

NUTLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION
Nutley, New Jersey

Superintendent's Report
August 24, 2009

Letter from the Superintendent of Schools to the Board of Education pertaining to the 2008/2009 School Year

Members of the Board of Education:

The 2008/2009 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 Scholarship Program
- National Hispanic Recognition Program
- 2009 AP Scholars with Distinction
- 2009 AP Scholars with Honors
- 2009 AP Scholar Awards
- Finalist in the Lucerne Dairy Art Competition
- 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:

- 2008-09 Boys Basketball – NNJIL Sportsmanship Award
- 2008-09 Boys Bowling – NNJIL Sportsmanship Award
1st Place NNJIL Division B

Music Awards:

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

- The Concert Choir performed at Carnegie Hall
- The Concert Band and Orchestra performed at Carnegie Hall
- The Choralettes, Chamber Singers and Concert Choir participated in the outstanding spring musical "The Producers"
- NHS Raider Band won first place trophies at three marching band competitions.
- All North Jersey Region I – Concert Band and Wind Ensemble received a Silver Metal
- Orchestra received 1st place trophy in Music in the Park Competition

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 87 percent of students will be going on to higher education and that they have been offered a total of \$3,302,983 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:

- Kindergarten Curriculum Revision
- Language Arts Literacy – Grades 1-4
- Mathematics Curriculum Revision – Grades 7 & 8
- Social Studies – The Modern Middle East Honors Course

In-services/Workshops Occurred in the Following Areas:

- Affirmative Action
- I&RS Workshop
- ITIP, Professional Development & EAN Workshop
- Laptops, Notebook Programs and Faculty Web
- Macbook Laptop Cart
- Multimedia Software Workshop
- 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 Special Education Program
- Alcohol/Tobacco/Drugs

As we begin the 2009/2010 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 2009
July 17, 2009**

ENROLLMENT.....	325	
TOTAL APPLICANTS PURSUING HIGHER EDUCATION.....	283	
% OF CLASS OF 2009 GOING ON TO POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION.....	87%	
Four-Year College/University.....	263	(64.9%)
Two-Year College.....	46	(19.4%)
Other Post-Secondary School.....	11	(3.1%)
Military.....	5	(1.2%)
Full-Time Employment.....	22	(7.4%)
Undecided.....	12	(4%)

REPORT ON SCHOLASTIC AWARDS

NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

CLASS OF 2009

SCHOLARSHIPS	\$3,302,383	
GRANTS	600	
		\$3,302,983
OFFERS ACCEPTED	\$1,779,465	
OFFERS DECLINED	1,523,518	
		\$3,302,983

NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Nutley, New Jersey

2009 – 2010
PRIORITIES/CONTINUING PRIORITIES

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

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 Language Program to include all primary grades using the Rosetta Stone Program

Review the World Language 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 Grades K – 12

Continue to incorporate D.A.R.E. into the Health Curriculum

Implement an elementary SAC Curriculum

Develop a High School Financial Literacy Course

Monitor standardized test results

Continue to meet Annual Yearly Progress (AYP)

Transition the CAT Program to an Academic Booster Club sponsored program

Ensure effective communication between elementary schools, middle school, and high school faculties in the content area(s)

ATHLETIC

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

Ensure a smooth transition into our new athletic league

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 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 Plan (LRFP)

Continue to manage all facilities improvement work in our schools

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

Establish a formal mentoring program for all new 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 measure 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 Courses 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

Review the district's New Jersey Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) results.

OTHER IMPORTANT CURRICULUM RELATED ISSUES

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 integration 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, Differential Instruction, etc.)

In-service training in Autism