

NUTLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Nutley, New Jersey

Superintendent's Report
August 25, 2008

Letter from the Superintendent of Schools to the Board of Education pertaining to the 2007/2008 School Year

Members of the Board of Education:

The 2007/2008 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 Merit Semifinalists
- 2008 National AP Scholar
- 2008 AP Scholars with Distinction
- 2008 AP Scholars with Honors
- 2008 AP Scholar Awards
- 2008 National Hispanic Scholars
- International Latin Exam Winners
- Congressional Art Exhibit Winners
- Rotary International Award
- State Award – Invitation to CTY Awards Ceremony
- Mathcounts Competition

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

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

Athletic Awards:

- 2007-08 Girls Varsity Softball Team -NNJIL Title
- 2007-08 Boys Varsity Baseball Team -NNJIL Title
- 2007-08 Boys Bowling Team - Essex County and State Sectional Titles

Music Awards

- All State Chorus
Michael Huynh
Morgan Williams

Music Department Group Performances

The Nutley School District was designated one of the Best 100 Districts for Music Education in all of America

- The Jazz Labs A&B performed at the Jazz Concert at "Trumpets" in Montclair
- NHS Chamber Music Singers performed at St. Jorge's Catholic Church and the University of Puerto Rico
- The Concert Choir performed at Carnegie Hall
- The Choralettes, Chamber Singers and Concert Choir participated in the outstanding spring musical "West Side Story"
- NHS Raider Band won first place trophies at three marching band competitions.

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 89.1 percent of students will be going on to higher education and that they have been offered a total of \$3,675,850 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:

- Basic Skills Curriculum Committee
- Eden Institute Training
- Fine Arts Curriculum Committee
- Language Arts Curriculum Committee
- Music Academy Curriculum (Summer 2007)
- Perkins Vocational Funding Committee
- Social Studies Curriculum Grades 3 & 4
- Technology Curriculum Committee

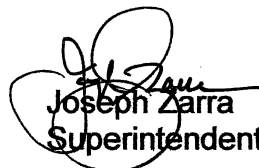
In-services/Workshops Occurred in the Following Areas:

- Affirmative Action
- Digital Camera Basics
- Easiteach with Math Toolbar & Kaleidos
- Easy Grade Pro 4.0 Workshop
- Easy Grade Pro for New Users on Mac
- Exploring & Organizing your PC
- I&RS Workshop
- ITIP, Professional Development & EAN Workshop
- Laptops, Notebook Programs and Faculty Web
- Macbook Laptop Cart
- Math Workshop Grades 3, 4, 5
- Math Workshop Grades 6, 7, 8
- Multimedia Software Workshop
- New Version 4.0 Easy Grade Pro for the PC
- Say iDo to iPhoto
- Singapore Math
- SuperCaio.it-Textbook Presentation
- Web Resources
- Wilson Reading

The Following Initiatives Continue to be Implemented:

- No Child Left Behind (NCLB)
- 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
- NJ State Mentoring Program
- Transition Program/Clara Maass
- Staff Professional Development
- Revised Emergency Management Plan
- Summer Enrichment Program
- Alcohol/Tobacco/Drugs

As we begin the 2008/2009 academic year, our school community can be certain that our excellent staff will continue its commitment to the development of our students.


Joseph Zarra
Superintendent of Schools

**REPORT ON COLLEGE ADMISSIONS
CLASS OF 2008
June 25, 2008**

ENROLLMENT.....	359	
TOTAL APPLICANTS PURSUING HIGHER EDUCATION.....	320	
% OF CLASS OF 2007 GOING ON TO POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION.....	89.1%	
Four-Year College/University.....	263	(73.3%)
Two-Year College.....	46	(12.8%)
Other Post-Secondary School.....	11	(3%)
Military.....	5	(1.4%)
Full-Time Employment.....	22	(6.1%)
Undecided.....	12	(3.4%)

REPORT ON SCHOLASTIC AWARDS

NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

CLASS OF 2008

SCHOLARSHIPS	\$3,675,850	
		\$3,675,850
OFFERS ACCEPTED	\$2,166,250	
OFFERS DECLINED	1,509,600	
		\$3,675,850

**NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

To: Members of the Nutley School community

Date: August 2008

From: The Nutley Board Of Education

Subject: 2007/2008 Student Achievement Test Scores

NATIONAL

TERRANOVA TEST
2008

National Percentile of Mean NCE

<u>Grade</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>
Reading	90	86	77	75
Language Arts	93	89	77	80
Mathematics	91	88	80	83
Total	94	91	81	82
Science	85	83	76	69
Social Studies	84	87	71	77

Grade 3 NJ ASK Results 2007/2008

	% Part. Prof. General Ed		% Prof. General Ed		% Adv. Proficient General Ed		Total % Prof. General Ed	
	ALL		ALL		ALL		ALL	
Language Arts	5.4	6.6	88.9	88.5	5.7	4.9	94.6	93.4
Mathematics	5.4	5.6	49.4	50.2	45.2	44.3	94.6	94.5

Grade 4 NJ ASK Results 2007/2008

	% Part. Prof. General Ed		% Prof. General Ed		% Adv. Proficient General Ed		Total % Prof. General Ed	
	ALL		ALL		ALL		ALL	
Language Arts	4.1	8.5	92.1	88.0	3.7	3.5	95.8	91.5
Mathematics	5.0	6.0	46.3	47.0	48.8	47.0	95.1	94.0
Science	1.7	2.5	37.1	38.9	61.3	58.7	98.4	97.6

Grade 5 NJ ASK Results 2007/2008

	% Part. Prof. General Ed		% Prof. General Ed		% Adv. Proficient General Ed		Total % Prof. General Ed	
	ALL		ALL		ALL		ALL	
Language Arts	24.1	29.9	71.8	66.7	4.1	3.4	75.9	70.1
Mathematics	12.6	14.9	57.3	56.9	30.1	28.1	87.4	85.0

NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Nutley, NJ 07110

PRIORITIES/CONTINUING PRIORITIES
2008 – 2009

ADOPTION OF PRIORITIES – 2008/2009

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education approves the following priorities for the 2008/2009 school year:

- Recognize the importance and review the District's Mission and Vision Statement, Values and Goals.
- Ensure that all policies and programs are aligned with the district's mission and vision statement.
- Continue to support an organizational culture that fosters teamwork.

