Spring Recess
4/04	School Reopens
4/06	PTA General Meeting, ES, 7:00 PM
4/08	PTA Tricky Tray, MS, 6:00 PM
4/12	BOE Meeting, MS, 7:00PM
4/15	TGIF (grades 3-4), ES, 7:00-9:00 PM

CAFETERIA NEWS



The cafeteria is now hiring substitutes

If you are interested, please stop by the elementary or middle school to pick up an application.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

In Hardyston, as in most school districts, this month we recognize this year's recipients of the Governor's Teacher Recognition Award and the Support Staff Recognition Award.

These yearly awards are designed to recognize excellence in teaching and education. Each year there is a nomination process with input from the community, staff and students. A selection committee meets and the recipients are notified shortly after.

This year our school's award winners were Mrs. Burke and Mrs. Kohut.

I would ask you all to join me in congratulating them on this recognition award. They are both certainly deserving recipients.

The timing of this award each year also gives me the opportunity to reflect on how we as a school are performing academically. Throughout the year I visit classrooms and teachers to do both formal and informal observations.

I am consistently impressed with the level of instruction that the staff in Hardyston Elementary School delivers to our students. I am regularly impressed with the lessons I see and the students' efforts!

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our yearly Governor's Recognition Award winners and all of the students and staff at Hardyston Elementary School for their great efforts this year.

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>

2016-2017 REGISTRATION



PRE-SCHOOL

Pre-School Registration is now open for 2016-2017 school year. The pre-school program is tuition based for children who are 3 and 4 years old. The 3 year old class will be in the morning session from 8:40 AM to 11:15 AM. The afternoon session is held from 12:45 PM to 3:24 PM for the 4 year olds. The program is five days a week (Monday through Friday) and follows the district school calendar. Transportation to and from this program will be the responsibility of the parent.

Children living in the Hardyston District are eligible for the preschool program if they reach age 3 or age 4 by October 1. Children must be toilet trained.

Depending on the number of applicants, a lottery system will be in place and the applications will be randomly selected at a future date. Applicants not selected will be placed on a waiting list. Tuition for the program will be \$230 per month for 10 months.

Applications are available at the elementary school main office and should be returned no later than March 30, 2016. An original birth certificate of the child and record of immunizations are required.

KINDERGARTEN

Kindergarten Registration is now being accepted at the Elementary School 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 (mortgage statement, lease, or utility bill) are required to complete the registration process.

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

MIDDLE SCHOOL

GUIDANCE OFFICE

March is the month of discipline. Discipline is a way of behaving that shows a willingness to obey rules or orders. The color for the month is **green** and our spirit day is scheduled for March 17. Spirit day is going to be in honor of St. Patrick's Day. Students and staff will be asked to wear all things St. Patrick's Day, including accessories and the color green. As always we will be determining homeroom and grade level winners for our next pizza party. Good luck!

A quick shout out to grade five for consistently winning overall grade level participants each month since September! ***Way to go fifth grade!***

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The Middle School Music Program is in need of electronic keyboards (pianos). If you have a keyboard that you aren't using and would like to donate it please contact Mrs. Curcio at ECurcio@https.org or [973-823-7000](tel:973-823-7000), Ext. 4010. Thank you!

DRAMA CLUB

The Hardyston Middle School Drama Club, better known as Adventure Theater, will be presenting the play "Twinderella" a funny play for all ages! Admission is free; show times are 7:00PM on Thursday March 17 and March 18 at the Hardyston Middle School. Contact Kasey Edwards at kedwards@https.org

TRACK TEAM

The Hardyston Middle School Track Team will begin on March 21 from 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM. Pick up is at 4:30 PM. The track team is open to all middle school students. All participants will need an updated sports physical on file at the middle school nurse's office.

To sign up or for any inquiries, please contact the coaches directly :

Kasey Edwards, Girls Head Coach, kedwards@https.org,
Robert Walsh, Boys Head Coach, rwalsh@https.org, or
Josh Bennett , Assistant Coach, jbennett@https.org

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

LOVE FOR READING WEEK 2016



"What Pet Should I Get?"

March 7 – 11

At the Elementary School, we will soon be celebrating Dr. Seuss' Birthday and Love of Reading Week with special events. Our theme this year is "What Pet Should I Get?"

Monday, March 7 - *"Drop Everything and Read"*

Everyone will dropping what they are doing and forming a reading train from 10:00-10:15am

Tuesday, March 8 - *"Animals are Everywhere"*

Wear your favorite animal print clothing (no costumes or hats)

Wednesday, March 9 - *"Read Me Day"*

Wear a shirt that can be read (school appropriate)

Thursday, March 10 - *"Mismatched Day"*

Wear mismatched clothing

Friday, March 11 - *"Rainbow Day"*

Each grade will wear a different color of the rainbow.

