Superintendent’s Report
August 29, 2005

Letter from the Superintendent of Schools to the Board of Education pertaining to the 2004/2005 School Year

Members of the Board of Education:

The 2004/2005 school year was a wonderful year for our students, staff, and Board of Education.

Our students realized an exceptional year in special awards:

- Johns Hopkins University Talent Search
- Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars
- National Merit Commended Students
- National Achievement Scholarship Program Outstanding Participant
- 2005 AP Scholars
- 2005 AP Scholars with Honor
- 2005 AP Scholars with Distinction
- State Award – Invitation to CTY Awards Ceremony
- Mathcounts Competition
- 2005 Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship

A special thank you is in order to all of the faculty and students who participated in the above mentioned activities.

Nutley athletes and musicians also continue to distinguish themselves with awards:

**Athletic Awards:**

- 2004-05 Girls Bowling Team – NNJIL Champions A Division
- 2005 Baseball Team – NNJIL Division A Champions
Music Awards

- Recognition for Excellence in Music Education – John Vitkovsky
- 2004 NJ All State Chorus – Diane Aragona
  Daniel Rohe
- 2004 All State Band – Melissa Coppola (Pianist)
- 2004 All State Wind Ensemble – Melissa Coppola
- 2005 -Nutley was named one of the top 100 “Best Communities for Music in America”

Music Department Group Performances

- In April, 2005 NHS Choirs were invited to perform a concert on the USS Missouri in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
- NHS Musical production of “Pirates of Penzance” was nominated for two Papermill Rising Star Awards – one for “Supporting Actor” and one for “Outstanding High School Chorus” – Production received the award for “Outstanding High School Chorus”- Mr. Cundari received Honorable mention for “Outstanding Musical Direction”
- NHS and FMS Madrigal Choirs competed in the New York Choral Festival. Both groups received a 1st place “Superior Rating” and both received the “Overall Choir Award” for the categories
- FMS Choirs (Debonaires, Madrigals, and Concert Choir) participated in the Hershey Park Choral Festival. The Concert Choir was named best overall choir for the day
- FMS and NHS Concert Choir and NHS Choralettes performed at Carnegie Hall
- The Instrumental ensembles participated in the Toronto Music Festival and all received High Ratings and Top Honors

Additional positive information pertaining to students proceeding to higher education and the scholarships they received, continues to be revealing and is reflected in the following pages. Please note that 90.8 percent of students will be going on to higher education and that they have been offered a total of $2,369,490 in scholarship awards. Our graduates continue to attend a diverse array of quality academic institutions throughout the nation.

Curriculum development occurred in the following areas:

- K-3 Language Arts Literacy – Guided Reading
- Review of Library/Media Skills Curriculum
- K-6 Review of Mathematics Curriculum
- K-6 Review of Science Curriculum
- Various Mathematics Workshops
In-Services occurred in the following areas:

- District-Wide Website Workshops (2)
  1-Elementary – 1-Secondary
- Electronic Grade Book (2)
  1-Elementary – 1-Secondary
- Differentiated Instruction
- Multiple Intelligences

The following initiatives continue to be implemented:

- No Child Left Behind (NCLB)
- Gifted and Talented K-3
- Montclair State University – The New Jersey Network for Educational Renewal
- Seton Hall – Project Acceleration
- Cisco Networking Academy Program-Levels I & II
- C.A.S.T. - Communications Arts & Science Training-Levels I, II &III
- World Languages (Elementary Schools/Seventh Grade)
- Character Education
- Music Programs – Madrigals/Jazz Ensemble
- Five Year Facilities Plan/Bond Referendum
- NJ State Mentoring Program
- AP Macro Economics
- Archaeology of Ancient World
- AP Environmental Science
- Transition Program/Clara Maass
- Staff Professional Development
- Revised Emergency Management Plan
- Summer Enrichment Program
- Alcohol/Tobacco/Drugs

As we begin the 2005/2006 academic year, our school community can be certain that our excellent staff will continue its commitment to the development of our students.

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Joseph Zarra