

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**TO THE**

**NUTLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY**

**SCHOOL YEAR - 1998/1999**

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**TO THE**  
**NUTLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY**  
**SCHOOL YEAR -1998/1999**

NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

BOARD MEMBERS

	<u>Term Expires</u>
Mr. Vincent Moscaritola, President	2002
Mr. Al Restaino, Vice President	2000
Dr. Philip T. Casale	2001
Mr. John Cafone	2002
Mrs. Michele Fleitell	2001
Mr. Joseph Pelaia	2000
Mr. Steven P. Picciano	2001
Mrs. Agnes Roncaglio	2002
Mrs. Maria Russo	2000

ADMINISTRATORS

Dr. Kathleen C. Serafino	Superintendent of Schools
Mr. John H. Walker	Assistant Superintendent
Mr. John C. Sincaglia	Secretary/Business Administrator
Mr. Mario Cocchiola	Nutley High School
Dr. James Vivinetto	Franklin Middle School
Dr. Dorothy Mutch	Lincoln School
Mrs. Mariana Francioso	Radcliffe School
Mrs. Rosemary Clerico	Spring Garden School
Mr. Carmine D'Aloia	Washington School
Mr. John Calicchio	Yantacaw School
Miss Barbara Hirsch	Director of Special Services

NUTLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Nutley, New Jersey

Superintendent's Report  
August 30, 1999

Letter from the Superintendent of Schools to the Board of  
Education pertaining to the 1998/1999 School Year

Members of the Board of Education:

The 1998/1999 school year was a wonderful year for our students, staff, and Board of Education.

As in previous years, indications of academic success regarding the Nutley Achievement, IOWA, and HSPT tests continue to reveal that our students are achieving quite well. Once again our combined SAT score of 1018 exceeded both the State and national averages.

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 Semifinalist
- . Mathcounts Competition Award
- . English Awards in Writing
- . Essex County Debate Competition-Montclair State University
- . Drama Awards

All three sections of the HSPT test were passed by 96.2 percent of our seniors:

- |               |        |
|---------------|--------|
| . Reading     | - 97   |
| . Mathematics | - 98.7 |
| . Writing     | - 99.5 |

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 numerous awards:

Athletic Awards:

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| . Boys Bowling Team | - NNJIL Champions (Pacific Division)                   |
| . Golf Champions    | - 1 <sup>st</sup> Place NNJIL Tournament               |
|                     | 1 <sup>st</sup> Place Group 3 Regional State Champions |



**Music Awards:**

- . All State Orchestra
- . All State Chorus
- . Northern New Jersey High School Regional Chorus
- . High School Regional Band
- . High School Regional Orchestra
- . Northern New Jersey Junior High Chorus

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 percent of students will be going on to higher education and that they have been offered a total of \$2,166,113 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
- . K-12 Social Studies
- . K-12 World Languages
- . K-12 Family Life/Physical Education
- . K-12 Core Curriculum Content Standards / Cross-Content Workplace Readiness

**The following initiatives were implemented during the 1998/1999 school year:**

- . Montclair State University – The New Jersey Network for Educational Renewal
- . Change in Grading procedures (see attached)
- . Zero period for Nutley High School
- . Approval of new AP Courses
- . Kindergarten Newsletter
- . New Staff Orientation (prior to school opening)
- . Adoption of new test – Terra Nova
- . Kean University – Masters in Teaching Program (NHS)

As we begin the 1999/2000 academic year, our school community can be certain that our excellent staff will continue its commitment to the development of our students.

Kathleen C. Serafino, Ph.D.

**NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Nutley, New Jersey**

**GRADING POLICY**

		<b><u>GPA</u></b>
98 – 100	A+	4.5
94 – 97	A	4.0
92 – 93	A-	3.75
90 – 91	B+	3.5
86 – 89	B	3.0
84 – 85	B-	2.75
82 – 83	C+	2.5
78 – 81	C	2.0
76 – 77	C-	1.75
74 – 75	D+	1.5
70 – 73	D	1.0

Dated:  
August 30, 1999

**REPORT ON COLLEGE ADMISSIONS**

**CLASS OF 1999**

ENROLLMENT.....230  
TOTAL APPLICANTS PURSUING HIGHER EDUCATION.....204  
% OF CLASS OF 1999 GOING ON TO POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION.....89%

Four-Year Training.....	143	(62%)
Two-Year Training/Business/Trade.....	62	(27%)
Work/Military/Undecided.....	25	(11%)

**REPORT ON SCHOLASTIC AWARDS**

**NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT**

**CLASS OF 1999**

SCHOLARSHIPS	\$2,166,113	
GRANTS	98,299	
		\$2,264,412
OFFERS ACCEPTED	\$1,538,492	
OFFERS DECLINED	725,920	
		\$2,264,412

**NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

**TO:** MEMBERS OF THE NUTLEY  
SCHOOL COMMUNITY

**DATE:** JUNE 21, 1999

**FROM:** THE NUTLEY BOARD OF  
EDUCATION

**SUBJECT:** 1998/1999 STUDENT  
ACHIEVEMENT TEST  
SCORES

**NATIONAL**

Iowa Tests of Basic Skills

National Percentile Rank

	<u>Grade</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4*</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8*</u>
Word Analysis		99	99	99						
Reading Comprehension			96	94	88	92	82	85	89	89
Language Arts		95	99	99	99	98	99	99	99	93
Mathematics		92	99	97	87	92	92	96	94	98
Core Total		94	99	99	93	93	95	97	94	94

\*Survey Battery

Excellent results such as these are due to a great total effort and we wish to thank everyone involved.

NUTLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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**NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL**

**NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY**

**1998 - 1999 ANNUAL REPORT**

<b>STUDENTS ENROLLED</b>	<b>GRADE</b>	
	9	280
	10	279
	11	270
	12	<u>233</u>
		1,062
<b>STAFF: Classroom Teachers</b>		85
Administrators		3
Guidance Personnel		4
Department Chairpersons/Coordinators		10
AV Coordinator		1
Librarian		1
Special Education		3
Team Leader		1
Computer Technician		1
Drug Awareness		1
Permanent Subs		4
Instructional Aide		1

**CONTENTS IN SEQUENCE****PRINCIPAL'S REPORT****BUSINESS EDUCATION****ENGLISH****FINE/INDUSTRIAL ARTS****WORLD LANGUAGES****GUIDANCE****MATHEMATICS****MUSIC****PHYSICAL EDUCATION****SCIENCE****SOCIAL STUDIES****LIBRARY****MEDIA****COOPERATIVE INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION****ATHLETICS**

## **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

**NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL**  
**Nutley, New Jersey**

3.

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**1998-1999**

As the 1998-99 school year comes to an end, I want to express my thanks to the Board of Education and the central administration, especially Dr. Kathleen C. Serafino, Superintendent of Schools and Mr. John Sincaglia, Business Administrator. I would also like to thank the administrative team, the faculty and other staff at the high school for all of their support this past year.

This has been a challenging, but fulfilling year because we have an administrative team who provide leadership that fosters success.

The year ended on a high note with a graduation program that was viewed by many as a lovely ceremony that showcased the accomplished type of student we are producing in the Nutley Public Schools.

The staff at Nutley High School is always striving for excellence to the Nth degree and the following reports will illuminate the quality of our school and the dedication of our faculty and students.

**IMPROVEMENTS TO OUR CURRICULUM**

1. Several new courses are being added to our curriculum for the 1999-2000 school year:
  - AP Spanish
  - AP Economics
  - Business Systems and Technology
2. A major initiative this year was to explore the possibility of implementing a school-to-careers program, including, job-shadowing and internships for high school students. Teachers are encouraged to infuse workplace readiness standards into their respective curricula.
3. We have continued to retitle and refine some of our course selections, placing greater emphasis on problem solving.
4. A summer required reading program was initiated by our English department for grades 9 through 12.
5. We re-aligned our American History classes from grades 11 and 12 to grades 10 and 11 and adopted a new text for same.
6. We continue to develop strategies to revise our curriculum to meet the future needs of our students and newly emerging standards.



7. New textbooks were purchased and used by several departments which has enriched our curriculum.
8. Our computers are online and this too has enhanced our curriculum by bringing the resources of the world to our classrooms.
9. Our inclusion classes are expanding and now encompass English, Science and Spanish.
10. We are constantly encouraging our staff to pursue with vigor and enjoy professional development in their area of instruction and expertise.

#### **OTHER IMPROVEMENTS**

1. A zero period has been added to accommodate computer applications students who have difficulty scheduling this course.
2. Our staff and students have entered more academic competitions than ever before and have experienced success.
3. Our students have received numerous awards and scholarships.
4. We have made use of outside professional organizations for assemblies and special programs which relate to current adolescent problems.
5. We are continuing to be innovative in reference to improving our SAT scores. One of our school level objectives is dedicated to the verbal portion of this testing program.
6. Our club program is expanding and working towards more school and community interaction.

#### **TESTING**

Nutley High School students continue to perform in laudatory fashion on the HSPT. All graduating members of the class of 1999 have successfully completed the state-mandated testing obligation. High expectations of teachers and students consistently reap rewards. As of this submission, 96.2% of our current junior class has demonstrated mastery of the proficiency standards.

English and mathematics coordinators, and BSI and ESL faculty are diligent in their efforts to apply ever-improved instructional techniques to provide NHS pupils the opportunity to achieve proficiency on the HSPT.

In May, 1999 thirty-four tenth grade students participated in a science pilot assessment designed to be congruent with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards in the life sciences. Feedback from those students indicates that a positive assessment experience occurred.

The New Jersey Department of Education is proceeding with its implementation of more rigorous testing objectives. Commensurate with the state's tentative inauguration schedule, we will institute the Terra Nova Test for grade 9, and possibly grade 10, in the Spring of 2000. Establishing this instrument as an internal mechanism for identifying students' deficiencies should augment our capacity to prepare our pupils for the restructured HSPT, which will become the HSPA. The first official administration of the HSPA (High School Proficiency Assessment) will take place in October 2000 or October 2001.

## **BUSINESS EDUCATION**

## BUSINESS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT YEARLY REPORT - 1998-99

This school year the Business Department has been involved in the following activities:

- 1) A new course was proposed and accepted by the Board of Education. Beginning in September we will be offering *Business Systems and Technology* as the capstone course in our Computer Applications program.
- 2) Course names were changed to better reflect the content. All Keyboarding courses have been changed to Computer Applications.
- 3) A request was made to schedule a Computer Applications section at 7:30 a.m. to resolve the conflict for students who wish to take five majors and music. This request was granted and the course will begin in September. However, I can see it has not solved all conflicts. I still have students requesting other arrangements.
- 4) The Business Department continues to upgrade computer hardware and software. Room 217 was equipped with new computers last fall. Advanced classes are using Microsoft Office software. For the first time, we included an Internet research project in our Computer Applications classes.
- 5) Enrollment in our classes continues to increase. We were over-enrolled this spring and had to drop sections. Next year we will include a request for an additional teacher in the budget.
- 6) The Business Department continued to provide computer assistance to any staff members who requested it.
  - a) Mrs. Mullane taught two secretarial workshops, Fall and Spring.
  - b) Mrs. Mullane and her Advanced Computer Applications students designed templates for the Athletic Department, Attendance, the Cafeteria and the elementary schools.
  - c) Mr. McCrohan assisted the high school secretaries and substance abuse counselor with computer problems.
- 7) Mrs. Kehayes was a member of the School-to-Career curriculum committee.
- 8) This summer members of the department will be writing School-to-Career lesson plans to incorporate in our curriculum next fall.
- 9) Mrs. Mullane was accepted in the Fulbright Memorial Teacher program and will be visiting Japan next fall.

- 10) Mr. Christadore took his Business Law classes on field trips to both the Essex County Courthouse and the Morris County Courthouse.
- 11) Mrs. Orenstein took her College Notetaking classes on a field trip to Caldwell College where they attended a college lecture and tested their notetaking skills.
- 12) Mrs. Mullane took her Introduction to Business class on field trips to the Meadowlands Sports Complex, the Star Ledger printing plant, and the New York Stock Exchange.
- 13) The FBLA participated in the Consumer Bowl competition that we hosted and the Fed Challenge where we reached the semi-final round.
- 14) Professional Days:
  - a) Mrs. Kehayes - Workshop for Business Education Department Heads  
School to Careers Conference  
ITP Business Education Conference  
Perkins Vocational Funding Workshop  
Technology at Work – Tour of Warner Lambert  
Training Session on Career Explorer software
  - b) Mrs. Mullane Workshop for Fed Challenge advisors  
ITP Business Education Conference
  - c) Mr. McCrohan One day seminar “Launch of Corel 2000”
- 15) Professional Improvement:
  - a) Mr. Christadore completed a graduate course in Federal Income Taxes
  - b) All department members attended in-service training on Microsoft Office 97 on Articulation Day and two Saturdays in January.
  - c) Mrs. Mullane, Mr. McCrohan and Mrs. Kehayes will be enrolling in Microsoft training courses this summer.

### **CONCERNS**

- 1) The Department is concerned about the age of some of our equipment. I requested replacement of computers in Room 211 and 205 for next year. Only 211 will be replaced. The computers in Room 205 are not connected to the network and are too old to run our current software packages. They will receive minimal use next year.
- 2) The Department is concerned about the fact that we were forced to drop sections of our courses for next year and tell students other than seniors that they could not take courses.



- 3) The Department is concerned about the size of our classes for next year.
- 4) The Department is concerned that Special Education students are struggling with our Computer Applications course. We would like to have an inclusion section of this course.
- 5) The Department is concerned about students misusing their computer network passwords and sharing their work with other students. This will be a possibility next year.
- 6) The Department recognizes that our program is expensive. However, it is imperative that we keep up with changing technology. In the computer world, to stand still is to fall behind.

**ENGLISH**

## Principal's Report

1998-1999

To: Mr. Mario Cocchiola, Principal of Nutley High School  
From: Ms. Dianne De Rosa, Coordinator of Language Arts/  
Chairperson of English Department

## I. Testing

Student preparation for the High School Proficiency Test is a priority of the English Department. Students on each grade level have been given exercises which were developed to reinforce and strengthen the skills that students need to perform well on the HSPT.

From September through October juniors were given weekly reading and writing exercises which reinforced the skills tested on the HSPT.

Similar exercises were given to the freshmen and sophomores on a weekly basis from September through May.

The total number of juniors who took the reading portion of the HSPT in October of 1999 was 268. The total number of students who took the writing portion of the HSPT was 268. The results of the Grade 11 HSPT for 1998 are as follows:

Reading Test - 93.2% passed  
Writing Test - 99.2% passed

Students are also given materials which relate to the SAT and PSAT and correlate with daily instruction in literature, grammar, and writing.

## II. Curriculum

## A. The NUT. S.H.EL.L. Reading Program

English I students participated in the Nutley Senior High Electronic Library Program under the direction of Mrs. Tropiano. Students in these classes worked independently, utilizing the computer software to manage their reading records and computer generated book quizzes. Students who participated in this program were rewarded and recognized for their reading achievement.

## B. Basic Skills Reading/Writing

There were nine classes of basic skills reading and writing classes this year. Classes were comprised of students who did not pass the Early Warning Test as eighth graders in the spring of 1998 and tenth grade students who did not pass the EWT administered to all freshman. Students entering our school who had not taken the EWT and who had not met the standard in the testing at their former school were also placed in a basic skills class.

In addition to the ninth and tenth grade basic skills classes there were six classes comprised of eleventh grade students who did not pass the TAP administered to all sophomores in the spring of 1998.

Class size was small which allowed for the type of individual instruction that is needed in a remedial course.

A final writing project gives students the opportunity to select, revise, and edit their favorite piece(s) of writing for a class publication. Students compose their work on IBM computers using Microsoft word software and Print Shop. This end of the year project enables students to see their work in print and to share their work with students in the entire basic skills program.

## C. Journalism Program

This year twenty-two students were involved in the production of the school newspaper, the Maroon and Gray.

The students in Journalism II, Advanced Journalism Workshop and Sophomore Journalism have been trained to use Quark XPress software on the Macintosh. Sixteen issues of the paper were produced this year which include two issues of a literary magazine, three entertainment magazines, three sports magazines, five eight to twelve page newspapers, two twelve page news magazines and one Freshman orientation issue. Four of these issues were printed and duplicated in-house and eleven issues were professionally printed. In addition, two twelve page in-house additions of a newspaper were produced by the Sophomore Journalism class. All journalism classes are required to submit a minimum of five articles per week to the Nutley Sun.

### III. Workshops

#### Journalism II and Advanced Journalism

Students have contributed articles to the Nutley Sun, The Maroon and Gray, and the student magazines. The MAG is a literary magazine which publishes poems, short stories and essays that are submitted by Nutley High School students. The MAG is published two times a year.

#### Drama

The drama class students performed showcases for period 8 English students at the end of each marking period. Students from the drama club performed scenes for adults and students on three evenings in November and December. These performances were held in connection with meetings of the Drama Booster Club.

### IV. Writing Contests

Students are encouraged by their teachers to enter contests which are offered by community and educational organizations. Many of our students were recognized for their achievements.

Ninth grader Katie Hoch received first place and eleventh grader Gina Todisco received second place in the Amvets essay contest.

Knights of Columbus essay contest winners : ninth grade award recipients are Kate Hoch, first place and Danielle Sammaro, honorable mention. Tenth grade first place award recipient is Christine Koo and eleventh grade recipients are Victoria Dente, first place; and Peter Calderon and Traci Ricca both received honorable mention.

The English Department is pleased to announce that Ella Coscolluela was honored by the National Council of Teachers of English for an essay submitted in the spring of 1998

### V. Theater Activities

Student actors under the direction of Mrs. Hyland participated in a state wide musical theater competition which involved one hundred New Jersey high schools. Anything Goes! was nominated in two major categories: best female lead and best supporting male. On June 15th a segment of the play will be performed at the Paper Mill Playhouse.



## VI. Staff Development

Several staff members attended workshops and seminars during the 1998-1999 school year and shared information and new ideas with members of the department. The following is a list of workshops and seminars attended by various staff members:

Mr. Bonadonna

Garden State Scholastic Press  
Association Press Day Annual  
Spring Advisors Conference,  
Princeton, NJ

Ms. De Rosa

Annual Convention of the National  
Council of Teachers of English  
Nashville, Tennessee

BERG Workshop: Making Effective  
Use of the Internet to Enhance  
Classroom Instruction

Mrs. Hungler

BERG Workshop: Current, Best  
Ideas for making Inclusion Work

Dr. Shepherd

BERG Workshop: Strengthening Your  
Students' Writing and Reading

Mrs. Trainor

Special Review Assessment 11  
Workshop conducted by the  
NJ State Department of Education

## VII. Enrichment

### A. Speakers

Three speakers were invited to present career-oriented programs. The presentations were as follows:

Katharine Gibbs School representative, Mrs. Kathy Schwartz, presented a workshop on career skills to seniors.

A representative from Berkeley College, spoke to juniors on planning for their future educational goals.

Mr. Bob Wolf, a representative from

Metropolitan Technical Institute, spoke on technical and business careers.

#### B. Field Trips:

Mr. Bonadonna's Journalism Workshop students attended the Garden State Scholastic Press Association Student Day held at Rutgers University.

Maroon and Gray journalism students- NJ Nets Champion Center, East Rutherford

Journalism students attended Student Press Day conducted at William Paterson University.

Mrs. Graziano's juniors visited Van Cortland Manor in the Hudson River Valley in New York.

Mrs. Hyland's English II Honors class attended The Paper Mill playhouse production of Bronte's Wuthering Heights.

Mrs. La Pierre's English I Honors students attended a performance of A Midsummer Night's Dream at the Count Basie Theatre.

Mr. Sasso's English IV classes visited St. John the Divine and the Cloisters for a tour on art and architecture of the medieval period.

Mr. Sasso's English I Honors class attended a production at Newark Symphony Hall

Mr. Viteritto's senior English classes attended a performance at the American Stage Theater in Teaneck.

Mrs. Testa's Basic Skills classes attended a performance of the Broadway play "The Scarlet Pimpernel."

Mrs. Trainor Basic Skills students visited the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island.

#### VIII. Book Management

Books, stored in two bookrooms in the old wing of the third floor, are annually sorted and counted for our book inventory. An inventory list is compiled and given to each teacher in September. This list contains the titles of books available, where they

are stored, and the cost.

The department's secretary distributes books and collects books from teachers' classrooms, keeping an accurate total of books requisitioned for classroom use at all times.

IX. Concerns for the future:

Continued teacher training and involvement in the use of the computer as a tool for writing and research. It is a goal to effectively use the internet as a tool to research material for class assignments, writing projects and research connected with literature studied.

Continued staff development on the use of the internet in the English classroom is essential.

Staff participation in professional organizations and attendance at workshops and conferences which relate to the course of study is a department priority.

The possible creation of an American Studies program.

**FINE & INDUSTRIAL ARTS**

**NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL**  
**300 Franklin Ave.**  
**Nutley, New Jersey 07110**

**FINE / INDUSTRIAL ARTS / TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

**George M. Ackerman**  
**Supervisor**  
**Department Chairperson**

**Telephone**  
**1-973-661-8859**

**June 2, 1999**

**TO: Mr. Mario Cocchiola**

**FROM: Mr. George M. Ackerman**

**RE: Annual Report 1998-99 School Year**

The following activities summary/highlights of the Academic Year, 1998-99

**1. STAFF WORKSHOPS - PROFESSIONAL VISITATIONS**

Various members of this department were involved in the following workshops and professional day visitations, such as: NJ Technology Conference and Expo 99, AFL-CIO Union Trade Show, N.J.I.T., School-to-Career Saturday Curriculum Workshop, Computer / Internet Use Seminar Workshop, Annual Art Educators Conference, 1-Day Workshop – Adobe PhotoShop 5.0, 2 – Day Hands-on Workshop – Adobe PhotoShop 5.0, 1998 Fall Family & Consumer Science Conference, 1999 Spring Family & Consumer Science Conference, Educators of Family & Consumer Science Spring Meeting, Quilters Heritage Conference, Association of Family & Consumer Science of NJ, NJ State Motor Vehicle Inspection System. As Bowling Coach Mr. Ackerman attended a Coaches Clinic sponsored by NNJIL.

**2. FIELD TRIPS**

The Home Economics classes visited St. Joseph's Hospital. Trade classes visited Engine City and Lincoln Technical Institute. Art classes entered the Annual "Chalk Walk" at Rockaway Mall. Students also attended New Jersey District of Key Club Fall Rally and District Convention.

### **3. GUEST SPEAKERS**

Schools such as Berkley School, Engine City Technical School, Lincoln Technical Institute, Gibbs College, School of Visual Arts, and The Art Institute of Philadelphia Culinary School sent representatives to speak to our students about their school and careers in related fields. Former students, such as Ellen Santos (Freelance Artist) and Steven Giampetro (NJIT) returned to speak to our students about their post High School experiences.