PreK - **Red**

K - **Orange**

1st - **Yellow**

2nd - **Green**

3rd - **Blue**

4th - **Purple**



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Building Valentine's Day Mailboxes

Mrs. Manailovich's third grade class partnered with Mrs. Rowan's second grade class to build Valentine's Day mailboxes donated from the Newton Home Depot. The students were assisted by Mrs. Sauter, a class parent, who is an employee of Home Depot and by Arlene Laforgia, who is the Kid's Workshop Co-Captain at Home Depot. The students participated in reading directions, using hammers and screwdrivers, painting and decorating with stickers. Mrs. Manailovich's students were a big help with the construction of the boxes. It was a fun collaborated project for Valentine's Day.



Photo: l to-r, Joley Motter, Christina Carabello, Christopher Bila, Jeremy Rockwell, Kailey Boughton

ALL SMILES!!!

February is dental health month and during the week of February 22-26, **Mrs. Napovier's pre-school classes** learned about dental hygiene. JanMarie Christensen and Dana Steficek, from Dr. Tauber and Dr. Sciascia's Dental Office came to the pre-school classes to give the students a presentation on dental hygiene. Students learned about the importance of brushing and flossing and identified several foods that are healthy for their teeth. Everyone enjoyed this special visit. We would like to thank JanMarie and Dana for a wonderful hands-on presentation. We are looking forward to promoting healthy smiles!



Photo: l to r, Kristen Silipena, Prianka Rajesh, Johnathan O'Connor, Sean Licata,



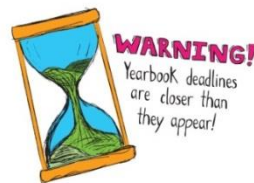
Photo: l to r, Mrs. Sauter and Arlene Laforgia, Home Depot employees, with students



Photo: l to r, Christina Carabello, Gianna Federico

YEARBOOK

Final Date to order yearbooks is April 11, 2016



All Yearbook orders are to be completed on-line directly with Lifetouch. Please use the link provided on the main page of the district website. A link for parent messages or advertising is also found on the main page. Information is provided to help you with this process.

Online orders: <https://ybpay.lifetouch.com>
Enter code # 8590116

Prices are now: Hard cover \$25.00 Soft cover \$ 20.00

(Please note the order page will say "Hardyston Middle School;" however, the yearbook is for both Elementary and Middle School students)

HEALTH OFFICE NEWS



April is “National Autism Awareness Month” and this year the Autism Society celebrates their 50th year of improving the lives of those affected by autism. This is accomplished through education, research and support. Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a very complex disability that affects an individual’s ability to communicate and interact with others. Some of the behaviors associated with autism include delays in language, difficulty making eye contact or having a conversation, difficulty with reasoning and planning, narrow and intense interests, poor motor skills and sensory sensitivities. A person on the spectrum may have all of these behaviors or just a few.

There is no known cause for ASD. There is a great deal of research being done to determine if there is a genetic or hereditary link. Other research is investigating problems during pregnancy or delivery as well as environmental influences; such as viral infections, chemical imbalances or exposure to chemicals. Here are some facts and statistics:

- Autism occurs in 1 out of every 68 births in the United States.
- More than 3 million people in the United States live with autism
- Autism services cost over 200 billion dollars annually.

Every child with autism is unique and so the plan for treatment is tailored to meet their specific needs. For the most part intervention involves behavioral treatment, medicines or both. There are many who have additional medical problems such as sleep disturbances, seizures and gastrointestinal issues. Addressing these problems can greatly improve learning, attention and other behaviors. Many people with autism go on to live independent and often productive and fulfilling lives. They deserve the opportunity to work productively, develop relationships and above all, enjoy life. With more research and support all of these are possible! To explore more, go to www.autismspeaks.org

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!

IMMUNIZATION REGULATIONS

Every child born on or after January 1, 1997 and entering or attending Grade Six or a comparable age level special education **must receive one dose of Tdap** (Tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis) and **must receive one dose of meningococcal vaccine**.

This is to be given no earlier than the 10th birthday.

Documentation must be submitted to the Health Office by September 1, 2016 in order for your child to be permitted to attend school.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation, please feel free to contact the health office with any questions at 973-823-7000 ext. 1010.

(Continued: **HEALTH OFFICE NEWS**)

WHERE: Hardyston Middle School

WHEN: Thursday, June 2

TIME: 4:30 PM UNTIL 7:00 PM

Please have all forms completed when you arrive!

Any questions contact:

Mrs. Burdzy @823-7000 X 1010

Mrs. Kohut @ 823-7000 X 8220

REMINDERS

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.

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.** Telephone (973) 823-7000

Elementary School Nurse: Amy Kohut, 8220

Middle School Nurse: Elizabeth Burdzy, 1010

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.

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.

STUDENT PICK-UP

Please do not park in the front of the elementary school between 2:45 PM and 3:30 PM. The front of the school at this time is reserved for student dismissal and clear access is needed for the buses. There is ample parking in the visitors' parking lot to the right of the school building. **For the safety of the children** we ask for your cooperation and appreciate your help with this endeavor. Thank you.

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.

RECYCLE, RECYCLE

Mr. Demeter will be collecting old digital cameras, MP3 players, notebook computers, cell phones, ink cartridges and toner cartridges. These items can be dropped off at either school. He will continue using the recycled material to obtain various items for the school district. Thank you for your help in this effort.