ACADEMIC/CURRICULUM

- Make certain that all curriculums are aligned with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards (NJCCCS)
- Develop Curriculum Mapping and Testing in Mathematics – Grades 7-8
- Review of Life Skills Curriculum (Career Education, Consumer Education, Family Life)
- Continue to develop and refine the Autistic Program
- Review Language Arts Literacy and Mathematics Special Education Programs Grades 7-8
- Review of Language Arts Writing Program Grades 3-8
- Continue to support, develop, and expand the Gifted and Talented Program
- Review and continue to implement the World Languages Program to include all primary grades using the Rosetta Stone program

- Review the World Languages Curriculum Grades K-12
- Review the Art Curriculum Grades K-6
- Review the Basic Skills Mathematics Program Grades K-6
- Review the Social Studies Curriculum Grades 9-12
- Review Character Education Grades K-6
- Review the Language Arts Curriculum Grades 9-12
- Review the Health and Physical Education Curriculum Grades K-12
- Review the Science Curriculum Grades K-12
- Review the Visual and Performing Arts Curriculum Program Grades K-12
- Continue to incorporate the D.A.R.E. Program into the Health Curriculum
- Implement an Elementary S.A.C. Curriculum
- Monitor standardized test results
- Continue to meet Annual Yearly Progress (AYP)
- Ensure effective communication between elementary schools, middle school, and high school faculties in the content area

ATHLETICS

- Review and refine the coaches' and parents' handbook; and review all athletic job descriptions
- Ensure that all student athletes have the opportunity to participate in an educationally sound, interscholastic athletic program
- Continue to monitor developments in the league (NNJIL) and state (NJSIAA) relating to league and state realignment
- Stress sportsmanship with athletes, coaches, and fans

EXTRA-CURRICULAR

- Ensure that all students have an opportunity to enjoy extra-curricular activities that include not only athletics, but the arts, student government, and a wide variety of enriching student activity experiences
- Stress community service as an important component of our school district

FINANCIAL

- Give the highest priority to work on the 2009 – 2010 school budget
- Effectively present the budget to the community
- Ensure that a financial plan is developed that will support district priorities and the district's educational mission
- Establish effective cost oversight responsibilities at every level
- Continue to finance the capital improvement fund
- Continue to pursue grant opportunities

FACILITIES

- Review and revamp our district-wide facilities maintenance plan
- Update the modernization program to reflect the status of the elementary school construction project
- Develop a long-range maintenance program
- Review the district's long range facilities program (LRFP)
- Continue to manage all facilities improvement work on the high school and elementary schools
- Finalize and close out the middle school project

PERSONNEL

- Review and revise district-wide job descriptions, create new descriptions as needed
- Review the necessity of every non-instructional position for need and efficiency
- In compliance with Board of Education policy, make certain that all personnel evaluations are completed annually
- Give greater support and guidance to all new teachers
- Continue the district's professional development partnership with Montclair State University
- Implement in-service training for the district's administrators
- Establish a formal mentoring program for all new administrators
- Develop the next generation of administrators

SAFETY

- Promote safety as a core value of the school district
- Continue to monitor and review building safety
- Provide educationally sound programs to ensure adequate safety measures are in place and all safety related curriculum is taught by certified instructors in their specialty area
- Review all disaster readiness and emergency contingency plans
- Continue Random Drug Testing at the high school and expand the program into the middle school
- Research the possibility of an early dismissal plan
- Continue to practice emergency lock down drills
- Continue to cooperate and work with public safety officials as specified under the Memorandum of Agreement

TECHNOLOGY

- Increase the infusion of Technology Education into all elementary and middle school grades with indicators established for student progress
- Review all district technology hardware and software needs
- Implement the District Technology Plan Grades K-8
- Implement district Technology Mapping Grades 7-12
- Provide an opportunity for students taking the Middle School Technology Course to meet the High School Computer Application Course requirement

NEW PRIORITIES

- Develop an integrated Pre-School Program (Regular Education/Special Education)
- Review the District's Kindergarten Program
- Verify that all district curriculum is updated as required and implemented in accordance with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards (NJCCCS) and indicators are established for student progress
- Appoint a district New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) Committee

OTHER IMPORTANT CURRICULUM RELATED INITIATIVES

- In-service training for K-12 faculty in Language Arts Literacy, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies
- In-service training for K-12 faculty in Instructional Theory into Practice (ITIP)
- In-service training for K-12 staff in technology integrations and website development
- In-service training of K-12 staff in Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS)

- In-service training for Affirmative Action Policies
- In-service training in Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying
- In-service training in Character Education
- In-service training in Mentoring Program
- In-service training for State assessments (NJASK 3, 4, 5, 6, 7) GEPA, HSPA, and District Terra Nova Tests.
- In-service training in Suicide Prevention – Grades 1-12
- In-service training in Special Education related processes (Inclusion, Differentiated Instruction, etc.)
- In-service training in Autism

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

- Continue to communicate and work with local government and state officials on all related matters
- Develop more efficient methods of communicating important school issues, concerns, and achievements to keep all stakeholders fully informed
- Effectively communicate the school district's Mission, Values and Goals

Dated:
August 25, 2008