### **4. SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

The staff participated in the following school and community service projects: Key Club Advisor, Industrial Arts Club Advisor, High School Blood Drive Coordinator, Bowling Coach, School-to-Career Committee Member, Created Awards Certificates for Guidance, Art Club Advisor, Photography Club Advisor, Trustee and Vice President of "Kingsland Trust", Guest Lecturer for History Classes on Vietnam, Amateur Radio Club Advisor, Stage Crew Advisor, all school visuals (bulletin boards, Administrative Signs, program covers, assemblies banners, spirit week banners, yearbook, honor society book, Elementary "Gold Cards", Student Council Buttons, etc.), town visuals (parades, etc.), St. Joe's preemie baby quilts, Salvation Army bears, Senior benefit scenery, costumes, art work, Fundraisers (Burger King Nights, etc.), developed and printed Maroon & Gray photos, yearbook pictures, teacher in Nutley's C.A.T. program, and Arts Fest "99".

### **5. AWARDS / SCHOLARSHIPS**

Students from this Department were the recipients of numerous awards and scholarships including the Israel & Celia Sonenshein Memorial Award, Nutley Rotary Chester Ryan Vocational Award, Rotary Retz Electronics Institute Scholarship, Nutley Woman's Club Art Award, Crompton & Knowles Colors, Inc. Scholarship, Lincoln Technical Institute Scholarship, The Cavan Corporation Scholarship, and The Kiwanis Club of Belleville Annual Key Club Scholarship.

### **6. STAFF**

The Fine / Industrial Arts / Technology Department is composed of one Department Chairperson, four full time staff members, and one two-thirds staff member. This was the second year for our part time teacher. Mid-way through the year we lost our part time teacher, Mr. Carmello Gallico, to full time employment in another system. We were very lucky to be able to fill this position quickly with an experienced teacher, Mr. Tom Cenicola. Mr. Cenicola came to us with 26 years of experience, a fresh enthusiasm, and outgoing personality that brought renewed student interest into the areas he taught (Woods, Metals, and Graphic Arts). Hopefully he can return for the 1999-2000 school year.

## **7. GOAL(S) LONG RANGE**

To increase student (male and female) awareness, interest, and enrollment in Fine / Industrial Arts / Technology Courses. To align Course Offerings with the NJ State Core Curriculum. The need to refine and expand project selection in the Automotive area. Refine the use of CNC lathe in Metalworking II.

Continue to integrate computer usage into daily use in all areas. The Graphic Arts classroom needs to be redesigned, course curriculum refined, and equipment updated to properly bring Computer Technology to our program. Art and Photography need to place greater emphasis digital imagery.

## **8. CONCERNS**

Mixed classes are still not working well in certain areas (i.e.: Art); pure classes are advisable when and if possible. The number of students enrolled in certain classes exceeds the number of workstations available. Enrollment needs to be limited to the number of workstations available (from the standpoint of safety).

Many of our computers (Art, Mechanical Drawing) are becoming outdated and are in need of replacement. New computers / software in many rooms are still ***not*** hooked up. A more efficient method of installation needs to be put in place. The staff is in need of proper training to go along with new / updated software and basic / advanced Internet training.

As our staffing decreases and with our Course Offerings remaining at 100% it becomes increasingly difficult for a reduced staff to adequately maintain all eleven areas (plus in some cases four levels). Strong consideration should be given in the future to return the part-time position to full time. A maximum of five teaching periods plus one maintenance period / teacher would help afford time for all staff to better maintain equipment.

A means of coordinating Course Offerings at Franklin School (Art, Industrial Arts) with those at the High School should be a priority. A steady flow from Middle to High School in these areas would enhance the overall program.

Student and teacher safety is a major concern. A working phone system in each room capable of reaching the main office is needed. Students who threaten should be dealt with swiftly and severely.

## **9. MADELINE HUNTER**

The entire Fine / Industrial Arts / Technology Staff is maintaining their commitment and dedication to the Madeline Hunter Teaching Methodology and the "Total Teaching Art".

## **10. COURSE OF STUDY-REVISIONS**

Further revisions / refinements of Applications of Technology took effect. Automotive I was offered for the second year in a row and met with continued success. Automotive II was offered for the first time in a number of years and also met with success. Increased emphasis on Computer Technology was evident in all Courses.

**11. ARTS FEST "99"**

On May 13, 1999 our Department set-up and displayed hundreds examples of our student's creative, talented works. The display again was set up in the School Cafeteria and featured live student participation. The size of the display was successfully increased. The Arts Fest was open during the four lunch periods to afford all students the opportunity to view the work of their peers and during the evening hours for parents and the community to attend. Art and Industrial Arts Classes from Franklin School were invited but unfortunately could not attend due to previous commitments. I suggest that next year the show day and hours are coordinated to afford Franklin School students the opportunity to view our displays.



## **WORLD LANGUAGES**

**NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY  
WORLD LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT**

TO: Mr. Mario Cocchiola, Principal of Nutley High School

FROM: Mr. Ciro Violante, Coordinator of the World Languages Department

SUBJECT: Annual Report - 1998-1999

**I. Statistical Data and Staff**

1. 745 students from the school population of 1045 or approximately 71% were enrolled in world languages classes.
2. Ten staff members including the coordinator and one part-time teacher taught 36 sections of 19 course offerings (four teachers shared duties between the High School and Franklin Middle School).
3. Mrs. Kirsten, Spanish teacher for 25 years retired on December 31, 1998. Mrs. Kirsten became ill in September 1998 and was replaced by Mrs. Ana Ruiz on October 10, 1998, to teach her schedule for the 1998-99 school year.

**II. Curriculum**

1. A district wide World Languages Curriculum Committee was formed and met on Saturdays during the 1998-99 school year. The committee revised the existing world language curriculum, which was aligned with the New Jersey Core Content Standards.
2. The new Spanish 5AP curriculum was written and approved by the board of education in December 1998.
3. The new Spanish 5AP course will be offered starting September 1999.
4. Other changes made to the existing curricula are; all 4th year language classes will be designated as Honors courses.
5. A new textbook Album, 2nd edition, Valette & Burgy, D.C. Heath and Company, for Spanish 4H for 1999-2000 school year was chosen by the committee and approved by the Board of Education.

### III. Accomplishments, Achievements and Cultural Events.

The World Language staff is extremely proud of the tremendous success and achievements of many of our students. Also this school year, many awards and certificates have been bestowed upon our students who have distinguished themselves in various aspects of the foreign language experience.

1. A group of world language students participated in the Annual Poetry Recitation Contest held at William Paterson University on May 13, 1999. About 60 different schools took part in this contest. Two Nutley High School student were awarded trophies. The categories were Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced and Native in all languages. The winners were: Freshman, Eric Wdowiak, third place Spanish Beginner. Sophomore, Nicole Nevolo, second place Italian Intermediate. Other participants were: Sophomore, Stephanie Green, Junior, Delma Colatrella and Senior, Stacey Kim.
2. French students accompanied by Mrs. Camarda and Mrs. Baldino, attended performances of various French plays and operas. Some of them were: "Les Miserables" at the Imperial theater in New York; and the Opera "Werther" at the Metropolitan Opera in Lincoln Center, in New York.
3. Italian 4 and 5H classes, accompanied by Mr. Cicchino, attended the performance of the Opera "Giulio Cesare" at the Metropolitan Opera in New York. Mr. Cicchino, also took the Italian classes to Italian restaurants and the Spanish classes to Spanish restaurants after school.
4. Mrs. Rhein's Spanish 5H visited the Guggenheim Museum in New York to exhibit paintings by Picasso. At a latter date, the class also went on a field trip to the Spanish Institute in New York.
5. The Latin students, accompanied by Mrs. Gebbie, traveled to Lincoln School in the Fall and Spring Garden School in the Spring to teach a Latin lesson to sixth graders.
6. Diana Gaccione and Bethany Grasso, two fifth year Italian students, were awarded each \$375.00 Scholarship by the Nutley Unico for excellence in the study of the Italian language and culture.
7. Mr. Cicchino's Italian 4 and 5H students participated in the "Italian Culture Day Contest" in Aberdeen, NJ. About 30 schools in New Jersey participated. Bethany Grasso won first place in the Advenced Italian Composition. Nutley High School/Italian 5honors received Honorable Mention for "Presentation of Characters from Commedia Dell'Arte Contest."

## **GUIDANCE**

8. The third annual National World Languages Honor Society induction took place on April 13, 1999. 66 students were inducted into the National Italian, French, Spanish and Latin Honor Society.
9. Mrs. Rucinski and Mrs. Papaleo's Spanish 4 classes attended to Spanish plays at the Repertorio Español in New York City and at Lenape Valley Regional High School.
10. As part of the Holocaust Curriculum, all the Italian classes viewed the awards winning movie "Life is Beautiful" at the Clairidge Cinema.
11. Some Italian 5H students went to Yantacaw School in the afternoon to teach Italian.

#### IV. Workshops - Professional Conferences

1. Mr. Violante attended:
  - 1) The annual "Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages", held at the New York Hilton Hotel.
  - 2) The Technical Assistance Workshop presented by the State Board of Education, in Edison. Mrs. Rucinski also attended this workshop.
3. Mrs. Rucinski attended a 3 day Workshop by FLENJ and State Department of Education designed to help teachers implement the World Languages Content Standards at Keane University.
4. Mrs. Papaleo attended and presented numerous conferences and workshops on Saturdays in conjunction with VITA (Voice of Italian Teachers in America), where she is also treasurer of the organization.
5. Mrs. Camarda and Mrs. Baldino, attended a FLES workshop presented by the American Association of Teachers of French, in Clark, NJ.
6. Mrs. Rhein attended a seminar "Current, Best Ideas for Making Inclusion Work (6-12), presented by the Bureau of Education and Research.

#### V. Departmental Goals (long and short)

1. To continue to improve Achievement and AP Test scores in all languages.
2. To hold district-wide assemblies in order to make students aware of the importance of learning a second language and, at the same time, continue to generate interest and enthusiasm in the study of world languages.

3. To offer new courses such as Japanese, Russian or Chinese via satellite.
4. Of offer an Advenced Placement course in French, Italian and Latin.

VI. Departmental Recommendations

1. Form a committee to update the texts in all languages in levels 1, 2, and 3, and make necessary recommendations.
2. Purchase of computers in order to integrate the Internet into our curriculum.
3. There is a need to lower language classes at a reasonable size (20-22) especially the first three levels so that oral communication skills will be practiced more extensively.

Respectfully submitted  
Ciro Violante, Coordinator  
June 5, 1999

1998-1999

## NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

## ANNUAL REPORT

Introduction

The counselors at Nutley High School subscribe to the basic tenets of the counseling process from which the following professional responsibilities are culled:

1. Each person has the right to respect and dignity as a human being and to counseling services without prejudice as to person, character, belief, or practice.
2. Each person has the right to self-direction and self-development.
3. Each person has the right of choice and the responsibility for decisions reached.
4. The counselor assists in the growth and development of each individual and uses his/her highly specialized skills to insure that the rights of the counselee are properly protected within the structure of the school program.
5. The counselor-client relationship is private and thereby requires compliance with all laws, policies and ethical standards pertaining to confidentiality.

Structure

The Nutley High School Guidance Department is structured to help all Nutley students develop their educational, social, career, and personal strengths and to become responsible and productive citizens.

The counseling thrust has an emphasis on helping students to learn more effectively and efficiently. There is a commitment to individual uniqueness and the maximum development of the student's potential. The Nutley High School guidance program is an integral part of the school's total education program.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Guidance Department at Nutley High School is to work with individual students and groups of students, directly and through the curriculum, alone and together with the whole educational team, to insure that every student has an opportunity to understand his/her own strengths, needs, and goals; learn about life career options; learn decision-making and planning skills, and develop a plan for his/her next step in life.

### Role of the Counselor

The guidance counselor at Nutley High School:

1. Has a primary obligation and loyalty to the pupil, who is to be treated with respect as a unique individual.
2. Is concerned with the total needs of the pupil (educational, vocational, personal, and social) and encourages the maximum growth and development of each counselee.
3. Informs the counselee of the purpose, goals, techniques, and rules of procedure under which he/she may receive counseling assistance at or before the time when the counseling relationship is entered. Prior notices include the possible necessity for consulting with other professionals, privileged communication, and legal or authoritative restraints.
4. Refrains from consciously encouraging the counselee's acceptance of values, lifestyles, plans, decisions, and beliefs that represent only the counselor's personal orientation.
5. Is responsible for keeping abreast of laws relating to pupils and ensures that the rights of pupils are adequately provided for and protected.
6. Makes appropriate referrals when professional assistance can no longer be adequately provided to the counselee. Appropriate referral necessitates knowledge about available resources.
7. Protects the confidentiality of pupil records and releases personal data only according to prescribed laws and school policies. The counselor shall provide an accurate, objective, and appropriately detailed interpretation of pupil information.
8. Protects the confidentiality of information received in the counseling process as specified by law and ethical standards.
9. Informs the appropriate authorities when the counselee's condition indicates a clear and imminent danger to the counselee or others. This is to be done after careful deliberation and, where possible, after consultation with other professionals.
10. Provides explanations of the nature, purposes, and results of tests in language that is understandable to the client(s).
11. Adheres to relevant standards regarding selection, administration, and interpretation of assessment techniques.

If students are to be given a responsible chance to fulfill their potential, counselors need to be able to spend time on activities that guide students toward improved self-understanding, better use of their academic talents, and increased knowledge of the options available to them.



The role of the guidance counselor is to help students. Counselors, as members of the overall district educational team, are responsible for helping students make decisions about career, education and personal life situations. When a student has difficulty with some aspect of life, counselors are there to help. Counselors also see students when other staff members or parents suggest that a student may be having a problem and could benefit from professional assistance. In some cases, such as looking over report cards to spot those students who look as if they might be heading for difficulty, counselors initiate actions based on their own professional judgement.

Counselors recognize that students will probably face problems in the future. Therefore, counselors help students learn problem solving skills that are of value not only in handling current problems but also will be useful in the future. (The process of solving problems involves knowing yourself and what is important to you, knowing all you can about the choices that are available to you, and being able to choose and implement a course of action that will meet your needs). When a student learns the art and skill of solving problems, he/she develops confidence in his/her ability to deal with new and different situations. The long range goal of professional counseling is to equip students with the skills they need to cope with future problem situations.

Counselors work with other members of the school team as well as the family to enable students to acquire these skills. They are reactive (helping to deal with problems as they occur) and proactive (taking action before a problem develops). As a department, we are trying to increase the amount of time we spend on being proactive. We plan to take more initiative to see to it that all students improve their ability to successfully deal with life on their own. We will continue to work with all other members of the school team, through all facets of the school program and in cooperation with the home to meet our responsibilities.

### Major Guidance Objectives

#### A. Assist students to:

1. Progress toward productive and rewarding careers.
2. Select and enter school courses and activities.
3. Develop interpersonal relationships.
4. Develop learning skills of value.
5. Develop self-understanding, and identities.

#### B. Assist teachers to:

1. Understand the students for whom they are responsible.
2. Participate in helping students attain their guidance objectives.
3. Understand and utilize the service of the guidance program.

#### C. Assist parents to:

1. Understand their children's educational progress.
2. Understand the opportunities available to their children.
3. Participate in helping their children attain guidance objectives.
4. Understand and utilize the services of the guidance program.

Freshmen parents met with counselors in the fall to discuss the educational, career, and personal-social needs of their children.

Counselors continued to visit colleges, attend professional conferences, and host college admissions representatives at Nutley High School. These meetings are extremely valuable to the staff and students when the counselors share their experiences with them.

Each student met with his/her counselor concerning his/her program decisions for this year and their course selections for the 1998-99 year.

The Guidance Department continued to meet with the Child Study Team to discuss students who evidence unique needs.

Counselors responded to many crisis situations this year. Students whose parents were going through a divorce or separation, a death in the family, depression, and poor self-image. The counselors referred the most serious cases to support personnel, e.g. Social Worker, School Psychologist.

The department coordinated the scholarships awards program. This year the affair was held in the evening and was well received by parents and guests. Mrs. Marie Peavy did an excellent job in contacting the scholarship sponsors and organizing this program.

The Guidance Advisory Committee held three meetings during the 1997-98 academic year and numerous issues were discussed by the committee.

The following is a list of members of the Guidance Advisory Committee:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ROLE</u>
Mr. John Walker.....	Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Mario Cocchiola.....	Principal
Mr. Joseph Zarra.....	Vice-Principal
Mr. Gregory Catrambone.....	Vice-Principal
Mrs. Judith Hubert.....	Guidance Coordinator
Ms. Barbara Hirsch.....	Director of Special Services
Mrs. Anne Starace .....	Counselor
Mrs. Susan Scerbo.....	Counselor
Mrs. Kathy Comune.....	Counselor
Mr. James Mauro.....	Counselor
Mrs. Marie Peavy.....	Secretary
Mr. Robert McDonald.....	Executive Director of Nutley Family Service Bureau, Nutley, NJ
Mr. William Farkas.....	C.I.E. Coordinator
Mr. Ronald Bonadonna.....	English Teacher
Mrs. Joy Murray.....	Community Representative
Ms. Jennifer Endres.....	Senior Class President
Mr. Thomas Olivo.....	Student Council President
Mrs. Geri Safonte.....	Parent
Mrs. Janet Longo.....	Parent
Mrs. Tina Nguyen.....	Parent
Ms. Rachael Butler.....	Student Reporter

### Guidance Programs

Freshman Orientation Program  
 SAT Administration  
 College Career Fair  
 ASVAB Testing  
 Guidance Advisory Committee  
 Financial Aid Night  
 College Instant Decision Day  
 Franklin School Scheduling Program  
 Honor Society Induction  
 AP Test Administration  
 Senior Awards Program  
 Career Day  
 Career Week  
 New Student Testing and Registration  
 College Visit Field Trips  
 TAP/DAT/EWT/HSPT/Testing  
 Guidance Field Trip Program  
 Princeton Review Summer Program

### Professional Conferences/Workshops

The information below will illustrate the professional conferences the counselors participated in during the academic year. The programs were held during the day, evening, and weekend.

College Board Conference  
 New Jersey State Department - Financial Aid Workshop  
 New Jersey School Counselor - Fall/Winter Conference  
 Essex County School Counselor Association Workshops  
 Core Team Training Conference  
 School to Careers In-Service Program  
 State Department of Education School To Careers Roundtable  
 Morris/Sussex/Warren - School To Careers Consortium Conference  
 Saint Barnabus Behavioral Health Workshop  
 "Daughters and Mothers" - Transforming the Connection Workshop  
 Living with Grief: At Work and School Workshop  
 Substance Awareness Program  
 Rugg's Recommendation Seminar  
 Montclair State University Update  
 Association of Learning Consultants, Core Curriculum Standards  
 N.J. Department of Education School Counselor Roundtable Discussions  
 N.J. Association of College Admissions Counselors - Spring Conference

### Guidance Field Trips

The following information below illustrates the professional field trips sponsored by the Guidance Department during the 1998-1999 academic year.

Saint Peter's College  
 New Jersey City University  
 Ramapo College of New Jersey

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey  
 Eva's Homeless Shelter  
 Rotary Club Luncheon for Student Leaders

### Counselor Visitations

The following information below illustrate the professional visitations the counselors participated in during the 1998-1999 academic year.

Penn State University - Hazelton  
 Felician College  
 Saint Peter's College  
 New Jersey City University  
 Rider University  
 The College of New Jersey  
 Fordham University  
 Essex County College  
 Morris County College  
 Caldwell College  
 Ramapo College of New Jersey  
 Providence College  
 Franklin & Marshall College  
 Gettysburg College  
 Dickinson College  
 Essex County Vocational School (West Caldwell)  
 Georgian Court College  
 Montclair State University  
 Fairleigh Dickinson University

The following colleges/universities have provided representatives to meet with Nutley High School students:

Muhlenberg College	Virginia Polytechnic Institute
University of Hartford	New England College
Mount St. Mary's College	Ursinus College
Delaware Valley College	St. Peter's College
Paul Smith's College	Albright College
University of New Haven	High Point College
St. Lawrence University	Bryant College
Dickinson College	North Adam State College
College of New Jersey	Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Widner College	New Jersey Institute of Technology
College of Saint Elizabeth	Washington & Jefferson College
University of Connecticut	Hampshire College
Albright College	Rochester Institute of Technology
Caldwell College	University of Scranton
Lewisburg College	Ramapo College
Rutgers, The State University of NJ	Plymouth State College
Westminster College	Stevens Institute of Technology
Tre'Bor International Academy	Lafayette College
Johnson & Wales University	Rollins College
Loyola College	University of Rhode Island
William & Mary College	Middlebury College

Villanova University  
 Carnegie Mellon University  
 Fairleigh Dickinson University  
 Chestnut Hill College  
 West Point Academy  
 Philadelphia College of Pharmacy

Wheaton College  
 Drew University  
 Oglethorpe University  
 Colgate University  
 Moravian College  
 University of Pittsburg

### Activities

The counselors were available for two days after school ended in June, 1998, and two days before the opening of school in September 1998. These days were devoted to meeting with parents and students to discuss critical issues. An example would be the role of summer school in helping the student meet the graduation requirements.

The following programs were completed by the guidance department during the 1998-99 academic year:

1. A Freshman Orientation Program was held on August 27, 1998. The class of 2002 was provided with a tour of high school facilities and presentation by upperclassmen.
2. Orientation programs were held for individual classes in September. The counselors addressed the classes and discussed the goals of the department.
3. Letters were sent home to parents of the freshmen and juniors inviting them in for conferences with the counselors. The freshmen conferences were scheduled in October to get to know the students and parents early in the academic year.
4. Letters were sent home to parents regarding the DAT, TAP, EWT and HSPT results. Parents were invited to make contact with their child's counselor to discuss test scores.
5. Conferences were held with the department heads at Nutley High School to review the scheduling process for the 1999-2000 year. Counselors from Franklin School participated in the meetings.
6. Counselors supervised approximately twenty-five testing sessions.
7. The Guidance Department Newsletter was issued to improve communications between students, parents and the high school. The newsletter related activities and information concerning the education of Nutley High School students.
8. Nutley High School counselors were active in the Essex County Guidance Association. The association provide tours to St. Peter's College, Essex County College, Seton Hall University, Fordham University, Stevens Institute of Technology, Berkeley College, and Bloomfield College. These tours are conducted after school.

The Guidance Department increased its knowledge of one and two-year schools and colleges. These schools and colleges are becoming more popular with our students for many reasons. The increasing cost of four-year colleges and the excellent career programs available at these schools make them a sound investment for some of our students.

In January, the department hosted an evening program to students and parents relating to the financial aid process. Fairleigh Dickinson University provided the speakers who went over the proposed changes planned by the state and federal agencies.

Counselors invited parents of students to meet with them. The parents of members of the class of 2000 conferenced with the counselors in the spring. The meeting reviewed the need to plan early when considering post-secondary opportunities for education or work.

### Guidance Publications

The Guidance Department continues to take a proactive stance with their numerous publications. Student and parent comments have been most favorable about these publications.