PTA CORNER

Boy is this school year flying by! Thank you to everyone who participated in our Gertrude Hawk sale! This is one of our biggest and most successful fundraisers thanks to our wonderful, chocolate loving, Hardyston family!!! We will be getting your orders in very soon so keep an eye out for details as to when you can pick them up. We will post the dates on our Facebook page and on our website; www.hardystonpta.org.

Remember to send in your Box Tops for Education! We started collecting them at the middle school again so please send them in with your 5th through 8th graders too! At the end of the year, the homeroom with the most box tops from each grade will win a pizza party! We also collect Campbell Soup labels. The schools benefits greatly from both. Please clip them and send them in with your child!

Our Campbell Soup Labels for Education are collected by our chairperson, Joy Barta. Through her hard work and dedication, she has gotten the Hardyston School district a \$250 gift card! Thank you Joy! Keep sending in your Labels for Education everyone!

Our Winter Social is Friday, March 11th. The PTA will be cohosting this event with Student Council. We have a '70's theme this year so break out your bell bottoms and platform shoes! There will be a DJ, Bounce House, Inflatable Slide, Ice Cream Sundae Bar and so much more! It's going to be a blast!

We are in need of volunteers for many events that we have coming up. Teacher Appreciation Week is May 2nd – May 6th, this is a very special event for our teachers and support staff.

- The elementary school needs many volunteers to work together with the chair people at the middle school. We make sure that both the elementary school and middle school have the same decorations, foods and special touches to make this a wonderful week of appreciation. Even if you can only dedicate one day, or a few hours during the day, it would be extremely helpful. Our middle school volunteers are very helpful and fun to work with; you will not regret volunteering for this special week.
- We will be having our Tricky Tray on April 8th. We need volunteers for several committees to make this our most successful Tricky Tray yet! Whether you like to solicit donations, help in advertising, basket wrapping, work the concession stand the night of the event or helping to set up or clean up...there is a place for you!

Please contact me at peggy@vanginneken.us for more information.

The PTA would like to get more involved with the middle school; we are open to any suggestions. Talk with your kids and ask them what they would like the PTA to bring to their school. We would love their input!

If you have not joined the PTA, we hope you join us now! Download the membership packet at www.hardystonpta.org or www.https.org. Just click on PTA Membership Packet.

Thank you to everyone who attended our General Meeting February 3rd. I hope to see even more of our members at our next meeting on March 2nd!

Peggy Van Ginneken
PTA President

SEPAG



Please join us for our open forum presentation by Michael Steinbruck, MA about "Creating an Inclusive Future Using Person Centered Planning". The presentation will be on Tuesday March 15th at 7:00 PM at the Hardyston Middle School. All parents and caregivers in the Hardyston School District, other public school districts, and professionals are invited to attend.

Michael Steinbruck, MA, a Program Coordinator at The Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. Will be discussing :

- What is Person Centered Planning?
- How can a parent/professional utilize this practice to support the student at the center of the process while planning their future in the most inclusive environment.
- Focusing on the unique values, strengths, preferences, needs, and the dreams of the student.
- Teaching parents how to successfully contribute and collaborate in the design of their child's education plan and experience.

Mr. Steinbruck has more than 20 years' of experience in facilitation and training various person centered thinking and planning approaches and is a Mentor Trainer in person centered thinking and planning as certified by The Learning Community for Person Centered Practices, Inc.

Please RSVP online at www.hardystonsepag.org

LITTELL COMMUNITY CENTER

March 2016

- After School at the Movies, March 9 , 4:00pm, Showing, "Pan", \$2.00/F/H/H residents, \$4.00 non-residents
- Egg Hunt, March 19, 11:00am, Ages 2-10, Wheatsworth Field, No fee/ F/H/H residents, \$5.00 non-residents
- Zumba Party, March 29, 10:00-11:00am, Ages 7-12, \$3.00/F/H/H, \$5.00 non-residents
- GaGa, March 29, 11:00am-12:00pm, Ages 7-12, \$3.00/F/H/H, \$5.00 non-residents
- Let's Bloom Together (Children's Gardening Program), March 30, 10:00-11:00am, Ages 4-10, \$5.00/F/H/H, \$8.00 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 1-4), Thursdays, 10:00-10:45am, \$5.00/F/H/H residents, \$8.00 non-residents. **NO class on March 10**
- Kiddie Kraft (Ages 2-5), March 28, 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, March 22, 10:00am-12:00pm, \$2.00/F/H/H residents, \$4.00 non-resident
- Senior Movie Bunch, March 9, 1:00pm, Showing "The Intern", \$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 , March 18, 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

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Don't forget to keep sending in your Box Tops for Education! You can now find box tops on specially marked Avery products such as binders, markers, glue sticks, highlighters, labels, etc. Remember to look for box tops on Kleenex, Betty Crocker, Ziplock, Hefty, General Mills, Nestle, Kimberly Clark, S. C. Johnson and Huggies items.