Welcome to Nutley High School Booklet  
 Freshman Orientation Booklet  
 4-Year College Admissions Guide  
 2-Year College Admissions Guide  
 Vocational/Technical School Guide  
 Scholarship Booklet  
 Summer Programs Booklet  
 Guidance Newsletter  
 Student Guide to Clubs and Organizations

### Career Education

The counselors made extensive use of career interest inventories to encourage their students in the career exploration process.

The Guidance Information System, available in the career resource center, has information on over more than 1,000 careers. Counselors shared this resource information with their students.

The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery was given to interested juniors and seniors. The results were used in the career exploration process.

### Transcripts

	<u>1995-96</u>	<u>1996-97</u>	<u>1997-98</u>	<u>1998-99</u>
Transcripts.....	2,601	2,518	2,643	2,463
Mid-Term Grades.....	201	168	172	158
Final Grades.....	198	172	189	146
Total.....	3,000	2,858	3,004	2,767

### Closure

Through the efforts of the guidance counselors, the Nutley High School students continue to learn more about themselves - their abilities, their interests, and their needs - through a variety of guidance services and programs.

In a counseling atmosphere that is student-oriented, students are receiving the guidance necessary for their academic, career, and personal development. It is hoped that students look upon their counselor as an advocate who represents their interests when dealing with professionals, family, and community agencies.

By encouraging students to develop their academic, career, and personal potentials, the counselor seeks to have the students become more responsible to themselves, to their school, and, ultimately, to society.

## **MATHEMATICS**



June 5, 1999

TO: Mr. Mario Cocchiola  
FROM: Mary Lou Dowse  
SUBJECT: Annual Report - Mathematics Department, High School

I. STAFF

- A. Departmental statistics indicate that thirteen teachers taught a total of 59 class sections. This included 17 regular subjects in addition to classes in the Basic Skills Improvement Program. As of April, 1999, the average class size was 19 in the regular classes and 13 in the basic skills classes.
- B. In September, Miss Christina Hanlon replaced Mrs. Evelyn McMullen as a regular teacher in our mathematics department. Miss Hanlon, a certified math teacher, taught three classes at the high school and two classes at the middle school.

II. TESTING

- A. The eleventh grade High School Proficiency Test was administered on October 7, 1998. A preparation program, implemented in early September, was carefully designed to provide practice in solving HSPT type problems and to familiarize students with the actual test format. Teacher prepared materials, publisher workbooks, and previously administered due notice tests were used on a regular basis to supplement the curriculum.

Results from the October, 1998, HSPT were impressive. Of the 236 regular students tested, 228 students passed the mathematics section. This resulted in a passing rate of 96.6 percent. The total mean score in mathematics was 423.8 compared to a mean score of 300 for the state.

- B. Again this year the March 1993 Early Warning Test, given to all ninth graders, and the TAP Test, given to all tenth graders, were administered on April 6th, 7th, and 8th in order to satisfy standardized testing requirements mandated by the state. Results of these tests will be

used to identify students who are at risk of failing the eleventh grade HSPT. Students who fall below the MLP for mathematics will be placed in a remediation program. In addition, results will be used to test students out of the Basic Skills Improvement program. There were seven classes of Basic Skills Mathematics this year.

- C. On Thursday, May 13, advanced placement tests were administered to four seniors in level AB Calculus. Student results for this exam are normally reported in July.

### III. INSTRUCTION

- A. The computer-resource center continues to function as an important part of the mathematics program. The room was utilized on a regular basis by two Mathematics of Finance classes and one Computer Programming class. In addition, the center was used periodically by geometry and basic skills classes and also by individual students in need of extra help or to complete computer assignments and other projects.
- B. In order to implement current recommendations for increased use of calculator technology in the classroom, and to satisfy state requirements concerning the use of calculators on the grade 11 HSPT, 30 additional TI-34 scientific calculators and one CBL (computer based lab) were purchased this year. Calculators were distributed to ninth, tenth, and eleventh grade students to be used in the classroom as a tool for problem solving and also to properly prepare students for the HSPT. Graphing calculators were issued to all students in our Calculus, Precalculus, and Advanced Mathematics courses.
- C. The SAT preparation program continues to serve our students preparing to enter college. John Suffren conducted eight evening sessions in mathematics during the fall semester from 6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. involving approximately 20 students planning to take the PSAT or SAT. A similar program was conducted during the spring semester for approximately 20 students preparing to take the spring SAT. Tests from previous years were used to provide practice and acquaint students with key concepts as well as the format of the actual test.

Once again, a mini SAT review course was implemented in our Mathematics of Finance course to prepare students for the SAT. A videocassette program entitled, "The SAT Edge", was used in the classroom in order to enhance lessons, help alleviate test anxiety, and acquaint students with the test format.

Results reported in September for the Scholastic Aptitude Test taken by 246 members of the class of 1998 show a mean mathematics score of 523 compared with 508 for New Jersey. Approximately 85 percent of the graduating class took the SAT with 23 percent of the students scoring above 600 on the mathematics section.

- D. In October, 1998, the HSPT11 was administered to four twelfth graders who still needed a passing score on the math section in order to satisfy the graduation requirement. One student, Mahmoud Mansour, did not achieve the required MLP and he was subsequently entered into the Student Review Assessment process in mathematics this year. All phases of the process were completed and requirements for graduation were accomplished.

#### IV. FIELD TRIPS

On March 19th the coordinator and Rosemary Vivinetto accompanied the Accelerated Algebra II class to an annual Mathematics Day sponsored by Montclair State University. In addition to the general session, students attended a number of stimulating lectures on interesting topics in the field of mathematics.

On April 22nd Toby D'Ambola took students from his Stock Investment Club to the American Stock Exchange in New York City.

#### V. MATHEMATICS CONTESTS

The Stock Investment Club, sponsored by Toby D'Ambola, continues as an extension of the Mathematics of Finance course. The club meets to discuss investment procedures and other aspects of the stock market. A club highlight is its participation in a stock market game in which teams from throughout the country begin with a theoretical fixed sum of money and, through investments, compete to achieve the highest return.

The Math Club, sponsored by Elinor Alboum and Arleen Slott, met monthly to conduct contests and to discuss problem solving strategies. Students participated in six contests during the year sponsored by the New Jersey Math League. The contests involved approximately 45 students from all grade levels competing with other schools throughout the state.

Five teams of students participated in the Essex County Math League Contest held at Caldwell College on May 27th. Nutley placed second among the eleven schools participating. Our Algebra I team placed first, our Geometry team placed second, and our Advanced Mathematics team placed fifth.

#### VI. STUDENT AWARDS, HONORS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

An award was given to Michael Kim by the Crompton and Knowles Corporation for proficiency in mathematics.

The Rensselaer Medal was presented to John Mauro as the outstanding junior in the field of mathematics and science.

High honors in mathematics were granted to two of our graduating seniors. In addition, 24 seniors were granted honors for achieving above average grades for four years of high school mathematics.

#### VII. WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS, AND OTHER VISITATIONS

The Mathematics Roundtable was attended by the coordinator on December 2nd at Fair Lawn and on March 24th at Hackensack. The Roundtable includes mathematics supervisors from communities throughout New Jersey who meet periodically to discuss common concerns regarding curriculum, teaching, and supervision.

On October 22nd Toby D'Ambola attended the Association of Mathematics Teachers of New Jersey Conference. The coordinator and Rosemary Vivinetto attended the same conference on October 23rd.

On February 1st Susan Gesumaria and Christina Hanlon attended an HSPA workshop conducted by the State Department of Education.

On March 19th, Rosemary Vivinetto attended a Precalculus workshop at Rutgers University, that presented ideas on teaching precalculus.

On May 4th the coordinator attended a workshop on implementing the NJ Cross Content Workplace Readiness Standards.

On May 6th the coordinator attended the 8th Annual Law-Related Education Conference.

#### VIII. DEPARTMENTAL GOALS FOR 1999-00

- A. Continue to review the secondary mathematics curriculum with regard to updating course content and textbook materials to more closely align them with the NJ Core Curriculum Content standards.
- B. Continue expanding the use of computers and scientific and graphics calculators in the classroom. Teachers should be trained in the use of computers as a tool for enhancing lessons and also in the use of the Internet in the mathematics classroom.
- C. Continue to incorporate the open-ended question into our regular classroom activities and to include these types of questions on class tests.

c: Mr. John Walker

**MUSIC**

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Mr. Mario Cocchiola, Principal of Nutley High School

**From:** John Vitkovsky, Coordinator of Music

**Re:** Principal's Report for 1998 - 99 School Year

The following are activities of the 1998 - 99 school year, present concerns, and recommendations that are being submitted for your review and consideration.

### ACTIVITIES

1. This year enrollment in Band A, Band B, Choralettes, Octets, Orchestra, and Mixed Chorus remained the same. Due to sufficient enrollment, Fundamentals of Music I and II were offered once again.

2. The faculty and students continue to use the Music Department computer to rearrange parts for the Band, Orchestra, Octets, and the Choralettes (choral parts for the Spring Music Festival were written using this computer). Agendas, reports, and programs for the Yuletide, All Elementary, and Spring Music Festival were also written on this computer.

3. In the Fall, the Raider Band participated in the competitions and championship of the Eastern Marching Band Association, as well as all home and away football games. The band's competition scores improved steadily all season long, culminating with a first place trophy at the Roselle Park Competition. The highlight of the year for the Band, Orchestra, Octets, Choralettes, and Raider Choir was the trip to Disney World. The students' deportment and performances were excellent.

4. This was another fine year for the Orchestra. One of our violin players, Christine Koo was selected to the 1999 All North Jersey High School Orchestra. Another violinist, Stacey Kim, performed with the 1998 All State Orchestra in the All State concerts at the NJEA Convention and the new NJ - PAC hall. Once again the Orchestra combined with the Band in the Grand Finale of the Yuletide Concert and the Spring Music Festival. Continuing a tradition that began four years ago, the Orchestra and Band will jointly perform at the NHS Graduation.

5. The Choralettes and Octets had a very productive year which included the following performances: Nutley Rotary Club, Nutley Old Guard, All North Jersey Choral Festival, the Mayor's Tree Lighting Ceremony, the Town Yuletide Concert, Belleville - Nutley AARP, and the Daughters of the American Revolution. Choralettes Julie

Agostini, Kiwako Kono, Jee na Lee, Jean Rohe and Octet En-Tseh Wang were selected to membership in the 1999 All North Jersey Region I Chorus. En-Tseh Wang also performed in the 1998 All State concerts.

6. At the Music Department's June District Meeting, Mr. Ed Sueta from Macie Publishing will present a workshop on his band and recorder methods which is used in the elementary schools.

7. Professional Days: Mr. Vitkovsky and Mr. McPartland attended workshops on the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards given at the NJEA Convention in Atlantic City, the NJMEA Convention/Workshop in New Brunswick, and the Music Educator's All Eastern Conference in New York City. In August 1998, Mrs. Bimbi attended the vocal directors workshop given by Shawnee Press.

8. Assemblies: The Band, Orchestra, Octets, and Choralettes presented our annual Yuletide assembly for the school. This Yuletide program was also performed for the town on December 17, 1998. A large group of students from the Choralettes, Octets, Orchestra, and the Band participated in the Senior Benefit, "Anything Goes."

9. Music Boosters Cafe Night: Twenty - eight chamber groups, of varying sizes and instrumentation, performed at two seatings.

### CONCERNS

1. There continues to be a need for additional instrumental lesson instruction periods each day. Since these lessons are offered only during periods 3 and 4, only a limited number of students can participate.

2. There is a need for additional computers to be installed in Room 102. Both before and after school, the Music Department Staff must wait their turn to use this computer. Having additional computers would alleviate this condition. Also, now that Room 102 has been wired (five outlets) for the Internet, these additional computers will enable the Music Department to take full advantage of this capability.

3. There is a need for a part-time percussion instructor to work with the Raider Band during the Fall marching season. Because the band is involved in 4 additional competitions during this time, a part-time instructor would be invaluable in assisting the percussion section with the intricate parts.



### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That a part-time instructor be hired so that additional instrumental instruction may be offered throughout the day.
2. Purchase five additional pentium computers for the music department.
3. Hire a part-time percussion instructor for the Fall marching season.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH**


**NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL  
300 Franklin Avenue  
Nutley, New Jersey 07110**

40.

**Department of  
Health and Physical Education**

**Anna Melnyk  
Department Chairperson**

**Area Code 973  
661-8855**

**TO: Mr. Cocchiola**  
**FROM: Anna Melnyk**   
**RE: Annual Report - Health/Physical Education Department**  
**DATE: June 4, 1999**

The school year started with the addition of a new teacher, Mr. Richard Noonan to the Health and Physical Education Staff. Mr. John Flanigan was welcomed back from a sick leave, healthy and ready to continue his teaching duties. Mr. Richard SanFillipo followed a full teaching schedule. These teachers composed the men's side of the department. On the women's side of the department were Miss AnneMarie Kowalski, Mrs. Sharon Larcara and Miss Robyn Powell. Mrs. Sharon Larcara and Miss Robyn Powell were senior class advisors.

As the midyear approached, Mr. John Flanigan was granted a sick leave. Upon his leave, Mr. Jason Isza was hired to replace Mr. Flanigan as a long term substitute. Prior to the hiring of Mr. Isza, Mr. Sergio Fernandez substituted for approximately three weeks, then Mrs. Eileen Donatiello substituted since she was certified to teach Physical Education, students could continue to have a physical education program.

As the Department Chairperson for Health and Physical Education, I attended a few workshops to further my educational goals for the staff and to gain more knowledge about what other schools and districts were doing in the area of health and physical education.

\*Oct. 6, 1998 - NJ Council of Administrators of Health and Physical Education-  
Organizational Meeting

\*Oct. 30, 1998 - Family Life/Sexuality Education and Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention-  
Workshop

\*Feb. 3, 1999 - NJ Council of Administrators of Health/Physical Education -  
Workshop/State Standards for Health and Physical Education

\*May 5, 1999 - NJ Teen Prevention Education Program

Two student teachers were supervised by Mr. Richard SanFillipo and Miss AnneMarie Kowalski. Christopher Mazurkiewicz started his assignment on Sept. 14, 1998 and ended it on Dec. 23, 1998. Christian DelPiano began his assignment on Oct. 28 and ended on Dec. 19, 1998.

In September seventy-five percent of the students participated in the President's Council on Physical Fitness Tests. Two senior girls received the annual Physical Fitness Certificates which were presented at the annual Spring Activity and Athletic Awards Program.

Fitness test scores were converted to a grade that was a part of a student's overall physical education grade. In addition to the test students were graded on preparation, warm up exercises, class participation, skill acquisition, extra credit work and make up classes. Some students made posters for physical education which was required by the teacher. Some of these posters adorned the walls during the year.

**The Family Life/Physical Education Curriculum** was revised during this past year. Teaching staff members who were part of this revision included Miss AnneMarie Kowalski, Miss Robyn Powell, Mrs. Pat Scullen, Mrs. Pat Tarczynski, as well as myself.

During January's Articulation Day, Mrs. Linda Morse, State Coordinator for Health/Physical Education, Core Content Standards conducted an in-service lesson for the district's teachers. An in-service lesson on lacrosse was going to be taught by Mr. Noonan but Mrs. Morse consumed all of the articulation time. A handout on lacrosse was subsequently given out.

In Health the staff continues to do a very fine job following the curriculum and course proficiencies. Family Life/Human Sexuality will be taught during the junior year, starting with the next school year. This was a recommendation from the Family Life Curriculum Committee.

Mrs. Lisa Markman, SAC Counselor initiated some programs that included students from the Health and Physical education classes. A program called "Fatal Vision" was introduced by Mr. Brian Delaney about the dangers of drinking alcohol and what it can do to the body. Students were asked to put on "goggles" that were to mimic the different blood alcohol levels, then they were asked to walk a few feet to feel the difference.

Another successful program was the "Dodge Neon Drunk Driving Simulator." Only the junior and senior classes could participate, since a student needed a driver's license to operate the car. This program was held behind the Franklin Middle School. The cooperation between Mrs. Markman, Mr. Cocchiola and the department made this program a success.

On Monday, April 19, 1999, Mr. Joseph Pelaia spoke to the senior health classes on the dangers of smoking and the effect it had on his family. This was an intense, sensitive, and a sad story that was conveyed to the students about the ravages of smoking. Mr. Pelaia had a major impact on the students that did smoke since some of them vowed to stop. His relationship with his wife, his feelings of despair and loneliness hit home since some of the students of the senior class had known his wife, Evelyn.

The United States Army made a career presentation to two health and physical education classes. This included the ninth grade through the twelfth grade, only periods two and three, (December 17, 1998).

The United States Marine Corps stopped by to visit, performed calisthenics with the students, lectured them on the merits of a good education and keeping in top physical condition, (May 6, 1999). The officers that visited the school had positive comments about the students and staff.

Again, on May 27, 1999 the United States Marine Corps set up a pull-up contest, sit-up contests and push up contests for anyone wishing to participate. Students from the physical education classes won T-shirts, water bottles, key chains and other items. This coincided with the Memorial Day holiday.

#### **OTHER HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDED:**

- ▶ Students in the ninth grade continue to participate in the Suicide Awareness Program
- ▶ Hearing screening was administered to 1051 students
- ▶ Vision screening was administered to the 10th grade, 279 students
- ▶ Homebound students were also screened - 15
- ▶ The Health/Physical Education department screened 1060 students for scoliosis
- ▶ Blood pressure screening was administered to staff/students
- ▶ The nurses administer Mantoux testing for TB when necessary
- ▶ The nurses distributed daily medication to students when needed
- ▶ The Nutley Police Department continues to speak to Driver Education classes on drugs and alcohol, the penalties of DWI and its consequences.
- ▶ The Red Cross Blood drive continues to be successful. Students can donate during their health and physical education class.

Mr. Dave Vanderhoff gave a demonstration on kickboxing to three physical education classes. Three other aerobic instructors demonstrated as well. Mr. Vanderhoff is from the U.S. Martial Arts Academy, Bloomfield, N.J.

All instructors continue to follow Madeline Hunter's instructional objectives. All instructors continue to stay abreast of current trends in their field, using professional journals, audiovisual aids, networking and computer applications.

**LOCKER ROOM SECURITY** - During the past year students have had money stolen, gym suits stolen, sneakers and school supplies. Each student is to have a lock on his locker when dressing for physical education. Most of the problems relate to a student not locking his locker, not having a lock, or leaving his money in his backpack, then leaving it on the bench. I would like to reinstate the combination lock program that was in place before. Locks would have to be purchased for the students. The physical education teachers would give the locks out to students, keep records of lock numbers and would know what student belonged to a certain locker.

Teachers lock the locker room once all the students are dressed. If a student is late to class, he cannot get into the locker room. The problem is magnified when there are only two teachers on the floor, or a teacher is absent. For example with one female teacher on most of the periods, if that teacher is absent, someone needs to monitor the locker room for the students whose teachers are not absent.

**BOYS LOCKER ROOM** - A larger storage area is desperately needed. Why do the boys have to transport their uniforms back and forth to their hall lockers? They need adequate lockers!

43.

- ▶ Students cram their uniforms into one of the hall lockers on the first floor (Hall of Fame hallway), this way they can get to it as quickly as possible.
- ▶ Students are tardy to class since they must go back to their hall lockers to get their uniforms
- ▶ Gym suits that have been stored in the hall lockers have been stolen repeatedly
- ▶ Many students borrow other student's shorts, shirts, sneakers without permission, creating an unsanitary condition when uniforms are borrowed
- ▶ During class students use the weight room as a dressing area, unsafe, there is an overflow of boys that need to get dressed
- ▶ Boys leave their street clothes on the benches without any security what so ever
- ▶ Lockers need to be painted, removed and/or replaced.

## **SCIENCE**

**Nutley Public Schools**  
 Nutley High School  
 Nutley, New Jersey 07110  
**Memorandum**

**To:** Mr. John Walker, Assistant Superintendent

Date: June 4, 1999

**From:** Catherine Danchak, Science Coordinator

**Subject:** Annual Science Report 1998 - 1999

1. **Statistics** - 1,188 students were enrolled in a science class. The Science Department had ten full time teachers and a department head who teaches two classes. The average class size was 25 students, ranging from a class of 15 in A.P. Physics and classes of 28 and 29 in Environmental Science. It is important that class size be limited to a maximum of 24 students.

2. **Classes**

**Environmental Science** - Teachers: Mr. Tagliareni and Mr. Zintl

There were five sections of Environmental Science meeting five periods per week with an enrollment of 133 students.

**Introduction to Physical Science** - Teachers: Miss Naturale and Mr. Zintl

There were four sections of IPS meeting five periods per week with an enrollment of 76 students.

**Biology Nine Honors** - Teachers: Dr. Danchak and Mr. Jinks

There were three sections of Biology IX Honors meeting six periods per week with an enrollment of 62 students.

**Biology** - Teachers: Mrs. Kasner, Mr. Kimberley, Mrs. Stave, and Mr. Tagliareni

There were nine sections of Biology meeting five periods per week with an enrollment of 200 students. Next year, enrollment will increase to 225 students.

**Microbiology** - Teachers: Ms. Kasner and Mrs. Stave

There were six sections of Microbiology meeting five periods per week with an enrollment of 114 students.

**Chemistry Honors** - Teachers: Miss Naturale and Mr. Starrick

There were four sections of Chem Study Honors meeting six periods per week with an enrollment of 84 students.

**Chemistry** - Teachers: Mr. Mancuso, Miss Naturale, Mr. Sautter, and Mr. Starrick

There were six sections of Chemistry meeting six periods per week with an enrollment of 135 students.



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### **Physics** - Teacher: Mr. Tagliareni

There were two sections of Physics meeting six periods per week with an enrollment of 30 students.

### **Physics Honors** - Teachers: Mr. Mancuso and Mr. Sautter

There were two sections of Physics Honors meeting six periods per week with an enrollment of 41 students.

### **Human Physiology** - Teacher: Dr. Danchak and Mr. Kimberley

There were three sections of Human Physiology meeting five periods per week with an enrollment of 52 students.

### **Advanced Placement Biology** - Teacher: Mr. Jinks

There were two section of A.P. Biology meeting six periods per week with an enrollment of 30 students.

### **Advanced Placement Chemistry** - Teacher: Mr. Starrick

There were two section of A.P. Chemistry meeting six periods per week with an enrollment of 21 students.

### **Advanced Placement Physics** - Teacher: Mr. Sautter

There was one section of A.P. Physics meeting six periods per week with an enrollment of 15 students.

### 3. **Advanced Placement Testing** - The following number of students took the AP tests:

Advanced Placement Biology - 28

Advanced Placement Chemistry - 5

Advanced Placement Physics - 2

### 4. **Science Awards**

Bausch & Lomb - Michael Iannicelli

Nominated Junior- Christopher Grossman

Crompton & Knowles - Andre Xue

Dominick DiCioccio Memorial- Michael Guerriero

Nutley Elks Youth Activities- Michael Iannicelli

Nutley Elks Handicapped Children- Patrick Connell

Nutley Elks Youth Activities- Josee' Rose

Nutley Elks Ladies Auxiliary- Michael Kim

New Jersey Governor's School:

Science - Michael Guerriero

Nominated Junior - Marisa Castronova

New Jersey Governor's School:

Environmental Science - Ella Coscolluela

Nominated Junior - Alexander Vartanian

Rensselaer Medal and Scholarship -

Michael Iannicelli

Nominated Junior - John Mauro

### 5. **Professional Days**

New Jersey Science Teachers Convention - Mr. Kimberley and Ms. Kasner

Eastern Analytical Symposium - Mr. Starrick

## Annual Report 1998 - 1999

GEPA & HSPA Workshops - Dr. Danchak  
 NJSSI Workshops (2) - Dr. Danchak  
 EOHSI - Dr. Danchak  
 NJEA Convention - Mr. Mancuso and Mr. Zintl

### 6. Curriculum Development

The **Environmental Science** curriculum is being refined. An energy program from Exxon is being incorporated. Testing of the Passaic River and the Third River of the Passaic for the Audubon Society continues. Review of supplementary materials continues.

The computer room was used frequently for **Physics and Physics Honors** problem solving and review. Program writing for studying power transfer in Direct Current was implemented. A new program, Power Transfer, was written by Mr. Sautter for use in the computer lab.

The following exercises were incorporated into the **Microbiology** curriculum. The integration of newly acquired audiovisual materials into the curriculum. Ms. Kasner will be attending a week-long Merck Summer Microbiology workshop at Rutgers.

New labs and procedures were added to the **Biology** and **A.P. Biology** curricula. New findings in genetics were researched. Labs emphasizing the structure of D.N.A., the role of chlorophyll in photosynthesis, and respiration were implemented. An absorption spectrum lab on chlorophyll and carotenoid was developed.

### 7. Career Awareness Assembly

Dental Hygienist

### 8. Field Trips

**Environmental Science** - Mr. Tagliareni

Third River of the Passaic - testing of water for pollution and microorganisms.

**Physics** - Mr. Mancuso, Mr. Sautter, and Mr. Tagliareni

Great Adventure - physics problems were calculated based on ride velocity and gravity.

### 9. Activities

#### **Sports**

Rifle Coach - Mr. Zintl

Assistant Basketball Coach - Mr. Tagliareni

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Astronomy - Mr. Zintl

Applied Engineering in Energy - Mr. Mancuso

**Clubs**

Aquarium Club - Mr. Jinks

Rifle Club - Mr. Mancuso

**Science Fair**

Academic Booster Club grades K - 6 Science Fair - Dr. Danchak and Mr. Sautter, volunteer judges

**10. District wide Curriculum Enhancement**

Scholastic Workshop - Dr. Danchak

Scott Foreman presentation - Dr. Danchak

Environmental Occupational Health Science Institute Environmental Workshops for K - 2 teachers - Dr. Danchak

**11. Industry/Community Cooperation**

**Hoffman La Roche** donated furniture, equipment and many boxes of clean usable glassware. Other equipment donations will be forthcoming.

**12. Articulation Day - The following items were accomplished:**

- a. N.J. Core Curriculum Content Standards reviewed
- b. Science curricula aligned with the NJ Science Standards
- c. Curriculum Proficiencies
- d. Budget Constraints
- e. New textbooks
- f. Departmental concerns

**13. Textbook Implementation**

**Human Physiology** - Histology Atlas

**14. Scheduling**

Scheduling conflicts were kept to a minimum due to the coordinated efforts of Mr. Zarra, Dr. Danchak, and guidance counselors.

c: Mr. Cocchiola

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

## Nutley High School

**To:** Mario Cocchiola, Principal

**Date:** June 4, 1999

**From:** Robert O'Dell  
Social Studies Coordinator

**Subject:** Principal's Report for 1998 - 1999 Academic Year

The Social Studies Department continues to offer a rich and varied curriculum which addresses a broad range of social studies concerns and requirements. This is accomplished through a curriculum of eleven different courses, which includes four honors courses and two advanced placement courses. Nine teachers and the coordinator cover forty sections, as well as one section of the interdisciplinary Humanities course. Total enrollment for all courses is currently 962 students, including a substantial number of students who are taking two courses.

During the course of the academic year, a select committee of faculty members met to effect an extensive review and revision of the curriculum, in order to ensure compliance with the recently issued New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards. As a result of the committee's work, course proficiencies and outlines have been enhanced, and the sequence of courses altered to achieve completion of state requirements prior to the mandated testing during the junior year. A new Advanced Placement Macroeconomics course was also added to the curriculum.

The 1998 – 1999 school year saw the extended illness and retirement of Mr. Gregory Rhodes. Mr. Denis Williams guided Mr. Rhodes's classes through this difficult time in a very professional manner.

### I. Curriculum

- A. The curriculum is well - designed to meet the current needs of the students, and, as noted above, is continually examined in light of newly emerging standards.
- B. The faculty is continuously working to enhance and update the curriculum, and to locate and develop new materials for the various courses.
- C. A continuing review of the curriculum was conducted to evaluate congruence with the new state mandated core curriculum standards. This is an ongoing process, which has already resulted in greater emphasis being placed on the incorporation of economics, geography, civics, and the humanities into the curriculum.
- D. The department continues to be in compliance with the state mandate regarding Holocaust / Genocide education. Pursuant to this mandate, and in compliance with district objectives, instruction concerning the Holocaust was infused into appropriate units of the curriculum, and a faculty generated test concerning this epoch was administered to United States History IV classes.

## I. Curriculum (continued)

- E. In light of the emphasis placed by the Department of Education on teaching tolerance, Nutley continues to utilize the *Prejudice Reduction Education Program (PREP)*. Instruction concerning discrimination and prejudice was infused into appropriate units of the United States History IV curriculum, and a faculty generated test was administered to the students in many of these classes.
- F. A departmental initiative to infuse more reading into the social studies curriculum, and to enhance reading skills and raise verbal SAT scores, was continued during the 1998 – 1999 academic year. Members of the faculty evaluated current texts, and commenced the search for other suitable works during monthly department meetings. Two new works, *Paul Revere's Ride* and *The Business of May Next: James Madison and the Founding*, were incorporated into the United States History III Honors curriculum. The initiative was extended to the United States History IV Honors curriculum with the order of several works recommended by the faculty. The department plans to infuse appropriate readings into all levels of the curriculum.

## II. Staff Development Activities

- A. The Social Studies faculty took part in the following workshops and seminars:
  - 1. Two Bureau of Education and Research Workshops - Morristown
  - 2. NJASC Advisors Convention / Workshop - The College of New Jersey
  - 3. Four HSPT II Workshops
  - 4. "History Alive!" - Morristown
  - 5. In - service workshops on Instructional Theory In Practice (ITIP), Critical Thinking, and Computer Skills.
- B. Two faculty members completed the following graduate courses:
  - U.S. and International Economics– Montclair State University
  - Economic Fluctuations and Forecasting – Montclair State University
  - Political Organization of Large and Small Institutions – New Jersey City University
  - Secondary and Middle School Curriculum – New Jersey City University
  - Principles of Curriculum Development – New Jersey City University

### III. Enrichment

#### A. The following activities were conducted by the Social Studies faculty:

1. Debate regarding the bombing of Hiroshima, affirmative action, and the social movements of the 1960's
2. Debates concerning the nature of the American Revolution, slavery, and the inevitability of the Civil War"
3. "Create a Civilization"
4. Debates and mock trials
5. Reenactments and role playing
6. Forbear Project
7. Political Personality Profiles and Voting Analyses
8. Guest Speakers
  - a. Carl Ohlson, Vietnam veteran
  - b. Revolutionary War reenactor
  - c. Social workers, Nutley Family Services
9. Internet Access Projects
10. Seminars: Africa, Social History, East Asia, the Progressives
11. Creation of travel brochures
12. Mock Elections
13. Neighborhood Analysis (Sociology)
14. Use of library and office computers
15. Political cartoon projects
16. Poster projects
17. Black History Month projects
18. Women's History Month projects
19. The posting of appropriate bulletin boards in the Annex hallway.
20. Slave auctions
21. Re - enactment of the Convention of 1860
22. Mock Senate hearings
23. Field Trips
  - a. New Jersey Supreme Court
  - b. New Jersey Senate / General Assembly
  - c. Essex County Courthouse and Sheriff's Office
  - d. Ellis Island National Historical Park
  - e. Humanities - five field trips
  - f. New Jersey Association of Student Councils Convention
24. Community Service: C.L.A.W. Club beautification of Board of Education properties

### IV. Textbook Management

- A. Textbook age, condition, and inventory are continually monitored.
- B. The order for the new supplemental American history readings was received and distributed to the students this year.

- C. Members of the faculty have selected a suitable text for the United States History courses. The current text is obsolete and out of print. The new text addresses the core curriculum standards.

#### V. Social Studies Awards

Awards to graduating seniors:

- 1. Compton and Knowles Corporation Proficiency in History – Michael Iannicelli
- 2. Daughters of the American Revolution Medal in History, Yantacaw Chapter – Sean Nealy
- 3. League of Women Voters of Nutley – Stacey Kim
- 4. Nutley Post # 70, American Legion Auxiliary – Michael Guerriero, Ashley Price
- 5. The Carmen A. Orechio Civic Association Award – Melanie Lee

#### VI. Items New to the Social Studies Department for 1997 - 1998

- A. Two new computers and printers, and a LCD panel were added to the Social Studies Department this past year. These resources were made available to both faculty and students as appropriate, with individual training provided when requested.
- B. The selection of a student, with much input from Mr. Cocchiola, who manifests an active interest in politics, to a visitation with the New Jersey Secretary of State.
- C. Continued infusion of material regarding the Holocaust into the United States History IV curriculum, as well as the administration of a standardized test, in compliance with the New Jersey state mandate.
- D. The continuation of committees to standardize final exams, in order to provide a common measure for all students of progress in meeting New Jersey and district social studies proficiencies and core curriculum standards.
- E. The revision of the department's course sequence, the adoption of revised proficiencies and course outlines, and the selection of a new textbook for the United States History program.
- F. The adoption of a new Advanced Placement Macroeconomics course and textbook.
- G. The continuation of faculty committees to enhance reading in the social studies.



## VII. Department Concerns and Recommendations

- A. The number of supplemental readings available for the reading initiative should continue to be increased. The department is grateful for the ongoing support of the administration in this endeavor.
- B. The department would like to investigate new strategies for teaching geography, in order to enhance student understanding and retention of key geographic concepts and content.

**LIBRARY**

Nutley High School  
300 Franklin Avenue  
Nutley, New Jersey 07110

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY**  
**1998-1999**

**Current library wisdom:**      **Abandon the "Rule of 1965" which claims that everything libraries did before 1965 is considered basic and everything they did after 1965 is considered extra.**

**Narrative**

The library is a symbol of the fiber of our academic community. In 1998-1999, the Nutley High School library was "re-invented."

- The local area network was replaced with a building LAN running WindowsNT servers.
- The twenty-two CD-ROM databases, many in DOS formats which "ran" on the Novell network operating system were coaxed and "tweaked" in an effort to migrate them to WindowsNT. Seven were successfully acclimated, four new databases were successfully installed.
- High-speed Internet access made integration of web resources a logistical reality within a 42 minute class period.
- All classes visiting the library were taught to access the Internet, construct valid search statements and evaluate web sites.
- Every teacher who came through our doors asked for some help with electronic resources. Everyone wants to get up to speed in this area.

**Curriculum Connection**

The Humanities class is traditionally the first class to visit in preparation for their first seminar projects. Their visit is the catalyst that shifts the library into "research mode." Challenging questions, quick wits and demanding projects are typical of the class each year. They are a difficult crowd to teach because "discovery" is their preferred method of learning. For this large group, the "guide on the side" rather than "the sage on the stage" method is very effective. This means that more is learned when I circulate visiting around the room visiting each group and workstation to offer advice than is learned if I present research strategy to the group as a whole. It works. We have fun.

The ninth grade World Cultures classes visit next. An orientation to the layout of the library and the borrowing procedures is followed by a brief chalk talk on Boolean searching. Time is made available for students to try out the online card catalog to locate materials for their first reports. Most of these students spend their second class visit on the Internet. *Altavista* is the search engine taught as I visit their workstations. Some of the classes are required by their teachers to select a country and follow current events there for the year. This is a great online project that would have been enhanced if the *Facts on File World News Database* could have been coaxed into running on the new server. Mr. Viemeister gave it his best shot, but to no avail. This tragedy turned my attention to Web-based databases for next year. Fortunately, *Facts on File* will be available next year in its Internet equivalent *Facts.com*. It will provide excellent support for this project.

All English I classes visit in September and October to learn about the NUT.S.H.EL.L. reading incentive program, a collaborative venture between the library and the English department. Students are encouraged to read as many books as possible from the NUT.S.H.EL.L. reading list and to take quizzes on the titles they read. The question database

runs on the library computers to generate a unique quiz for each student on each title. Passing the quiz awards the student points that are accumulated to qualify for prizes. The popular prizes include a certificate for 25 pages of free photocopying, a coupon to turn in one English class assignment one day late, Dewey dollars (money printed by the library) which can be used to pay overdue fines, movie passes (donated by Sony theaters) and gift certificates at popular stores.

Classes visiting the library pursued many interesting assignments. Some of these are described below.

- Mr. McCrohan's business classes came in to do research on cities. Each student produced a three-page report which included historical information on the city and visitor information such as the cost of plane fare, the weather compared to New York City for one week in spreadsheet or chart form, the currency exchange rate, the name of a hotel where a visitor might stay, how to get around the city and any interesting customs relating to that city, i. e. common forms of greeting, when the stores usually close, tipping. The World Wide Web, daily newspapers, *Culture Grams* published by Brigham Young University, *Encarta* the electronic encyclopedia and a variety of other sources proved useful.
- Mrs. Hungler's freshmen came in to research Elizabethan England, William Shakespeare, the Globe Theatre and Julius Caesar. The format for presenting the research was flexible. Posters, dioramas, skits, newspapers, replicas of artifacts from the time periods and any other creative presentation were acceptable. Students were encouraged to use their creativity. Databases were very useful. One, in particular, *The Greek and Roman World*, provided timelines, biographies, art and sculpture, costume, history and everyday life. Biographical information was easily found using *UXL Biographies* and *Discovering Authors*. Of course, books were in demand and the online card catalog provided citations and locations for more than 300 books on these topics.
- Mr. Cristadore, Mr. Linfante, and Ms. Marcantonio structured assignments around Constitutional and legal issues. In this area, the World Wide Web was indispensable. In preparation for their visits, I researched legal sites and found two that were particularly authoritative, thorough and appropriate. Instructions to these classes focused on using these two. They were the Cornell Law School site at <http://fatty.law.cornell.edu/topical.html>, an exhaustive site prepared for the use of their students and *Findlaw* at <http://www.findlaw.com>, a directory specializing in legal issues.
- Mr. Ryan, new to the social studies department, jumped right in in September with research assignments for his juniors and seniors. Armed with lists of suggested U. S. history topics, their research spanned issues from the Battle of Gettysburg through the Ku Klux Klan in the 1990's. People were also research topics including Mark Twain, Paul Revere, Babe Ruth, Henry Ford and Jackie Robinson among others. These juniors and seniors possessed good research skills that were supplemented with instruction in using *Altavista* at <http://www.altavista.com> as their primary search engine. *Dogpile*, a metasearch engine with the ability to use several search engines simultaneously, was also useful. Students learned very quickly that the number of "hits" was less important than their appropriateness and authority. After this realization, it was very easy to get them away from *Yahoo* and into the search tools that would accommodate Boolean expressions.
- Ms. Rucinski came in with her Spanish IV and V honors class to research attitudes toward death in Spanish literature, religion, mythology and philosophy. The assignment utilized the ability of *Altavista* to find documents in world languages. Web pages in Spanish were interesting and informative when researching attitudes. Students were asked about, "La muerte comotema en la literatura, las practicas funerarias por el mundo, la muerte como tema en la musica, las obras de teatro y las peliculas." (We later

discovered that *Altavista* had the ability to translate English into Spanish. A fact that was shared by the students in record speed and put the language department on the alert for translation assignments which were completed very "literally.")

### **Committee and School Involvement**

The library club, NUT.S.H.EL.L., successfully mounted the school web site in January. After months of work, a format was adopted. Mr. Cocchiola approved the banner and the content for the home page. The library page was completed. The sports schedules were posted for March and April. Templates for additional pages were mounted. Mr. Viemeister added professional touches and copied the pages to the district's web server. At present, a procedure for keeping the pages up-to-date is being discussed. Mr. Viemeister feels, and I agree, that pages should be communicated in finished form to him. He will do all of the copying to the server. The web site address is <http://www.nutleyschools.org>.

Mrs. Christy, library secretary, and I worked closely this year to process interlibrary loans over the Internet. This method of communication was very effective.

National Library Week was observed with posters, pencils, bookmarks and bibliographies.

I served as director of the Nutley Free Public Library again this year. In this position, I have had the opportunity to align the literature resources at public library with the English III and English IV curricula; provide access to a web-based full-text magazine database accessed by students from their home computers using their public library borrower's card numbers and personal identification numbers; and collaborate with the language arts coordinator and the superintendent in developing and supporting with resources reading lists for all grades.

Other activities included the executive committee of the Nutley Municipal Alliance for the Prevention of Substance Abuse, the Essex County Library Directors' Association, and the System Council of the Bergen County Cooperative Library System.

Professional days were utilized to participate in "Best Young Adult Books of 1998" sponsored by Rutgers on May 27<sup>th</sup>, "1999 New Jersey Statewide Reference Summit: Reference Service in the Digital Age" sponsored by the New Jersey Library Association's reference division on June 8<sup>th</sup>, and "Advanced HTML" sponsored by the Bergen County Cooperative Library System on June 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **Reading and Research Incentives and Projects**

The library offered and managed a reading incentive program that, in conjunction with the English department, challenged all freshmen to increase their pleasure reading.

Pathfinders to curriculum-related web sites continued to be developed and updated. In April, we started posting them on the library web page. After a few technical problems, three were successfully mounted and one is ready to go up after some difficulty with the graphics. In the future, all library publications will be published on the Internet. Currently those available include: *History Research on the Internet*, *Science in Cyberspace* and *Law on the Internet*. *Investing Resources on the Web* is ready to be posted.

The library web page also contains links which enable students to access the InfoLink region of the New Jersey Library Network page of search engines with complete guides to their use; the Nutley Public Library page with access to the online catalog, *The Bergen Record*, *The IAC Magazine Database* and reference department links; and the Bergen County Cooperative Library System pages. Links to the New Jersey State Library's *Cyberdesk*, a virtual reference desk, and the college and university directory are in preparation.

### **Special Projects**

Three special projects were in progress this year.

- After school library hours were expanded from 3:15 PM to 3:45 PM on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from January through June with the help of teachers paid to remain in the room after I left for the day. This was a great idea. However, after school hours were not well-attended. The

teachers reported at 2:45 PM. For one-half hour we were here together. Most kids using the room after school leave by 3 PM to take part in other activities. Attendance after 3:15 PM never exceeded 10 students. A chart tracking after school use of the library follows. It is important to note that students do use the library in greater numbers in the morning before school. Usually 15 to 20 students are in the library during homeroom. They begin to arrive as soon as staff open the facility at 7:50 AM. The zero period may be a better time to expand the hours than after school. A change could not be made to open earlier in the morning this year because Mr. Cocchiola indicated that teachers were not available to cover before school hours.

DATE	Teacher	Students Here after 3:15 PM
January 5	Ms. Romaglia	5
January 6	" "	4
January 7	" "	4
January 12	Ms. Ames	2
January 13	" "	6
January 14	Ms. Ames	Snow Day
January 19	Ms. Cohn	5
January 20	" "	4
January 21	" "	4
January 28	Dr. Shepherd	3
February 2	Mr. McGinley	4
February 3	" "	9
February 4	" "	3
February 9	Ms. Orenstein	4
February 10	" "	2
February 23	Ms. Romaglia	2
February 24	" "	1
February 25	" "	1
March 2	Ms. Ames	3
March 3	" "	1
March 4	" "	5
March 9	Ms. Cohn	7
March 10	" "	10
March 16	Mr. McGinley	2
March 17	" "	7
March 18	" "	9
March 24	Ms. Orenstein	3
March 30	Dr. Shepherd	5
March 31	" "	2
April through May	Various	1 or 2 each day
Missing dates were days when	a count was not recorded.	

- Nine library computers were upgraded with Pentium motherboards and additional RAM. Observing Mr. Viemeister's work on the first machine and repeating on the remaining machines completed this project. What a project, but successful nonetheless.

- A plan to utilize the technology and personnel in the high school library to convert the middle and elementary school library collections to electronic format was developed and submitted for consideration.

#### **Vital Statistics**

- The library served 1,220 registered borrowers (1,270 last year) including 144 staff, 2 interlibrary loan accounts, 284 freshmen, 282 sophomores, 275 juniors and 233 seniors.
- Freshmen borrowed 1,391 materials, seniors - 1,029, juniors - 899, sophomores - 819 and staff - 219 for a total of 4357 items (6,303 last year).
- The library owns 25,215 items (24,530 last year) and subscribes to 114 periodicals.
- The library added 1,197 new volumes and withdrew 1,681 volumes that included out dated books in the social sciences and duplicate copies of fiction titles with poor circulation records.
- In addition to visits by individual students and small groups, 334 classes visited the library.
- March is the busiest month of the year followed by December.
- The library loaned 109 volumes to other libraries through the interlibrary loan system and borrowed 5 volumes.
- The facility housed 11 student computer workstations.
- The seating capacity in the library is 78 not including the workstations. The facility comfortably seats two classes and students visiting individually during one class period.
- Computer workstations have access to the online card catalog, the Internet, *Encyclopedia Americana*, *Encarta*, *Encarta Virtual Globe*, *Solar System Explorer*, *Magill's Survey of Science*, *Research in Education*, *Discovering Authors*, *Granger's Poetry*, *Landmark Documents in American History*, *UXL Biographies*, *Peterson's Career and College Quest* and the *Greek and Roman World*.

**MEDIA DEPARTMENT**  
**YEAR END REPORT**  
**1998 - 1999**

June, 1999  
Mr. Joseph Affinito



## **1998-1999 Media Activities and Projects**

1. ID cards not produced by Joseph's Photographers' at the beginning of the year, all ID cards for new students, and all lost ID cards are now produced by the Media Department.
2. The elimination of all out dated audio-visual hardware and software is an ongoing process.
3. The Media department has serviced various school and community groups regarding distribution and production of audio-visual hardware and software.
4. I taught and lectured Ms. Hyland's Mass Media Class on the use and techniques of videotaping.
5. The media student assistants videotaped student teaches for various departments.
6. Additions of all pertinent videos in all subject areas are continually added to our Video Library.
7. The Media Club has attended two educational field trips. Our first trip was to the Meadowlands Complex in East Rutherford, NJ. We toured the television studios at Giant Stadium and the Meadowlands Race Track. The second was to the Museum of TV and Radio in Manhattan.
8. The Media staff has assisted the Nutley Adult School on a bi-weekly basis and the CAT program weekly. Assistance was provided to outside organizations with audiovisual hardware and problem solving information. Some of these organizations were Jersey City State College, Nutley Police Department and the Nutley Red Cross.
9. The Media Department assists with the audio-visual portion of the Junior Olympics and the High School graduation program.
10. Mr. Jim Kelly was added to our Media Staff and was instructed in some of the daily routines of the Media department.
11. The Media department serves as the liaison between Nutley Public Schools, New Jersey Public Television and Cablevision (our cable television provider).
12. Overnight taping of an educational program requested by the High School staff is recorded by the Media department.
13. The Media department routinely services the following:
 

AV Requests	AV Budgets
AV Maintenance	Media Room
AV Inventories	Media Helpers

60.

I. Film and Video 1998-1999

Film and videos used from outside sources were:	109
Postage money for film and video returns:	\$583.03
Rental fees for AV software were:	\$2071.80
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2654.83</b>

II. Audio Visual Hardware Requests

Daily requests	1365
Long term requests	57
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1422</b>

III. Additional Media Requests

Fall and Spring CAT Programs	20 sessions
Fall and Spring Adult School	40 sessions
Independent and community organizations requests are filled as needed throughout the year as are district wide needs.	

IV. Media Room Use

Study - Research - Preview  
Maintenance of Hardware and Software  
AV Production Site  
ID Pictures (students & staff)  
Inventory Storage and Housing  
Office of Operation for Media Department

V. Expected Postal & Rental Expenses for 1999-2000 School Year

Postage	\$ 800.00
Rentals	\$1,300.00
Software Purchases	\$6,400.00
Hardware Purchases	\$3,000.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$11,500.00</b>

**MISSING SOFTWARE 1998-1999****ENGLISH**

Video - Charles Dickens

**SCIENCE**

Videos - World of Chemistry Part I and II  
- Among the Wild Chimpanzees  
- When Dinosaurs Ruled & Creatures in the Skies

FILM STRIPS/CASSETTE - Mechanics of Motion

**MISSING HARDWARE 1998-1999**

None

**SUMMER LOANS****LET'S LEARN PROGRAM**

- (1) Overhead projector and cart
- (2) TV/VCR's and carts

## **COOPERATIVE INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION**

**NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL**

**300 Franklin Avenue  
Nutley, New Jersey 07110**

**Mr. William Farkas  
CIE Coordinator**

**(973)661-8844  
FAX:(973)661-3664**

**TO: Mr. Mario Cocchiola**

**FROM: Mr. Bill Farkas**

**SUBJECT: End of Year Report for the CIE Program and Job Placement Service.**

**DATE: June 30, 1999**

**FACT SHEET**

1. CIE Regular Program. Mailing Directory attached.
2. Began with 24 students and finished with 21 students.
3. The 24 students break down as follows:
  - 6 will perform the same work they were trained for on the CIE program either on a full time or part time basis.
  - 2 will go to college. (4) year schools.
  - 1 will go to trade school. (2) year schools or less.
  - 2 will enter different occupations.
  - 2 will return to a full schedule next year.
  - 8 are presently juniors and will return to the program for a second year and continue in their present employment.
4. Total earnings of these students during the 1998-99 school year amounted to \$113,400.00.
5. Several of our CIE students participated in a scholarship program offered by the State Coordinators. Two Nutley students won scholarships to the following schools; The Hohokus and Lincoln Tech. The two students were honored at the State Coordinators 26th Annual Scholarship program.

6. This year I have become very active performing placement service duties for all Nutley High School students, both part time and full time permanent positions. Many students (45) have been placed by this office and many others are aware of job possibilities offered through me.

Once again I am asking for a 11-month contract for my C.I.E. work experience program. I presently have thirty students enrolled for the 1999-2000 school year, with several students on a waiting list. In order to provide the best program possible for my students, it is of utmost importance that I be offered a full month. Below are some facts to reinforce the necessity for summer employment:

#### **Liability Factor**

As a coordinator, I as well as the Principal and Superintendent, are personally liable for the safety of students placed on a job. All necessary steps must be taken before a student can begin work. One major duty is job site inspection. Summer employment will enable me to make inspections before students begin our program in September.

#### **Hazardous Occupation Factor**

Most C.I.E. students are placed in hazardous occupations. They could not be employed in these occupations if they were not enrolled in a C.I.E. program. The state mandates that these students must have supervision by a C.I.E. coordinator. Summer employment would enable me to place students in June and provide proper supervision during the summer months.

#### **Job Placement Factor**

Summer employment would provide an opportunity to secure better skilled positions. Because of the time factor, I would be able to place my students into areas they are best suited for. Performing this job in September is very difficult because students must begin working immediately and many times are pressed into jobs just for the sake of having a job. Again, I feel the summer month would give me a lot more time to devote to job finding time I don't have in September.

#### **Mandatory Paper Work Factor**

C.I.E. students must have several mandatory papers prepared before they begin work. Working papers, work station approval forms, training agreements, and tax credit forms, are just a few of the papers that must be prepared and placed in a student's folder before he begins work. Presently, we are having students work before all paper work

is completed due to the time factor involved in preparing the forms. Summer employment will provide the necessary time for this preparation.

### **Schedule Change Factor**

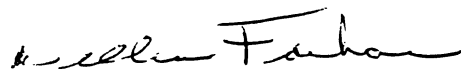
In the past C.I.E. students had many scheduling change problems. Every year I had to devote my early weeks in September making schedule changes. This created a hectic school opening for me and the program. Summer employment would give me the opportunity to check and correct all schedules of my students before school opened in September.

### **Up-Date Factor**

Mandatory forms and other paper work are constantly being changed in C.I.E. It is necessary to change, update, and reproduce these forms in quantity. Summer employment offers an excellent opportunity to stay abreast and complete this task.

I could probably go on forever about reasons why I should be given a month of summer employment. I only hope I have convinced you it is an important part of our C.I.E. program and not just a "soft" job. I am only interested in doing the best job possible and provide the Nutley C.I.E. students with the best program they can experience. A 11-month employment contract can help accomplish this goal.

Sincerely yours,



William Farkas  
CIE Coordinator

WF:ct

## **ATHLETICS**



# NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL

JOSEPH AFFINITO  
Director

300 FRANKLIN AVENUE  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

AREA CODE 973  
661-8849  
661-8850  
FAX 661-3664

## ATHLETICS

June 22, 1999

TO: Mr. Mario Cocchiola  
FROM: J. Affinito  
RE: Annual Report - Athletics 1998-99

This year 654 athletes competed on 23 varsity and 19 sub-varsity teams. There were over 500 Northern New Jersey Interscholastic and independent games or meets as well as Essex County, and New Jersey Interscholastic Athletic Association sectional and state championship games.

These students participated in our athletic program under 52 coaches, 1 athletic trainer and 1 equipment manager. These students and their coaches shared in this important educational experience and they represented our school and community in the finest possible way.

Numerous athletes were selected to All League, All County, and All State Teams. Several of our senior athletes were honored by the Essex County Athletic Directors Association, the Men of Essex, and the NJSIAA as Scholar-Athletes.

Championships were won by several of our teams this year. The Bowling Team won the League Championship (Pacific). The Golf Team won the League Tournament and they were the State Sectional Champions. The Wrestling and Softball Teams also reached the Sectional finals. The Crew Team won numerous Gold Medals in their crew meets.

JA:sp

Attachments

**STUDENT ASSISTANCE COUNSELOR**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**1998 - 1999**

To: Barbara Hirsch, Director of Special Services  
 From: Lisa Markman, Student Assistance Counselor  
 Date: June 4, 1999  
 Re: Annual Report

## I. STUDENT INTERVENTIONS

Eighty-two students were referred to the Student Assistance Counselor (SAC) for screening due to impairment in school functioning. Students were referred by guidance counselors, attendance office, health teachers, school nurses, coaches, child study team members, parents, and others students. All of these students received an informal assessment, recommendation, and follow-up. Approximately fifty-five students are monitored by the SAC on a continual basis for support services. Thirty students were referred for outpatient counseling services and five students were referred for residential treatment services. Thirty students were referred to self-help groups such as Al-Anon or Narcotics Anonymous. All of the students were offered educational materials, appropriate numbers to call for assistance, and ongoing support.

## II. PROGRAMS

### A. ELEMENTARY

Five public elementary schools and two parochial schools participated in **Red Ribbon Week** during the month of October. Every school in the district received a Red Ribbon banner for the front of the building. All students, teachers, and administrators received a button displaying a drug-free slogan to wear for the entire week and throughout the school year. Elementary school teachers received a letter with an explanation of the tribute, suggested activities for the week, and a fact sheet on youth and drug abuse. Nutley High School Peer Leaders visited every class in each elementary school to distribute materials and promote drug-free lifestyles. Art students at Nutley High School made Red Ribbon signs, which were then distributed by Peer Leaders to merchants in town and hung in store windows. Franklin School Peer Leaders tied red ribbons on all of the trees and meters along Franklin Avenue to raise awareness in the community. Red Ribbon Week was sponsored by the **Municipal Alliance Committee**.

**Nutley High School Peer Leadership** piloted a program at Spring Garden called, "**Bullies Beware**", which focused on the problems associated with bullying at the elementary level. Sixth-graders participated an interactive game to demonstrate inequity and discrimination. They were then divided into small focus groups for discussions led by the Peer Leaders. Elementary students shared their concerns about bullying at their school, and learned coping skills from their older peers. The lesson empowered

bystanders to recognize that they are the people in control of changing a situation, not the bullies. One initiative suggested from discussions is the development of a mentoring program between NHS Peer Leaders and sixth-graders. This idea will be explored with Mrs. Joyce Wood, Elementary Guidance Counselor, for the 1999-2000 school year.

**Tobac-Attack** was another program facilitated by **NHS Peer Leadership** at the elementary level. Peer Leaders taught all fifth grade students about the dangers of using tobacco products and the subtle ways tobacco companies target children. Students participated in an icebreaker called **Electricity** to teach communication skills and played a learning game called **True/False**. Students acted as detectives and examined the hidden messages in tobacco advertisements. The program encouraged discussion and increased knowledge about tobacco. Fifth-graders submitted original anti-tobacco advertisements that were laminated and will be used in future tobac-attack presentations. Teachers completed evaluations upon completion of the program and tobac-attack received an overall complimentary appraisal. This program was sponsored by the **Municipal Alliance Committee**.

**Tim Moss, "Don't Myth The Facts"**, an alcohol and drug prevention assembly, was presented at each elementary school. This program featured a magician who taught facts about alcohol and drugs through juggling, visual imagery, and audience participation. He also provided follow-up lessons for teachers and posters for each school. Students and teachers completed evaluations on the program and it received excellent reviews. This program was sponsored by the **Municipal Alliance Committee**.

## **B. MIDDLE SCHOOL**

A program on "**Harassment**" was implemented for all seventh and eighth grade students with the cooperation of the Guidance Department and the Nutley Police. This proactive program was incorporated in a timely manner relative to the violent incidents which have become common in public schools on a national level. Students were asked to examine how seemingly "harmless" behaviors could actually be categorized as harassment and how these behaviors can lead to violent acts. Students were informed of the need for tolerance and resources for assistance.

**Monthly Parenting Workshops** were held under the direction of Mrs. Sherrie Tolve and the Franklin PTO. The first training of the year focused on signs and symptoms of alcohol or drug abuse and what to do if you think your child is involved. Members of the Nutley Police provided parents with community statistics and current trends. The subsequent training provided parents with guest speakers who shared their own

personal experiences with addiction. Parents reported positive feedback on the workshops and became comfortable with the people providing assistance to their children.

To celebrate **Alcohol Awareness Month**, students at Franklin School and Nutley High School experienced the unique **Fatal Vision Goggles**. These goggles are designed to emulate the distortions in perception one feels when intoxicated. Under the supervision of a trainer from White Deer Run Treatment Facility, students were taken through a series of tasks in which their performance was greatly altered by the goggles. Students also received an educational lecture on the negative consequences of drinking and/or using drugs. This program was sponsored by White Deer Run Treatment Facility.

**"The Improbable Players"** visited Franklin School this year for the first time. This dynamic presentation features four recovering actors who teach audience members about the disease of addiction, family dynamics, and enabling. Students were completely mesmerized by the performance and it resulted in several early referrals to the SAC. A period of time was allotted for questions during which the actors gave students a very realistic picture of how a person's experimentation with drugs and alcohol can turn into addiction. This program was sponsored by the **Municipal Alliance Committee**.

The third annual **Drug Awareness Day** was held on May 13, 1999 on the Oval. Students and staff from the five public elementary schools, the two parochial schools, and Franklin School participated. Members of the Board of Education, Peer Leadership, the Elks, the Nutley Police Department, The National Guard, the U.S. Army, and the Governor's Office joined forces to champion this event. Several speakers addressed the drug problem in our society and the important role of kids in shaping our future. The Peer Leaders facilitated several activities in which students from the audience were chosen to participate in communication-building activities. This program was sponsored by the **Nutley Elks**.

### C. HIGH SCHOOL

Students participated in **National Smokeout Day** on November 19, 1999 with the cooperation of the Peer Leaders and the school nurses. Smoking facts were read over the public announcement system for one week prior to the event. Nurses distributed stickers and sponsored a "Buddy Program" to help students who smoke quit, with the help of a friend. A contest was held to determine the number of cigarettes smoked each day by students in the high school. Flyers were hung on every floor illustrating disturbing smoking statistics from Nutley High School's Integra survey. This program was sponsored by the **Municipal Alliance Committee**.

In April, to promote **Kick Butts Day**, a guest speaker from the Board of Education shared his personal experience with the devastating consequences of smoking. High school seniors learned how the speaker lost his wife to cancer caused by years of smoking. Students reported this program to be particularly heartfelt because most of them knew the deceased who was a faculty member at NHS.

The **Dodge Neon Drunk Driving Simulator** was an excellent program added to NHS this year to promote Alcohol Awareness Month before the prom and graduation. The car simulates the feeling of driving drunk through a computer programmed with the driver's body weight and the number of drinks he/she hypothetically had before driving. Students and faculty members with valid driver's licenses were able to drive the car and many others were passengers. Over 500 students participated in this event which was coordinated by Peer Leadership and sponsored by the **Municipal Alliance Committee**.

### III. PEER LEADERSHIP

A. **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:** Peer Leadership was initiated at the high school under the direction of the SAC. Since its inception in September, Peer Leadership completed the following:

1. Developed a school-based Advisor Team, consisting of the SAC and three 11<sup>th</sup> grade Student Advisors.
2. Developed a Peer Leadership Group consisting of thirteen 9<sup>th</sup> grade students.
3. Designed Peer Leadership Logo and ordered vests with logo.
4. Organized Red Ribbon Week, National Smokeout Day, Bullies Beware, Alcohol Awareness Month events, and Tobac-Attack.
5. Completed a professional 16-hour training program during an overnight weekend retreat, facilitated by a nationally recognized psychologist (Dr. V. Alex Kehayian).
6. Attended morning meetings at least two times each week for 45 minutes to plan activities.
7. Attended monthly evening meetings of the **Municipal Alliance Committee**, our sponsoring agency.
8. Attended a five-hour Peer Leadership Conference to learn new programs from other school systems.
9. Three Peer Leaders were sent by the Elks to a Leadership Conference where they learned group dynamics and techniques.

## **B. FUTURE PROJECTS**

1. Development of a long-term Freshmen Mentoring Program which will begin in August 1999 at Freshmen Orientation with the cooperation of Ms. Hubert, Director of Guidance.
2. Development of a Welcome Program for all incoming transfer students in which recipients will receive a Peer Leader "buddy" to assist in the transition.
3. To add at least one new program to Peer Leadership each year to address different topics such as violence, truancy, conflict mediation, school spirit, etc.
4. To continually evaluate the effectiveness of the Peer Leadership programs through questionnaires for students and faculty.

## **IV. CONFERENCES**

The SAC attended several trainings including the following:

- A. Heroin: High Focus Treatment Center
- B. Association for Student Assistance Professionals (ASAP): two-day conference on substance abuse
- C. Designer Drugs: National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse
- D. Peer Leadership: Ramapo College and PLAN Conference

## **V. MEETINGS**

The SAC attended meetings to coordinate services with the following groups:

- A. Child Study Team
- B. Guidance Advisory Committee
- C. Nutley High School and Franklin School Faculty Meetings
- D. Municipal Alliance Committee
- E. Association for Student Assistance Professionals (ASAP)
- F. Parent Teacher Organizations
- G. **Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse**
- H. Peer Leadership Advisor Network (PLAN)

## **VI. OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED**

- A. **FACULTY INSERVICE:** the SAC coordinated and facilitated a ten-hour training on substance abuse for the faculty in the Nutley School District. This included a short quiz, handouts, guest speakers, and role-playing.

- B. **CORE TEAM:** A Core Team was developed at both Franklin School and Nutley High School to address general education students who need intervention and referral services. A trainer, recommended by the Department of Education, provided sixteen hours of training on the Core Team model. Technical assistance was provided by a Clifton High School's SAC, who continues to be on call for questions/support. The SAC attends weekly Core Team meetings at both Franklin and NHS during which cases are presented for review and course of action is determined.
- C. **POLICY:** The SAC developed a Crisis Response Policy to be utilized by each school in the district. This policy includes a checklist for procedures to be followed in the event of a crisis in Nutley.
- D. **CRISIS RESPONSE:** The SAC participated in providing crisis counseling to students at Franklin School following a bomb threat. This involved intervention with approximately sixty students and many parents who were experiencing strong reactions to the situation.
- E. **REFERRAL LIST:** The SAC continues to update the Referral List which is provided to guidance counselors, nurses, administrators, and parents.
- F. **SAFE AND DRUG FREE SCHOOLS REPORT:** The SAC completed Title IV requirements for the Improving America's Schools Act (IASA) to maintain federal funding. Results from the survey administered last year were used to develop programs.



**FRANKLIN SCHOOL**

FRANKLIN SCHOOL  
325 FRANKLIN AVE.  
NUTLEY, N.J. 07110

TO: DR. SERAFINO

DATE: JUNE 25, 1999

FROM: DR. VIVINETTO *JV*

RE: ANNUAL REPORT-1998/99

The attached reports from area coordinators and department representatives summarize the fulfillment of curriculum goals and objectives and the many activities and accomplishments at Franklin Middle School this past year. The support given by the administrative and teaching staff has resulted in a positive and further enriched learning environment for the middle school child.

The middle school program continues to offer a good balance between academic and non-academic endeavors. Student achievement remains high as evidenced through excellent subject/class grades, standardized test scores and local achievement tests. Academic excellence has been highlighted this year by PTO sponsored Honor Roll Breakfasts that were well received by staff, parents and students alike. Franklin students have achieved commendable results in local, state and national contests. In particular, a large number of seventh grade students showed outstanding scores in math and verbal areas in the John Hopkins Talent Search Program and received distinction recognition and invitations to both state and regional awards ceremonies. Furthermore, participation in Mathcounts, the New Jersey Math League and the Essex County Math League resulted in first place wins in each of these competitions. Student interest in clubs, Intramurals, community and school service, drama, art festivals, thematic assemblies and student council also remains high and is important for the total development of the middle school youngster. Franklin School continues to be part of the Peer Leadership Initiative in the state of New Jersey a Substance Abuse Network. This program of teacher mentors and student peer leaders has been successful. An addition to the program involving a Parent Leadership Corp. will commence in the fall of the 1999 school year.

In addition to normal teaching responsibilities, Franklin School teachers and administrators were actively involved in curriculum work throughout the year and during attendance on Saturday mornings. This staff involvement demonstrates a fine commitment to broaden enlightenment in the professional field and to apply this knowledge toward an instructional expertise that helps our students.

The following paragraphs will highlight some of the activity and progress at Franklin Middle School during the 1998/99 school year.

JSV:prw

## **LANGUAGE ARTS**

To: Dr. James Vivinetto, Principal of Franklin Middle School  
From: Ms. Dianne De Rosa, Coordinator of Language Arts  
Re: Annual Report  
Date: June 1999

## I. Testing

Eighth grade students take the Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment in March. Preparation for this test is a priority of the English Department.

- A. Eighth grade students were given reading and writing samples beginning in September which reinforce skills tested on the GEPA. Essays were graded following the holistic scoring method used by the judges of the GEPA.
- B. Writing, editing, and reading samples were also given to seventh grade students. Teachers guided students through a detailed writing assignment following the guidelines of the GEPA on a monthly basis.

Seventh grade mini-lessons which reinforce the skills tested on the writing portion of the GEPA were also incorporated into the curriculum from January through March.

## II. Articulation Day January 11, 1999

English and the Internet was the focus of Articulation Day for the English Department of the middle school and high school. Teachers gathered in the writing lab in the high school and Mrs. Leslie Van Gelder presented a workshop on the use of the internet in the English classroom. Mrs. Van Gelder presented ideas for English projects such as scavenger hunts and web sites which are valuable research tools for students.

Teachers were given the opportunity to have the "hands on" experience of looking for information for their lessons using web sites provided by Mrs. Van Gelder. Teachers worked in pairs and developed a project, or found information which related to their grade levels. Mrs. Van Gelder helped teachers on an individual basis.

### III. Articulation between the middle school and the high school

Writing folders are sent to the high school at the end of eighth grade. Writing samples continue to be collected from students at the end of each year and are placed in this folder. Included in these folders are the graded writing samples of the Nutley Writing Achievement Test. These writing folders are made available to graduating seniors.

Teachers were also given the opportunity to exchange ideas and address concerns on Articulation Day.

### IV. Instruction

- A. Eighth graders were required to write a research paper on a topic of their own choice and they were guided through a step-by-step approach. Students prepared an outline, note cards, a rough draft, and a detailed bibliography. Students used of the computer as a source for research.

- B. Writing Workshop

This elective is offered to seventh grade students. The goals of this course are to teach and reinforce writing process skills and to present the opportunity for students to learn and practice the skills of writing in relation to their abilities. Students are encouraged to explore writing for a variety of purposes and to write for a variety of audiences. An important element to this course is student conferencing which allows each writer to discuss his/her writing with a peer and to share ideas on revision and editing for a final copy.

- C. Among the many projects completed within the classroom setting are the following:

Eighth grade students wrote a research paper on an approved topic.

Seventh and eighth grade students wrote in their journals on a daily basis on various topics selected by students or assigned by the teacher in grade seven and grade eight.

Eighth grade students also participated in a research project. Each student chose a topic based on a problem requiring a solution, a cause and its effect, or a controversial issue. Students wrote a paper and presented their findings to the class.

Grade 7 Vector students produced a newspaper entitled Franklin News Net which involved students throughout the school. Students formed a club and met after school to produce this newspaper.

#### V. Enrichment

- A. An interested group of students in the Developmental Reading Program participated in a reading enrichment program. Interested students were given a choice of books to read from the Accelerated Reader list. They read these books on their own. When students completed the books, they had a conference with the reading teacher during class time or after school. They discussed the questions offered by Accelerated Reader tests. Those who read these books could use them in writing the daily log entries based on individualized reading. These logs were a record of pupils' daily reading.

- B. Field Trips

Seventh and Eighth grade students participated in Read Across America under the direction of Ms. Cyndi De Bonis.

Mr. Kocum's English classes attended a production of Hamlet by the Castle Shakespeare Company in October.

Mr. Kocum's classes viewed a production of Rent.

The Drama Club participated in the American Stage Drama Festival and the Bucks County Drama Festival

Mrs. Hungler's classes attended a production at the Chamber Theatre Productions in Newark, NJ.

#### VI. Writing Contests: Several seventh and eighth grade students entered writing contests during the year. The following students were contest winners:

Cherry Ng - second place in prose fiction in NJCTE Writing Contest for grades 7-9.

Knights of Columbus Essay Contest winner: Lydia Han, grade 8

VII. North Jersey Spelling Bee : The North Herald Newspaper Spelling Bee was coordinated by Ms. Loretta Douglas and Ms. Judith Hardin

IX. Bookroom

The bookroom contains material in present use in the classroom. An updated inventory of these materials is prepared and submitted for September.

X. Concerns for the future

- A. Continued teacher training and involvement in the use of the computer as a tool for writing and research.
- B. Continued participation of staff in professional organizations and attendance at workshops and conferences which relate to the course of study.
- C. Consideration of a double English period so that students will have ninety minutes of Language Arts study.



## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

# **Franklin Middle School**

## **Principal's Report**

### **1998 - 1999**

**To:** Dr. James Vivinetto, Principal

**Date:** June 15, 1999

**From:** Mr. Robert O'Dell  
Social Studies Coordinator

The Social Studies Department at the Franklin Middle School maintained a strong curriculum that enabled students to meet the goals, objectives, and proficiencies of social studies education. The department offered four courses divided into twenty - three sections, which included vector and regular levels of instruction. A staff of six faculty members addressed the needs of 320 seventh grade students and 299 eighth grade students.

#### **I. Curriculum**

The department conducted a thorough review and revision of the curriculum during the past academic year. Changes in the scope and sequence of the curriculum were implemented, in order to assure compliance with the New Jersey Core Curriculum standards, and to assist future students as they complete state mandated testing in the eighth grade. The faculty also continued to infuse instruction concerning the Holocaust, tolerance, and various forms of discrimination into appropriate units of the course of study. Of its own initiative, the department has continued to explore methods of incorporating a greater emphasis on reading in the social studies into the curriculum. This is part of an overall effort to raise verbal scores on various standardized tests, and to develop and enhance essential skills necessary for the successful study of the social sciences.

#### **II. Assessment**

The monitoring of student achievement of district and departmental objectives remains an ongoing concern of the Social Studies Department. To this end, the department continues to utilize previously developed tests concerning the nature of prejudice and discrimination, in addition to tests measuring geographic literacy, as needed. Faculty members also have incorporated various instruments to measure mastery of the Holocaust unit into the requirements for eighth grade courses. The department is currently considering means of evaluating the increased infusion of reading into the curriculum. As always, the faculty monitors a wide range of skills and learning styles through the use of standardized tests, teacher - generated tests, projects, and presentations.

### **III. Staff Development Activities**

The faculty of the Social Studies Department took part in the following workshops and seminars:

1. Workshop on Computer Networking and the Internet
2. New Jersey Council for the Social Studies Annual Convention
3. "History Alive", sponsored by the Bureau for Educational Research

### **IV. Enrichment**

With the active support and encouragement of Dr. Vivinetto, the Social Studies Department conducted the following enrichment activities:

#### **A. Mock Elections**

1. Teacher - generated

#### **B. Poster Projects**

#### **C. Bulletin Boards and School Displays**

1. Black History Month
2. Women's History Month
3. Geography of Latin America
4. The Holocaust
5. Campaign Posters for Past Presidential Elections
6. Great Documents display in individual classrooms

#### **D. Oral History Project Interviews - Survivors of the Great Depression**

#### **E. Projects Concerning the Constitution and the Bill of Rights**

#### **F. Analysis and Creation of Political Cartoons**

#### **G. Oral and Written Research Projects**

#### **H. Current Event Magazines and Projects**

- I. Viewing of Movies and Videos
- J. Field Trip to the New Jersey Vietnam Memorial
- K. National Geographic Geography Bee
- L. Biographies

## **V. Textbook Management**

- A. Textbook age, condition and inventory are continually monitored
- B. Copyright dates of the three texts being used:
  - 1. Grade Seven
    - Latin America and Canada*, 1987
    - One Flag, One Land*, volume one, 1988
  - 2. Grade Eight
    - One Flag, One Land*, volume two, 1990
- C. A new text has been selected for both the seventh and eighth grades, to be phased in over a two year period.
  - Why We Remember*, combined volume, 1998

## **VI. Concerns**

Many of the concerns of the department remain much the same as last year. The computer capabilities of the Social Studies Department should be enhanced, in order that the Franklin School students and faculty be able to share some of the resources and activities now available at the high school. A plan for networking the district's computers and resources is currently being implemented in stages, and will eventually foster greater articulation between the high school and middle school students and faculties. The department is much encouraged by the ongoing support of Dr. Vivinetto and the administration towards the realization of this goal.

## **MATHEMATICS**

June 5, 1999

TO: Dr. James Vivinetto  
FROM: Mary Lou Dowse  
SUBJECT: Annual Report - Mathematics Department, Franklin School

## I. STAFF

- A. Departmental statistics indicate that eight regular teachers taught a total of 35 mathematics classes with an average class size of 19. This includes three sections of Algebra I and three sections of Computer Applications. In a state mandated supplemental program, Denise Cleary, Christopher Masullo, and Judith Winick taught three multi-level Basic Skills mathematics classes with an average class size of 9.
- B. Mr. Christopher Masullo, a permanent substitute, replaced Mr. Joseph Mulley as a regular teacher in our mathematics department. Mr. Masullo planned lessons, evaluated students, and assumed all other responsibilities to continue the program with a minimum of interruption in student learning.

Mrs. Nancy Foglio, a former teacher in our department, returned to Franklin School's math department. Mrs. Foglio, a certified math teacher, quickly became a valuable addition to our teaching staff.

## II. TESTING

- A. The latest available results for the Nutley Math Achievement Test given in May, 1998, indicate that the mean score in grade seven is a 79, and the mean score in grade eight is an 81.
- B. On March 10, 1998 all students in grade 8 took the Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment. Student results for this test will be reported in August.
- C. The IOWA test was given to all 7th graders and the IOWA survey test to all 8th graders. Results from this test will be used to help determine whether a student should be placed in remediation.
- C. Johns Hopkins Talent Search results for the 1998-99 school year indicate that 29 seventh grade students and 4 eighth grade students participated. The mean SAT score in mathematics was 483. Special recognition was given to John Adamczyk, Amanda Barisich, Lauren Camar, Peter Cuffari, Daniel Jamison, Jeffrey Klatsky, Timothy Maher, Gregory Montalbano, Robert Picciano, and Jessica Zarra for achieving scores ranging from 510-540. Ketan Darji, Paul Little, Ryohei Okabe, and Cherry Ng achieved state awards for scores ranging from 550-670.

### III. INSTRUCTION

- A. The Nutley Math Achievement Test was revised and updated this year in order to reflect the changes set forth by last year's revision of the K-8 math curriculum and also to reflect the latest recommendations of the NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards. A committee met during Saturday curriculum sessions to review our present test and to make changes and additions that it felt necessary.
- B. To insure that students were adequately prepared for the Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment, supplementary classroom materials were used to reinforce the curriculum. In addition to a loose leaf binder containing reproducible practice materials, consumable commercially published workbooks were issued to each student. These workbooks were specifically designed to provide practice in preparation for the state testing. On the seventh grade level the booklet used is entitled, "Strategies for Success in Mathematics". At the eighth grade level "The GEPA Coach" provided the necessary reinforcement.
- C. In February a comprehensive test was given to all eighth grade classes as a pre-test refresher for the Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment administered in early March.
- D. In order to implement current recommendations for increased use of calculator technology in the classroom, and to satisfy state requirements concerning the use of calculators on the GEPA, 30 additional TI-34 scientific calculators and one TI-34 overhead calculator were purchased. Calculators were issued to all 7th and 8th grade students in order to enhance daily lessons and to properly prepare them for the GEPA.

### IV. MATHEMATICS CONTESTS

- A. On Saturday, February 6, the Mathcounts Team, accompanied by Christopher Masullo and Nancy Foglio, participated in the North Central Regional Competition at N.J.I.T. in Newark. Our team placed first out of 22 schools that participated in the competition.
- B. Vector students on the seventh and eighth grade levels participated in the annual New Jersey Math League competition again this year. Grade 7 ranked first in the region and fifteenth overall out of 262 schools that participated in the contest. Lauren Camar ranked first in the region and eleventh in the entire league. Matthew Chu ranked third in the region.

- C. The Mathematics Department also participated in the Continental Math League competition throughout the year on both the seventh and eighth grade levels. Five contests were held during regular vector classes.
- D. On May 27th a team of five eighth grade Algebra I students participated in the annual Essex County Math League competition held at Caldwell College. The Algebra I team achieved a first place finish. Lydia Han was first and Jared Krick second out of the 55 students that competed in the Algebra I category.

#### V. WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS, AND OTHER VISITATIONS

During the summer Denise Cleary attended an in-service workshop on Problem-Based Learning.

In the fall, Anne Bevere attended a computer training course presented by DeWitte Associates.

On December 7th, Anne Bevere, Denise Cleary, and Nancy Foglio attended a GEPA roundtable in West Orange to discuss approaches and concerns regarding the GEPA.

#### VII. DEPARTMENTAL GOALS FOR 1999-00

- A. Continue expanding the use of scientific calculators and computers in the classroom and promote the use of graphics calculators in the Algebra I classes.
- B. Continue teacher training in the area of technology. Teachers should be trained in the use of computers as a tool for enhancing lessons and also in the use of the Internet in the mathematics classroom.
- C. Continue to incorporate the open-ended question into our regular classroom activities and to include these types of questions on classroom tests.

c: Mr. John Walker



**SCIENCE**

**Nutley Public Schools**  
**Franklin School**  
 Nutley, New Jersey 07110

**Memorandum**

**To:** Mr. John Walker, Assistant Superintendent

**From:** Dr. Catherine Danchak, Science Coordinator

**Subject:** Annual Science Report 1998 - 1999

Date: June 4, 1999

1. **Franklin School Science Curriculum**

Implementation of the adopted 1997-1998 curriculum continues. This curriculum reflects alignment of the curriculum with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards, revision of the scope and sequence of science topics, updating of laboratory activities, revised supplementary materials and inclusion of oceanography in the curriculum.

2. **Classes**

**Grade Seven Science** - Teachers: Mr. Baumann, Mr. Bertuzzi, Mr. Libert and Miss Neilley

The following projects were added or are being continued in the earth and environmental science units: wildflower restoration, songbird feeding, David Perez animal center, botanical lab, flood control and erosion model, and computer recording of weather conditions.

The following projects were added or are being continued in the physical science units: properties of matter, substances, and elements, compounds and elements, distillation, heat to do work, measuring gravity in newtons, effects of friction, power measurement, and finding simple machines.

**Grade Eight Science** - Teachers: Mr. Bertuzzi, Mr. Libert, and Ms. Love

The following projects were implemented or are being continued in the science curriculum: cell model, chemistry acrostic poems, astronomy mystery clues, technology reports and presentations, and use of the library computers for research.

3. **Articulation Day** - The following items were discussed:

- a. SAT Math Workshop
- b. N.J. Core Curriculum Standards
- c. Curriculum Proficiencies
- d. Audio/visual materials
- e. Consumable materials

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- f. Course recommendations
- g. New textbooks
- h. Sixth grade concerns
- i. Departmental concerns

**4. Professional Days**

New Jersey Science Teachers Convention - Ms. Love and Miss Neilley

**5. Inservice**

EOHSI Workshops - Dr. Danchak

**6. Field Trips**

Wildflower Restoration on school grounds - Mr. Bertuzzi

Great Swamp, Wanaque Reservoir, Stokes Forest, Sunrise Mountain, Tillman's Ravine, and Milford, Pa. (eagle watching) - Mr. Bertuzzi

**7. Activities****Science Fair**

Academic Booster Club grades K - 6 Science Fair - Dr. Danchak, volunteer judge

**Sports**

Nutley High School Track Assistant Coach - Mr. Libert

**Clubs**

Greenhouse effects group - Mr. Bertuzzi

Maintains botanical lab in front of the school and all the plants in the principal's and Vice Principal's office.

Outdoor Adventure Club - Mr. Bertuzzi

Fields trips to Great Swamp, Wanaque Reservoir, Stokes Forest, Sunrise Mountain, Tillman's Ravine, and Milford, Pa. (eagle watching)

Discussed hunting, completed species identification of local plants, and expanded map and compass skills.

Personal Groomer's Club - Mr. Bertuzzi

Closely managed David Perez Animal Center on a daily basis.

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### Projects

Science Bowl XXXIII - Mr. Baumann

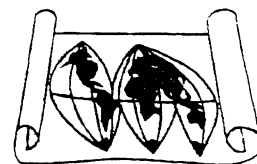
Science projects reinforcing the curriculum were displayed throughout the school. Project examples are robotics, space models, and solar powered homes and vehicles.

### 8. Concluding Remarks

The science department continues its commitment to student achievement. Their lessons reflect careful planning and execution with constant focus on curricular objectives.

c: Dr. Vivinetto

## **WORLD LANGUAGES**



**Nutley Public Schools  
Nutley, New Jersey  
World Languages Department**

**Ciro Violante**  
Coordinator

Office: (973)661-8823  
Fax: (973)661-3664

TO: Dr. James Vivinetto, Principal of Franklin Middle School

FROM: Mr. *CV* ~~Ciro Violante~~, Coordinator of the World Languages Department

SUBJECT: Annual Report, 1998-1999

**I. Statistical Data**

1. 120 students out of 319 seventh graders were enrolled in Latin 1 or approximately 38%. 175 eighth graders out of 299 students were enrolled in Latin, Italian, Spanish, and French combined or approximately 59%.
2. Four staff members of which three itinerant taught 15 sections of 2 course offerings (levels 1 and 2), and 4 world languages.

**II. Curriculum**

1. The Franklin School staff joined the Nutley High School staff during the articulation day on January 1999. The staff was very cooperative and worked very diligently in discussing the New World Languages Content Standards and coordination of Franklin Middle School with the High School world language program.
2. The Saturday World Language Curriculum Committee revised the 8th grade curriculum in all the languages. The following recommendations were made to the Board of Education and adopted.
  - A. Starting with the 2000-01 school year, all 7th graders will be studying a language of their choice (French, Spanish, Italian, and Latin).
  - B. Level 1 languages were split into two years - e.g. Language level 7, and 8. Students will continue level 2 studies at the high school.
  - C. All the objectives of the courses were aligned with the New Jersey Core Content Standards for World Languages.

### III. Accomplishments, Achievements and Cultural Events:

1. French, Spanish, Italian and Latin students participated in the Annual Poetry Recitation Contest held at William Paterson University on May 13, 1999. Mr. Violante accompanied the students. Pasquale Pontoriero won 1st place in the Italian language Advanced category.
2. Italian students participated in the 1998 National Italian High School Contest, sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of Italian.
3. French, Spanish, Italian and Latin classes made posters for Christmas, Easter, family trees and word origin.
4. Mrs. Rucinski's and Mrs. Papaleo's Spanish classes attended a performance of "Bailes Folklóricos de México" at Lenape Valley Regional High School.
5. Mrs. Papaleo, sponsor of the Italian club, together with the Italian classes celebrated the traditional custom of "La Befana" and the "Carnevale" in February, after school.
6. Mrs. Papaleo accompanied the Italian classes to the New York Metropolitan Opera to see the final dress rehearsal of the Opera "Giulio Cesare". The same classes, were also taken to see the academy awards winning film "Life is Beautiful" in Italian for the Holocaust Curriculum.

### IV. Staff Development

1. Mr. Violante attended the annual "Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Language" at the New York Hilton, and also the World Language Workshop for school districts K-8 given by Janis Jensen, Coordinator of World Languages for the state of New Jersey.
3. Mrs. Rucinski attended a 3-day World languages workshop at Kean University. She also attended the annual FLENJ Spring meeting and workshop.
4. Mrs. Papaleo,
  - 1) Attended the FLENJ workshop at Bergen Community College. "Top 15 teaching Ideas", practical application and relevance to NJ Core Content Standards.
  - 2) She hosted and organized workshops for statewide members of VITA (Voice of Italian Teachers in America).
    - A. "Assessment and Evaluation in Upper Level Italian Classes."
    - B. "Introducing and Implementing the Standards for Learning Italian K-12."
    - C. Organized "Italian Culture Day" for students of Italian in all New Jersey schools.
  - 3) She attended the NJEA convention and workshop "Pre-reading Strategies and

Assessing posters and Oral Presentations.”

V. Departmental Recommendations

- A. The department recommends that the changes made to the curriculum and adopted by the Nutley Board of Education, be implemented in the school year 2000-01, to meet the state mandate in world languages in the Core Content Standards, and prepare the students for the GEPA in World Languages.
- B. Form committee to evaluate new texts for all languages in grades 7 and 8.
- C. Hire world language teachers for grades 7, for the school year 2000-01. This should be done during the spring of 2000.

Respectfully submitted  
Ciro Violante, Coordinator  
June 15, 1999



## **HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

To: Dr. James Vivinetto

From: Mr. Christopher Chern

Re: Annual Report Health and Physical Education Department

Mr. Christopher Chern, Mr. Thomas Grant, and Ms. Luanne Zullo currently staff the Health and Physical Education Department. Mrs. Barbara Formichella is the school nurse.

Mr. Christopher Chern teaches two 8<sup>th</sup> grade health class one 8<sup>th</sup> grade physical education classes, one 7<sup>th</sup> grade health class and two 7<sup>th</sup> grade physical education classes. He is also a mentor for the Franklin School Peer Leadership Initiative, and is the assistant varsity wrestling coach. He also ordered all equipment and supplies for the department

Mr. Thomas Grant teaches two 8<sup>th</sup> grade physical education classes, one 8<sup>th</sup> grade health class, one 7<sup>th</sup> grade health class and two 7<sup>th</sup> grade physical education classes.

Ms. Luanne Zullo teaches three 8<sup>th</sup> grade Physical education classes two 7<sup>th</sup> grade physical education classes and one 7<sup>th</sup> grade health class. She also is the freshman girl's basketball and head softball coach.

Mr. Thomas Grant Mr. Christopher Chern, Ms Luanne Zullo and Mr. Larry Mitchow (who is the boy's freshman basketball coach and a substitute in the district) were all involved with the Franklin Middle School intramural program.

The physical education curriculum was implemented by offering the students a choice in sport based actives each marking period (students were given a choice of two activities to participate in twice a marking period when possible, increasing participation and students attitude toward physical education). Fitness testing were administered to each student every marking period.

Activities for the past year included: flag football, indoor soccer, basketball, volleyball, floor hockey, softball, ultimate Frisbee, hacky sack, and many other lead-up activities.

New or expanded activities this year include lacrosse and mini soccer (it was expanded from just the 7<sup>th</sup> grade to now both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade). A long distance run was attempted this year for the first time but must be reviewed and revised before it can become part of the fitness test. The cardio/circuit training also expanded to include both grades and was also incorporated into the warm-up activities.

Attendance and appropriate warm-up preceded all activities. Upon completion of the warm-up period all classes were informed as to what the days activity, skill or lesson was. At this time all safety rules were reviewed, as were they skill goals. The teachers monitored and adjusted the lesson when appropriate. At the conclusion the class had a brief review of the day and when possible were given a preview of the next days class.

Added to the standard uniform this year was the inclusion of sweats (maroon or gray, nothing official, totally optional). We thought that the inclusion of sweats would allow us to keep classes outside for more of the year, considering the size of the classes and our limited space this was very important. It would also allow those student who do not feel comfortable in shorts to wear sweats without being penalized for not being in the proper uniform.

Health classes followed the new health curriculum. Units that were covered included, mental health, substance use and abuse, growth and development, communicable disease, STD's and AIDS, fitness and nutrition, and basic first aid (including an introduction to CPR).

The use of lectures, class discussion, audio-visual aids homework assignments, critical thinking, and field trips were some of the techniques used to introduce and develop the students knowledge in those previously listed subject areas. Group projects, oral and written reports, tests, quizzes and other techniques were use to evaluate the students progress during the semester to insure that the objectives of the class were being met. The teachers used various outlets to supplement this course (the textbook situation needs to be addressed) including the Internet (from their home).

## **MUSIC**

**NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Franklin Middle School**  
**Nutley, NJ 07110**

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Dr. James S. Vivinetto, Principal of Franklin Middle School

**From:** John Vitkovsky, Music Coordinator

**Subject:** Annual Music Report 1998 - 1999

The following are activities of the 1998-99 school year, present concerns, and recommendations that are being submitted for your review and consideration.

**ACTIVITIES**

1. I am pleased to report that for that once again, half of the Middle School's students are involved in the music program (51%). This year's enrollment for the Select Choir was higher (57), and continued to increase for the Band (102). The enrollment remained the same for the Orchestra (36), and slightly less in the Mixed Chorus (60).
2. The music department of Franklin School continued to use the PC computer which was received last year. It was used to re-arrange parts for our performing groups, to write up reports, to create lessons and homework for the General Music classes, and to drill students in the basics of rhythm and pitch notation.
3. The Franklin Select Concert Choir had a successful year. The choir's performances were enthusiastically received at: the Town Yuletide Concert, the Franklin School Yuletide Assembly, the Red Cross Telethon at the Quakerbridge Mall, and the Franklin Spring Musicale. In April, Mr. Vitkovsky auditioned 160 sixth and seventh grade students for next year's choir.
4. Both the Franklin Band and Orchestra gave fine performances at the Franklin Yuletide Assembly and the Spring Musicale playing difficult music in good fashion. At the Music Boosters Cafe Night, several flute and small vocal ensembles performed. On Thursday, May 13 the Franklin School Band will take part in the Northern New Jersey Region I Middle School Band Festival at Tenaflly High School. The Band will once again march with the High School Band in the annual Nutley Memorial Day Parade.

Music Dept. Annual Report - Franklin Middle School

5. Awards Franklin School Band - Participation Award at the Northern New Jersey Region I Middle School Band Festival.
6. Workshops At the Music Department's June Meeting, Mr. Ed Sueta from Macie Publishing will present a workshop on his band method which is used by our instrumental students. Mr. Vitkovsky and Mr. McPartland attended workshops on the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards given at the NJEA Convention at Atlantic City, the NJMEA Convention at New Brunswick, and the Music Educator's All Eastern Conference in New York City.
7. Assemblies The Band, Orchestra, Mixed Chorus, and the Select Concert Choir presented Yuletide and Spring Musicales Assemblies for Franklin School. The NHS Raider Marching Band presented a Veteran's Day Assembly for the students and faculty of Franklin School.

### CONCERNS

Although the music department computer is appreciated very much it needs to be upgraded. Today's software and the new internet link demand a more powerful computer than a 386sx. Also, many programs are now on CD-ROM and require lots of hard drive space. Our computer does not have a CD-ROM drive and has little space on its small hard drive.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the music department computer be upgraded to at least to a 486 dx ( a pentium would be better) with a CD-ROM and 1 gigabyte hard drive. More students would be able to benefit from drill work on the computer if a second computer could be purchased for the department. This would enable our music students to take advantage of a second internet link that's been installed in the music office.

## **SPECIAL SUBJECTS**

TO: DR. VIVINETTO

RE: ANNUAL REPORT

FROM: BOB ASH

DATE: JUNE 1999

The Special Subjects had a particularly productive year culminating a diverse display of creative work in the annual "Art Fest '99." Industrial arts displayed mechanical drawings, woodwork, and plastic products. Arts and crafts work filled the gymnasium with projects in a great variety of materials. Mrs. Dorfman's computer course was represented by a hands-on computer station.

During the year, Ms. Hill-Trovato kept the art department humming with activities such as field trips, the "Artist of the Week" showcase, and lobby displays featuring duck models, polar bear models with scenery, and holiday decorations. The duck model display was featured in the local newspaper. Her classes were active in fundraisers for the humane society.

The course content for industrial arts was varied by emphasizing mechanical drawing one semester and then emphasizing woodwork in the second semester to check student response. Student interest appears to favor creased woodworking versus mechanical drawing. Changes in the mechanical drawing phase appear to be needed to make it more interesting and to give drawing more student appeal.

Mr. Ash attended the Technology Education Association of New Jersey's Annual Conference at Long Branch, N.J. in May. Looking for appropriate technology activities for use with the industrial art course.

Mrs. Maniscalco's classes made several artistic presentations throughout the building this year and had an "Artist of the Week" display in the main lobby.

In keeping with professional developments Mrs. Maniscalco took graduate courses in sculpture at Montclair State University this year and is a member of the City Without Walls Gallery in Newark, N.J. She was a participating artist in a sculpture exhibit at MSU Gallery One, a group show at Seton Hall Law Library and a group show at the Museum of Morris County.

Looking forward to another productive year in '99-2000.



**COMPUTER**

To: Mrs. Roe Clerico  
From: John R. Schwarz,  
Computer Network Representative, Franklin School

## **1999 Report on Computer Activities at Franklin School**

### **I. FACILITATING COMPUTER USE AT FRANKLIN SCHOOL:**

As the Franklin School representative to the Computer Network Committee, my responsibilities continue to include: helping other teachers feel comfortable in the use of their computers; maintaining an inventory of software and hardware; setting up new computer equipment as requested; making back up disks; troubleshooting for determination of equipment problems; and coordinating hardware repair. Much of my time was devoted to learning the operation of new software programs. I oversaw all computer-related ordering, which included guidance to teachers in making their selections and elimination of duplicate orders. This year I helped get the Mac's in our building on line with our district wide network.

Computer-related articles and course offerings, which were received by me from the Network committee, along with other articles of interest I have found, I have made available to the faculty by placing them in an easily accessible folder in the teachers' cafeteria.

Throughout the year, I compiled a list of gateway internet sites for all subject areas. This list is not intended to be all inclusive in any one area, but rather, it serves as a conduit to the internet for subject areas taught at Franklin School. The list I have provided will enable faculty members to discover links to more specific sites for use in their individual classrooms.

### **II. COMPUTER USAGE AT FRANKLIN SCHOOL**

A. Mrs. Dorfman kept the same emphasis in her keyboarding and word processing classes as there had been in previous years. Her students worked on learning to create their term papers on computers, as opposed to hand writing them. The students have become more proficient in their uses of word processing programs, specifically, Claris Works. The knowledge acquired in this course enables students to feel confident with the software and thereby encourages greater experimentation with commands and special features of the various word processing software.

The Computer Creations club spent many hours exploring our network by surfing the Internet and playing multi-player games. As a service to the school the club has cleaned, maintained, and set-up, and in some cases, actually repaired some PC computers.

### III. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT RELATING TO TECHNOLOGY

During this past year I attended two NJECC computer workshops at Montclair State. One workshop was presented by Apple, entitled "Multimedia Presentations using Power Point and Hyperstudio." This workshop demonstrated the use internet videos and midi sound files. This software enables the user to create and movies in classroom presentations. The other workshop was presented by Barry Haines of the Mendam High School graphic arts department. The presentation was about how to make parents and teachers more aware of children's use of the internet and how students can be guided to the safe use the "net". I also attended a workshop on the Apple G3 Powerbook given on March 23rd, by Essex Computer, at their Clifton headquarters. The workshop was really an info-mercial about the G3 powerbook more than anything else. Even so, it was very informative and I subsequently purchased a G3 powerbook for my own personal use at home.

### IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW COMPUTERS IN FRANKLIN SCHOOL

A. This year, Miss Cleary's computer application lab in room 103 received an additional three new G3 Macintoshes, two printers, a scanner, and a quicktake camera.

B. Mrs. Meloni's Comp/Strat lab in room 207 received twelve new PC computers networked to a laser printer and the Apple GS computers were removed from her room and distributed to the elementary schools. Mrs. Meloni's new lab was set up at the end of May and she is looking forward to using her new lab with her classes come next fall.

C. Special Ed received four new computers with printers this year a G-3 is located in Room 107 along with an IMac, while room 314 received one new IMac. Mrs. Pandolfi received a new PC for her office.

D. The Science department received three new IMac's with printers one is located in each of the following rooms: 303, 304 & 312.

E. Dr. Vivinetto and Mr. Cummings each received a new computer and printer

B. Miss Cleary has devoted considerable time to reviewing new software programs for use in her computer application course. Several of the software programs reviewed have been ordered by her for use in her lab next year. Many of the new programs she considered were designed to facilitate understanding spreadsheets and database applications. Miss Cleary has instructed students in the integration of information from the internet to spreadsheets and databases again this year.

C. Mrs. Meloni has implemented a number of different platforms in teaching her Comp/Strat - English lab. Apple IIGS, Macintosh, and PC machines have been utilized in this lab depending on the available software, to teach essay, and letter-writing, and editing skills, to review for the writing section of the GEPA as well as to develop researching techniques. In addition, students have used student centered computer games and simulations to improve their writing skills. Students put their newly learned skills to use by creating and editing a school newsletter on the computer called *"The Franklin School Net"*.

D. Mr. Bertuzzi has each student utilize the PC to access the internet in order to research various topics such as weather forecasting, bird migration, wolf migration, and geological research taking place in various parts of the world. Mr. Bertuzzi and his classes have taken part in various research endeavors with major universities throughout the United States. His students have spoken on line to scientists and researchers in the field, who were on location in various places throughout the world. Mr. Bertuzzi will be attending a Science workshop on weather this summer at Ramapo College. He will then conduct workshops for the Science Department next year under a grant received by the Science Department. The Science Department received three new IMac's at the end of May for use in implementing the grant that they received for using the internet to teach weather.

E. The Library has remained the hub of the school for computer research using the internet and software-based research. Mrs. Austin has continued to update and prepare the library for future upgrading as the library becomes the center for Franklin School's district wide networking. To that end Mrs. Austin has received six new computer's and four new printers for the Library. All her computers are on line via the network thanks to the efforts of Mr. Masullo and his Computer Creations Club.

F. Mr. Masullo, who was responsible for creating our Franklin School Web Page at [Nutley.com/fms/](http://Nutley.com/fms/), remained in charge of updating and maintaining the school web site. The Franklin School Computer Creations Club under Mr. Masullo published several issues of a newsletter called *"MEGABYTES"*. The newsletter is designed to make students and staff better aware of existing technology and its affect on our everyday life.

for use in their respective offices.

F. The Library received six new computers and four new printers this year.

G. Mrs. Dorfman's Keyboarding lab received 5 new IMac computers and three new printers this year.

## V. FUTURE COMPUTER NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Many staff members have contributed, and continue to contribute, to the on-going assessment of the computer needs of Franklin School. Such persons include Dr. Vivinetto, Miss Cleary, Mrs. Dorfman, Mrs. Austin, Mrs. Meloni, Chris Masullo and myself, as well as others. To this end, Miss Cleary, Mrs. Austin and myself have served on the Computer Technology Curriculum Committee. As committee members, we have met at various times, and have discussed further many of the issues, with an eye toward the potential impact any new ideas might have on curriculum at Franklin School, which relates to computers. We are hopeful that more teachers will receive computers with the ability to access the resources of the district network and the internet.

**LINCOLN SCHOOL**

TO: Dr. Kathleen Serafino

FROM: Dorothy Mutch, Ed.D.

RE: Principal's Annual Report, School Year 1998-1999

This is a very special time in history, as we are on the eve of a new millennium. We are approaching a transition that effects and affects everyone in every age group. Thusly, this annual report will describe the opportunities experienced by the Lincoln School students, teachers and parents as they prepare to enter a new century, a new reality and a new perspective about themselves and about the world in general. During 1998-1999, Lincoln School participated in numerous activities offering facts and skills, but more importantly pathways to the future.

### CURRICULA PRIORITIES:

In the educational process, concern rests with the purposes of our schools. These include helping students employ critical thinking skills and utilize technology as they participate in a democratic society, engage in productive work, and prepare for lifelong learning. Therefore, the community of Lincoln School strives to develop well-educated young people with a passion for creativity as well as for accomplishments.

During the 1998-1999 school year, the topics of World Languages, Social Studies, Technology, and Physical Education-Health-Safety were emphasized for the district to review and to align goals and objectives with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards. The Kindergarten curriculum was also restructured, as were the Nutley Achievement Tests in the areas of reading, writing and math. Therefore, the character of many curricula areas was adjusted to attend in almost equal measures to skills and knowledge, conceptual mastery and the ability to apply what one knows to complex, real-world problems. These new approaches to teaching and communicating with students were developed by teachers, administrators, community members and guest speakers during monthly Saturday Curriculum Committee workshops.

The World Languages Committee, under the direction of Mr. Ciro Violante, worked diligently as they reviewed and related appropriate stages of child growth and development to the acquisition of a second (foreign) language for elementary school children. A curriculum guide was developed for youngsters beginning at the Third Grade level; and the possibility of Spanish or Italian being taught as a second language was examined.

Mr. Robert O'Dell, Social Studies Coordinator, along with his committee, updated the Social Studies curriculum to be in compliance with the New Jersey Core Content Curriculum Standards in the social studies from Grades K-12. New textbooks were also evaluated for various grade levels.

Mrs. Rosemary Clerico, Director of Technology, along with her Technology Networking Committee continued to conduct research, order equipment, deliver in-service programs, as well

### CURRICULA PRIORITIES (CONT'D):

as provide actual technical services to the schools. Access to the Internet has been made available in each of the school facilities, and students have been exposed to the workings of search engines, as well as other programs of communication. The utilization of the Alpha Smart computers has also added valuable practice for the application of technological skills at all primary and intermediate grade levels.

The areas of Physical Education-Health-Safety were addressed by Mr. John Calicchio and his curriculum committee. For these topics, benchmarks, expectations, frameworks, goals, milestones and outcomes were clearly defined in the new curriculum guides.

The members of the Kindergarten Curriculum Committee which consisted of kindergarten, first grade, and private sector pre-school teachers evaluated the current day needs of kindergarten pupils, and then made the necessary adjustments to accommodate these youngsters as they restructured the kindergarten curriculum. Gross and fine motor skills, language literacy, conceptual skills, social skills, and technological as well as critical thinking skills were highlighted.

The Nutley Achievement Tests (reading, writing and math) were revised under the supervision of Ms. Diane DeRosa, English Coordinator, and Mrs. Mary Lou Dowse, Math Coordinator. The coordinators and their committees had input from all classroom teachers (Grades 1-7), and then, during revision, stressed the importance of the New Jersey Core Content Curriculum Standards. In the area of reading, higher order comprehension skills of production replaced questions of consumption; and in the area of writing, emphasis was placed on explanation of rules for capitalization, punctuation and spelling. In the area of math, proper math terminology replaced lay terms, problem solving was related to real-life experiences, and discrete math was included.

Other areas which were addressed during the 1998-1999 school year included science-experiments, special education and gifted education. Teachers, administrators, parents and community members were involved in keeping these programs current.

Dr. Danchak, Science Coordinator, provided several in-service programs which encouraged teachers to plan and execute "hands-on" science experiments at the primary grade levels. She also recommended that specialized prepared science kits be purchased to assist instructors in the delivery of problem solving activities.

Miss Hirsch, the Director of Special Services, has kept all administrators, teachers, parents and community members abreast of the present Federal and State laws relating to special education. She has also sponsored various workshops, and has disseminated important literature to all.

Miss Hirsch also directed the CAT program for the gifted and talented. Moreover, she managed the Primary Academic Speaking Contest as well as the Debate Team at the elementary grade level. Materials, trips, and participation in county-wide events were provided through these programs.



### CURRICULA PRIORITIES (CONT'D):

Within the Lincoln School community itself, skills for technology as a powerful tool for analysis, production, graphical representation and access to information, along with skills for the appreciation of literary forms, for problem solving in the area of open-ended math questions and for expository speaking were featured as important aspects of the total curriculum. The theme "Keys: Linkages to the Future" was utilized as an instrument to keep classes involved in developing skills for character, leadership, service, communication, academic achievement, sharing, and technology. Many of the Lincoln School teachers participated in various workshops and in-service programs within and outside of the district in order to enhance their teaching style when addressing the aforementioned topics.

### SCHOOL ACTION PLAN:

The school action plan was developed to enhance curriculum goals and objectives in specific areas at designated grade levels.

**Objective:** By June 1999, students in first and second grades (1-2) will demonstrate proficiency in speaking through preparing a speech based on a given prompt. Students will be given preparation time and materials to develop visuals. A minimum of 80% of the students in grades 1-2 will demonstrate proficiency by scoring at least a 2 on the state-developed rubric for scoring the speaking component of the fourth grade ESPA.

By June 1999, students in grades three through six (3-6) will demonstrate proficiency in solving open-ended questions in mathematical problem solving where a situation is presented and students are asked to communicate a response. The questions will have two or more parts, and require both numerical responses and explanations of mathematical arguments, which help reveal thought processes employed by the students. Possible responses may include the following: Demonstration of a procedure; Written explanation; Diagram to fit a specific condition or enhance an explanation; Description or extension of a pattern. Responses will be holistically scored using the New Jersey ESPA Mathematics Generic Rubric (3-0). A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve an average score of at least 2 or better on a grade level assessment, consisting of five open-ended questions assessing proficiency in mathematical problem solving, to be administered late in the school year.

**Activities:** The principal and the teachers met throughout the school year to analyze expository speaking skills (Grades 1-2), and to examine the structure of open-ended math responses (Grades 3-6) which needed further development. The teachers then prepared skill exercises for students to practice in the classroom and at home.

### SCHOOL ACTION PLAN (CONT'D):

**Results:** The principal and the teachers met to discuss related expository speaking skills, as well as the rubric of evaluation for grades one (1) and two (2). The teachers taught designated Language Arts Literacy curricula regarding speaking presentations at the specific grade levels. Then, the teachers prepared topics, materials, and prompts for the different grade level speeches. With the combined effort of the staff and the learners, the average rubric score for grade two (2) was a 2.8, and for grade one (1) a 3.2. Thusly, the goals for demonstrating proficiency in expository speaking skills at each grade level were met. More than 80% of the students met the standard.

In grades three (3) through six (6), the principal and the teachers met throughout the school year to analyze open-ended math responses which needed development. The Saturday Curriculum Math Committee also reviewed methods for preparing youngsters to respond to open-ended math questions. Furthermore, this committee gathered data from all district-wide classroom teachers (grades 3-6), and then developed the open-ended math questions to be administered in order to meet this school wide performance objective.

With the combined effort of the teachers (grades 3-6), and the Math Curriculum Committee, under the direction of Mrs. Dowse, open-ended math questions were developed and administered. Thusly, 83% of the students achieved a rubric score of 2 or better on the assessment of responses to open-ended math questions.

### TESTING:

Assessment, both formal and informal, was an integral part of the school program. State mandated testing (ESPA) at the Fourth Grade level will yield academic results regarding the New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards in the areas of Language Literacy, Math and Science. The Cognitive Achievement Test at the Fourth Grade level provided teachers with data regarding a student's academic potential in the areas of verbal, mathematical, and non-verbal abilities. The IOWA Test (Grades K-6) reported a child's actual achievement level by grade and percentile in comparison to other youngsters across the nation. The Nutley Achievement Tests which are criterion referenced, judged a student's mastery of the Nutley School District's Curriculum.

Lastly, these formal along with daily informal evaluations through teacher made tests, portfolios, and rubrics assisted teachers as they planned, prepared and executed lessons to meet the individual needs of their students; as well as the benchmarks, expectations, frameworks, goals and objectives of the district-wide curricula.

GOALS FOR LINCOLN SCHOOL 1999-2000:

Continue to enjoy the positive communication between regular education and special education

Continue to integrate and include especially challenged students in school lessons and activities

Continue activities which encourage tolerance, acts of kindness and conflict resolution

Continue strategic planning and implementation of computer technology

Continue to apply methods for meeting the needs of the primary gifted population

Continue to teach according to the New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards

Continue to practice skills for answering open-ended questions as well as for expository speaking

Implement the updated World Languages, Social Studies, Physical Education-Health-Safety and Kindergarten Curriculum Guides

Initiate activities regarding Sexual Harassment, the Holocaust and Equity Issues as found in the Affirmative Action Plans

Acknowledge diversity and the stages of human development in the educational body

Execute and evaluate the results of the revised Nutley Achievement Tests (reading, writing, math)

Review the results of ESPA scores, and plan lessons of improvement if necessary

Re-think civic education and conduct community services

Keep parents informed of various reforms as we enter the 21<sup>st</sup> century

Encourage parents and members of the community to support and participate in school related activities

### SPECIAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Regular education teachers, special subject area teachers, and special education teachers have conducted a "Partnering Initiative" at Lincoln School as they have developed many positive activities both academic and social in meeting the goal of accepting diversity within the school setting. Focus was placed on sharing lessons, class trips, classroom visitations and many other events. All of the teachers and all of the students are deserving of much praise and recognition in their effort of integration and of school community networking.

An accolade must be given to numerous fifth grade students who participated in "Feed the Hungry Program". These youngsters, on a monthly basis along with Mr. Walker, Miss Griffin, Miss Yates and the school principal went to St. John's Church in Newark to feed the homeless population. The pupils prepared breakfast, and then served masses of needy people. It was a rewarding experience for all.

Once again, the Lincoln School Brownie Troops deserve a round of applause for the money which they collected for the school through the "Box Tops" program; and once again much appreciation must be extended to the Lincoln School PTO for their generosity this year in purchasing "The First Grade Letter People," a program designed to support our standard reading textbook series. The gifts presented from each group are gratefully accepted.

Many cheers have been heard across the basketball court as Lincoln School acquired the championship for The Third Half Club Intramural Games. Under the direction of Mr. Ken Ferriol and Mr. Donald Tompson, the boys and girls from the fifth and sixth grade classes exhibited their athletic talents and achieved a sterling victory.

Finally, recognition must be given to the many regular education children and the special education children across the grade levels for their assembly performance entitled "The Polar Express," and for their assembly program entitled "High Hopes". The Polar Express play highlighted the Winter Holiday, and High Hopes offered a tribute to famous Black Americans. Assistance from Mr. Bruce Phillips, music teacher; Miss Mary Pagano, art teacher; Miss Beverly Apple, librarian; Mr. Thomas Gargiulo, physical education teacher, and Mrs. Carol Gurney, kindergarten teacher added a special note of success to these meaningful, yet fun-filled events. Moreover, much thanks must be given to all of the staff members and all of the children as they celebrated "April, A Month of Verse." The youngsters created as well as enjoyed various forms of poetry. They also designed beautiful displays of their written work and of their art work throughout the school hallways. Traveling poets even gave tours of the building in order to share the imaginative talents of the students.

### SPECIAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS (CONT'D):

In addition, under the direction of Mrs. Sally Magin, special education students and regular education sixth grade students conducted a tree planting ceremony in honor of "Earth Day." Narratives and poems were read; songs were sung, and tips were given to encourage everyone to honor, cherish and enjoy our earth.

Lincoln School certainly has been bursting with delight and with interdisciplinary curriculum activities as everyone begins to gear up for the new millennium.

### SPECIAL EVENTS:

- Book Fair
- Pumpkin Patch
- Halloween Parade
- American Education Week (Parent Classroom Visitation)
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Red Ribbon Week (Drug Awareness)
- Teacher-Staff Appreciation Day
- Fresh Christmas Trees - Wreathes Display
- Hearing Screening
- Holiday Boutique (PTO Fund Raiser)
- Holiday Play
- Holiday Concert
- Staff Articulation Day
- Science Workshop (Grades 3 and 4)
- Language Literacy and Math Workshops (Grades 3 and 4)
- Technology Workshop (Grades K-6)
- Environmental Workshop (Grades K-1-2)
- Dr. Seuss - Read Across America
- Tricky Tray (PTO Fund Raiser)
- Talent Show (PTO Sponsored)
- Kindergarten Orientation
- Kindergarten Screening
- Kindergarten Video Night
- Plant Sale (PTO Fund Raiser)
- Gordon Eikler (Guest Speaker - Cults, PT Council Sponsored)
- Franklin School Peer Partnership Club Visitation
- Franklin School Latin Club Visitation
- Mayor's Council Advisory Council
- Lincoln School's Celebration of Verse
- Spring Concerts
- Elks Drug Awareness Program
- Junior Olympics

### SPECIAL EVENTS (CONT'D)

Patrol Picnic  
 Dare Picnic  
 Spring Festival  
 Lemon Ice Treat (PTO Sponsored)  
 Mini Assembly for Awards  
 Promotion (Pre-school, Kindergarten, Grade Six)

### FIELD TRIPS:

Von Thun's Country Farm - Special Education Classes  
 Nutley Public Library - Mrs. Frikert  
 Camping Trip - Grade Six  
 Nutley Fire House - Mrs. Gurney and Special Education Classes  
 Save The Wild Life - Interpretive Science Center - Mrs. Gurney  
 NJ PAC "The Snow Queen" - Mrs. Gurney  
 "Babes in Toyland" - Grade Two  
 Newark Museum - Grade Two  
 Liberty Science Center - Mrs. Gurney  
 "Charlette's Web" - Grade Four  
 Madison Museum - Grade Two  
 NJ PAC "American Ballet" - Grade Three  
 Museum of Agriculture - Special Education  
 Broadway Bound, Inc. - Play-Grade One  
 Clara Maass Senior Citizen's Program - Miss Yates  
 Israel Crane House - Grade Three  
 Interpretive Science Center - Mrs. Gurney  
 Friendship Festival - Special Education  
 "Young Edison" - Grade Five  
 Waterloo Village - Grade Four  
 Van Saun Park - Mrs. Gurney  
 Nutley Public Library - Grade Two

### ASSEMBLIES:

Keys: Linkages to the Future  
 Ozzie Alive, Science  
 Little Hawk, Native American Indian  
 "The Polar Express" - Winter Play  
 Drug Awareness  
 "High Hopes" - A Tribute to Black Americans  
 Irish Bag Pipes

### ASSEMBLIES(CONT'D):

"So This Is Opera"

Earth Day Celebration

Writer's Workshop - Shoestring Players-Creative Expression

Self-Esteem

Anti-Smoking Program

### PTO

The Lincoln School PTO maintains focus, direction and leadership as its members work together to create systems which will benefit all of the children. Some of the activities which the PTO has conducted for the students, teachers, staff members and families of the school include: Book Fairs, Pumpkin Patch, Lincoln School Wear, Holiday Boutique, Tricky Tray, Movie Morning, Teacher Appreciation, Candy Sale, Talent Show, Spring Festival, Scholarship Fund, Plant Sale, June Treats, Assemblies, Junior Olympic Items, Grade Six T-Shirts, Grade Six Dinner Party, Save the Children, and Promotion Parties.

Moreover, the PTO president, Mrs. Maria Alamo, along with other PT Council members, has created a weekly "School Page" for all of the elementary schools in the Nutley Sun newspaper. They have also delivered many workshops whereby guest speakers addressed parents on such topics as "Drug Awareness," "Safety on the Internet," "Occults," and "Prevention of Violence Within the School Setting."

The PTO are people in a group who are united more than by membership; they are involved in practices that bind them together. They are committed to providing special activities for the children as well as for the entire community, and are deserving of much praise for their effectiveness.

### NUTLEY POLICE - SCHOOL PROGRAMS:

DARE is a program provided for students in Grade Six. Its goal is to initiate awareness for drug and alcohol prevention. Prior to his illness, Officer Ferrara presented worthwhile lessons to the sixth graders. He was also available to speak to children on other grade levels. His sincere concern for the children of Nutley is greatly appreciated by all.

The Police-Student Partnership program was directed by Sergeant Rogers. It was for all pupils in Grade Five who were interested in developing positive conflict resolution/tolerance skills, as well as safety skills while utilizing technology. Sergeant Rogers has had a dynamic influence on our youngsters; and everyone is grateful to him for his work in the area of human relations.

NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS DRUG AWARENESS COUNSELOR:

Mrs. Lisa Markman is the school district's drug awareness counselor. She has conducted special programs with the Lincoln School Fifth Graders. These included topics related to peer pressure, tolerance, conflict resolution, and drug as well as tobacco prevention.

NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS ELEMENTARY GUIDANCE COUNSELOR:

Mrs. Joyce Wood is the elementary school district's guidance counselor. She has been assigned to Lincoln School one full day per week, yet, is always available for emergency situations. Mrs. Wood has developed the "Gem Program" throughout the district. This is a program whereby individuals receive gems for "Acts of Kindness" which one may exhibit during the school day. Mrs. Wood has also been available to counsel children and parents who are experiencing personal or school related problems. Her presence at Lincoln School has been a great asset to all.

EXTRA CURRICULA ACTIVITIES:

## THE ANIMAL CLUB - ADVISOR, MRS. MARTIN

The purpose of this club was to appreciate animals. Club members were involved in organizing, creating and selling animal theme craft items to raise funds to help a variety of animal groups. The club was very successful in all of its activities.

## THE ART CLUB - ADVISOR, MISS PAGANA

The members of the Art Club completed many craft projects which are not included in the Grade Six Art curriculum. They developed many artistic skills and produced attractive products.

## BRAIN BENDERS - ADVISOR, MRS. VLASAKAKIS

The Brain Benders Club participated in many challenges as they recalled answers to a variety of trivia questions. The use of games, quizzes and computer activities promoted critical thinking skills.

## ELEMENTARY SPEAKING - ADVISOR, MRS. VLASAKAKIS

The purpose of the Elementary Speaking Club was to promote expository speaking skills for competition purposes. The club members participated in local and county wide events.



### ENDANGERED SPECIES CLUB - ADVISOR, MISS MEYERS

The purpose of this club was to help children become aware of animals in danger of becoming extinct. The club members held fund raisers and then sent contributions to various organizations for the protection of wildlife.

### FEED THE HOMELESS CLUB - ADVISOR, MISS GRIFFIN

Children from Grade Five participated in this club at St. John's Homeless Center in Newark, New Jersey. The club members made peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and then fed the homeless population. The club activities encouraged community services skills and compassion for the less fortunate.

### INTRAMURALS - ADVISOR, MR. FERRIOL

The sport of basketball was played for intramural games. The students enjoyed interacting during these athletic activities.

### LINCOLNAIRES CLUB - ADVISORS, MRS. BENDER AND MR. PHILLIPS

The Lincolnaires were a singing group composed of boys and girls. They learned how to sing in different harmonies. The Lincolnaires performed at various school assemblies. They were enjoyed by all.

### PATCHES - ADVISOR, MRS. MATTONE

The purpose of this club was to create products through sewing, quilting and embroidery. Skills for patience, fine motor coordination and originality were stressed. The club members made many wonderful items.

### THE PEER TUTORING CLUB - ADVISOR, MRS. VLASAKAKIS

Under the direction of Mrs. Vlasakakis and her sixth grade club members, many Lincoln School students were given assistance in the mastery of academic skills. The peer tutors and their students had schedules to follow each lunch time. The tutors reviewed academics with needy students in Grades One - Six, and many successes were accomplished.

### THE SAFETY PATROLS - ADVISORS, MRS. BATSON, MR. COMUNE, MRS. VLASAKAKIS

The Safety Patrols were a group of Sixth Grade students who assisted in safety matters of the school. They worked in the school and on the playground. These students received certificates and attended the Patrol Picnic.

### THE SINGING CLUB - ADVISOR, MR. TOBIAS

In this club, students were exposed to many songs composed by Mr. Tobias. They learned the songs and entertained the school community at various assemblies.

### STITCHES - ADVISOR, MRS. PASCHAL

Students who participated in this club developed skills for making basic stitches in order to complete various types of craft projects. Through practice and concentration, attractive crafts were produced.

### THE STUDENT COUNCIL - ADVISORS, MRS. BATSON AND MRS. PARIGI

The function of the Lincoln School Student Council was to offer various services to the school, the township, and the other associations. These intermediate grade representatives conducted drives to collect items for needy causes. They executed school wide spirit activities and managed many other special missions.

### THE STUDENT - POLICE PARTNERSHIP CLUB - ADVISORS, MRS. BERK, MR. FERRIOL AND MRS. PARIGI

Sergeant Rogers, Mrs. Berk, Mr. Ferriol, Mrs. Parigi and the Fifth Grade students were involved in many police/community related activities. Sergeant Rogers spent special times with the pupils as they discussed methods for conflict resolution, ways to avoid danger when using the Internet, as well as other means for maintaining safety in school, at home, and in the community.

### WE CARE CLUB - ADVISOR, MISS YATES

Under the direction of Miss Yates, the We Care Club, which consisted of third grade students, provided support and assistance to needy populations. The children collected toilet items, socks and candies which were then distributed to homeless people in Newark. They also made visitations to senior citizen homes whereby they played games, made art projects and sang songs with the residents.

### CONCERNS:

Several residents surrounding the Lincoln School property have shown a lack of respect for the "Pooper Scooper" law. Often times, dog waste products are found on the school grounds. Thusly, students, teachers, and parents are offended. The Nutley Police Department and Health Department have been involved.

### CONCERNS (CONT'D):

There is also concern regarding the handicap entrance to Lincoln School. It appears that the ramp which leads to the auditorium entrance is too steep for electric controlled wheel chairs. School officials have been alerted, and are actively involved in finding a solution to this problem.

Comments have been made in reference to the steep walk-way which leads from Lincoln School - Harrison Street to the steps on Brown Street. During inclement weather, walking conditions may be dangerous. Appropriate school officials have been notified of this situation.

For additional safety, a bell has been requested at the rear door of the school; and extra space has been requested on Brown Street for the school bus loading zone area.

All concerns are currently under observation.

### CONCLUSION:

At Lincoln School, celebrations have been an integral part of education. They have been student-driven, but clearly guided by professional educators. Celebrations have offered opportunities for innovative methods of teaching and learning. They have enlivened our classrooms with energy and enthusiasm. Moreover, the planning of celebrations is always done with clear-sighted emphasis on meaningful learning; and thusly, celebrations have pushed educators to improve both what they teach and how they teach.

Some of the celebrations have been demonstrated in skits, poetry, murals, environmental events, musicales, and other multi-disciplines; whereby the final products were of high quality. Furthermore, these celebrations have reflected on the past and have triggered thoughts regarding the new millennium. They have involved teachers, administrators, staff, parents, community members and Board of Education representatives. Above all, they have upheld the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards; and have encouraged students to take ownership of their learning.

In summary, a special note of appreciation is expressed to Dr. Serafino for her innovative initiatives and for her humanistic qualities; to Mr. Walker for his genuine extension of care and concern for all those with whom he comes in contact; to Mr. Sincaglia for his expertise in business matters; to Miss Hirsch for her constant support of the developmentally challenged youngsters, as well as the gifted youngsters; to the Board of Education for their effort in keeping our school programs current and in line with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards; to the Academic Booster Club for their loyalty in developing special talents in students; as well as to the Lincoln School PTO for their dedication in serving the children, and for their generous gift of the "First Grade Alpha People."

CONCLUSION (CONT'D):

On a personal note, an abundance of gratitude must be given to all of the teachers, staff members, and children who devote themselves and immerse themselves in creating a school climate which is full of joy for the excitement of learning, and for the expectations of the new millennium. Lastly, and above all, a very warm and sincere note of commendation is extended to our school secretary, Mrs. Linda Zembrzuski. She has earned our deepest respect for her efficiency, industry and managerial skills. Mrs. Zembrzuski always displays the right amount of humor, altruism, and anticipation for the completion of projects. Her guidance and structure has certainly contributed to the success of the many programs at Lincoln School during the 1998-1999 school year. Mrs. Zembrzuski is deeply appreciated by all.

Respectfully submitted,

*Dorothy Mutch, Ed. D.*

Dorothy Mutch, Ed.D.

**RADCLIFFE SCHOOL**

NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
RADCLIFFE SCHOOL  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

TO: Dr. Kathleen C. Serafino June 24, 1999

FROM: Mariana C. Francioso  
Principal, Radcliffe School

RE: **Principal's Annual Report - School Year 1998/99**

The following annual report for Radcliffe School contains information gathered from the school curricula, school activities, student activities, parent activities, concerns and recommendations.

**Curriculum Activities**

1. Curriculum development occurred in the following areas: Revision of the Nutley Reading/Writing & Mathematics Achievement Tests, Social Studies, Physical Education & Family Life, World Languages, Kindergarten.  
District curriculum guides were revised to meet proficiencies of the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards.
2. Continued in-service was provided in the following areas: technology, computer integration, and drug awareness

**School Activities**

***P.T.O. Open House - October 1, 1998***

Our first open house was October 1, 1998 and the staff and teachers were in attendance, along with Dr. Serafino, Mr. Walker, and Mr. Al Restaino.

***Special Person Visitation Day***

On October 2, 1998, Special Person Day was attended by the grandparents, godparents, and special seniors.

***The Gem Program***

The introduction of the Gem program, under the creation and the implementation of Mrs. Joyce Wood, Elementary School Guidance Counselor, was designed to motivate and to recognize students' acts of kindness, honesty, and integrity. It was piloted at Radcliffe School before it was introduced to all other elementary schools. It was extremely successful.

***Fire Prevention Week***

Fire Prevention Week occurred during the week of October 5, 1998. The Drill and Demonstration was held on Monday, October 5, at 2:00 P.M. and the Fire Assembly was on Thursday, October 8 at 1:00 P.M.

***Red Ribbon Week***

Red Ribbon Week began on Friday, October 23, 1998, and went through the week beginning Monday, October 26. Red ribbons were handed out to all of the students and staff to support "just say no" to drugs.

***Mayor's Advisory Council***

The Mayor's Advisory Council began on Tuesday, October 20, 1998. The purpose of this committee was to discuss items and future activities that could enhance our Recreation Department and our town.

***American Education Week***

American Education Week was celebrated the week of November 16, 1998, with a kick-off on Monday with Parent Visitation Day and parent conferences on Wednesday afternoon and Thursday night.

***State Monitoring*** - December 8, Radcliffe School was very well prepared for the state to monitor the building in various areas. The staff put forth a great deal of effort to meet all the monitoring requirements.

***Holiday Music Program***

Our holiday music program was held on Friday, December 18, 1998, at 10:00 A.M. in the gymnasium and was conducted by Mrs. Kathleen Bimbi for our choral program and Mr. Peter D'Angelo for our instrumental program.

Annual Report – 1998/99

Radcliffe School

### ***Sixth Grade Geography Bee***

This year's sixth grade geography bee was sponsored by Mrs. Szura and was held in the gymnasium on Tuesday, December 22, 1998.

### ***Holiday Musical***

The Radcliffe School vocal and instrumental students performed a holiday Program for the entire student body, with parents in attendance, on December 18, 1999.

### ***Articulation Day***

Articulation Day was held in the Franklin Middle School on Monday, January 11, 1999, with our teachers in attendance and our report handed in to the superintendent's office.

### ***Read Across America***

The week of March 1, 1999, Radcliffe School participated in the national program, "Read Across America", with each classroom "dropping" everything at the same time everyday and reading for 15 minutes (D.E.A.R.) The week-long read-a-thon was celebrated by students/teachers by having birthday cupcakes in the classroom on Dr. Seuss' birthday, Tuesday, March 2. Mrs. Michele Cristantiello coordinated the program.

### ***Sixth Grade Spelling Bee***

The annual sixth grade spelling bee was held on Tuesday, January 26, 1999, in the gymnasium and conducted by Mrs. Gerri Intiso.

### ***Kindergarten Registration/Orientation/Screening***

Registration for our kindergarten students for the year 1999/00 was the week of March 8, 1999. Kindergarten orientation was held the night of the Board of Elections, Tuesday, April 20, at 7:30 P.M. in the kindergarten classroom, with Mrs. Susan Neri, Mrs. Virginia Reilly, and myself. Kindergarten screening was held at Radcliffe on Thursday, May 6.



***Spring Musicale - grades 1 - 3***

The annual musicale for the lower grades was held on Tuesday, March 30, 1999. The choral director was Ms. Stacey Sanford, with assistance from Mrs. Kathleen Bimbi. The theme was "American Folk Songs."

***Drug Awareness Program***

Mrs. Lisa Markman conducted a drug awareness program for students in the sixth grade, in the Park Oval.

***TobacAttack***

Mrs. Lisa Markman conducted a program for fifth grade students entitled "TobacAttack", which was well received and the students in Miss Gambaro's and Mrs. Napoli's classes entered posters to compete among the district's fifth grade level, across the board.

***Spring Musicale - grades 4 - 6***

On Tuesday, May 11, Mrs. Kathleen Bimbi and Mr. Peter D'Angelo led the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> graders in a "Circus" Musicale. The fourth graders played recorders, the fifth graders sang, along with the sixth graders, and Mr. D'Angelo conducted the orchestra and band. This musicale was a complete success and included students a variety of acts and stunts.

***D.A.R.E.***

This year Officer Ferrara conducted the DARE program with grades one through four. The sixth grade program was conducted by the two sixth grade teachers, Mrs. Gerri Intiso and Mrs. Nancy Szura, since Officer Ferrara had bypass surgery and was on disability for the remainder of the year. DARE held its annual picnic on June 10 at Owens Field, under the direction of Officer Ferrara.

***Clubs***

Jeopardy Club – Miss Maria Andriola, Sponsor

Weaving Club – Miss Robyn Burns, Sponsor

Chess Club – Mr. Michael Pace, Sponsor

Craft Revival Club – Miss Heather Vonroth, Sponsor

Peer Tutoring Club – Mrs. Gail Kahn/Mrs. Nancy Szura, Sponsors

Safety Patrols – Mrs. Nancy Szura, Sponsor

Student Council – Miss Jainine Gambaro/Mrs. Ellen Napoli, Sponsors

Literature/Writing Workshop – Mrs. Carol Perrone, Sponsor – an assembly was held to present “Rosa Parks” during Black History Month.

Debate Team – Miss Vonroth, Sponsor – the team competed on May 20 at Montclair State University. The first place winner in the Essex County Debate was Jennifer McGuire, fifth grader.

**Teacher Achievements**

Radcliffe School staff continued to attend professional workshops, conferences, graduate courses, computer in-services, etc. during this school year. A number of the staff worked on curriculum committees for district priorities. The following are highlights of the staff's attendance:

Kindergarten – S. Neri - Kindergarten Curriculum Meetings

First Grade - R. Tangorra – President, E.A.N.  
Affirmative Action  
Human Rights  
Integration of Technology

First Grade – B. Kirk – Affirmative Action, Integration of Technology

First Grade - M. Tracy – Affirmative Action, Integration of Technology

Second Grade - M. Cristantiello – EOHSI – “Using Your Safety Sense”

Second Grade - G. Kahn – Affirmative Action, Integration of Technology,  
World Languages

Second Grade - L. Moscaritola – Teaching Mathematics in Learning Ctrs.  
EOHSI – “Using Your Safety Sense”,  
Integration of Technology

Third Grade – P. Conry – Math (ESPA) Workshop

Third Grade - S. Hagert – Math (ESPA) Workshop – Computer in-service  
Suzanne Hagert has received a grant through the N.J.  
Gifted & Talented to introduce algebra into the third grade this  
upcoming school year. She will also teach this material  
in the C.A.T. program and is possibly planning an algebra  
club in the upcoming school year.

Fourth Grade - C. Perrone- Computer in-service, Integration of Technology,  
World Languages

Fourth Grade - V. Sautter – Computer in-service, drug awareness

Fifth Grade - J. Gambaro – Problem-based learning,  
Social Studies Curriculum

Fifth Grade - E. Napoli – Ellen Napoli will be in Ramapo College this  
Summer as part of the grant from Technology  
Literacy Challenge Fund involved in the RST2.

Sixth Grade - G. Intiso – Computer In-service, Language Arts Curriculum

Sixth Grade - N. Szura – Computer In-service, Mathematics Curriculum  
Nancy Szura continued implementation of the mini-message  
phone service to promote parental involvement - along with the  
president of the student council.

Physical Education - J. Alessio – Physical Education workshops,  
Computer In-service

Library - C. Lofrano - Computer Inservice, What's New in Children's  
Literature, Clarisworks

**Special Programs**

- Kindergarten      The Kindergarten Promotion was held on June 22, 1999. The students presented the "letter people."
- Grades 1 - 3      Spring Musicale - held on March 30, 1999 and was conducted by Ms. Stacey Sanford, which featured a collection of American folk songs.
- Grades 4 - 6      Spring Musicale - held on May 11, 1999 and was conducted by Mrs. Kathleen Bimbi and Mr. Peter D'Angelo, and the theme was the "Circus."
- Grade 5      TobacAttack - grade 5 participated in a program under the direction of Mrs. Lisa Markman, to bring about the awareness of tobacco
- Grade 6      Drug Awareness - a rally was held in the Tangorra Field - Park Oval to bring about an awareness of the affects of drugs.
- D.A.R.E. - The DARE program this year was conducted under the direction of the two sixth grade teachers, Mrs. Intiso and Mrs. Szura, because of the medical disability of DARE Officer Ferrara. The DARE picnic was held at Owens Field on June 10.

**Class Trips**

Each grade participated in a curriculum-related field trip. The following reflects the year at-a-glance:

- Kindergarten      Nutley Park Shop Rite
- First Grade      Alstede Farms (Mrs. Kirk's and Mrs. Tracy's class)
- Second Grade      Nutley Public Library  
American Theatre – Rutgers University
- Third Grade      Waterloo Village  
Nutley Museum/Franklin Reformed Cemetery
- Fourth Grade      Crane House  
Franklin Mineral Mines

## Annual Report

## Radcliffe School

Fifth Grade            Ocean Institute at Sandy Hook, NJ

Sixth Grade            The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, PA

**Student Council**

The Radcliffe School Student Council, under the direction of Miss Jainine Gambaro and Mrs. Ellen Napoli was active and participated in fund drives during the course of the 1998/99 school year, such as the Red Cross food drive, a pet drive for pet shelters, the Nutley Family Service community churches food drive, etc.

The Student Council held a pep rally on the morning of the Junior Olympics to encourage school spirit.

Elections for the new school year 1999/00 were held at the conclusion of the school year. Four officers were elected by the student body, with two representatives from each class in grades 4 - 6.

**Awards Program**

An awards program was held on June 18, 1999. Awards were presented for high honor roll, honor roll, perfect attendance, and perfect social growth. In addition, awards were given for the winners in mathematics, spelling, geography, physical fitness (President's Challenge), poster contests, and for the participants of the clubs and student council.

**Presidential Achievement Awards**

The awards, presented for Presidential Achievement, were given at the promotion exercises for the Sixth Grade on June 21. The criteria for achievement of these awards is the upper 25% in their class and above 98<sup>th</sup> national percentile on the IOWA Test of Basic Skills.

**P.T.O.**

Radcliffe School P.T.O. President, Mrs. LeeAnn Bucci, led the organization through a very successful year. This was the first year of the officers two year tenure and they were the following officers:

President:	Lee Ann Bucci	Corresponding Secretary:	Cheryl Kozyra
Vice President:	Diane Morgan	Treasurer:	Nadine Meola
Recording Secretary:	Karen Wlosek		

**P.T.O. Activities**

Radcliffe School P.T.O. President, Lee Ann Bucci, led the organization through the following events. Some activities were a first-time event, but the overall consensus was that the organization was very active and successful.

***Assembly Programs***

The Power Workshop – to inspire / develop self-esteem

Dickens, "A Christmas Carol" – holiday program

Turtle Back Zoo – interesting look at reptiles, mammals, amphibians, etc.

Learn To Draw 3-D – three-dimensional drawing

Laser Fantasy International – learning to fly, history of aviation, space travel.

Earth Matters – science-oriented program (bugs, ice age, rainforest.)

<b><i>P.T.O.</i></b>	<b><i>Activities / Meetings</i></b>
October	Open House
October	Innisbrook Gift Wrap
October	Family Welcome Picnic
October	Life Touch Class Pictures
October	Pumpkin Patch
October	Halloween Party
November	Book Fair
December	Santa Sale
December	Holiday Night – "A Christmas Carol"
February	Family Roller Skating Night
March	Spring Musicale - Gr. 1 – 3
March	Tricky Tray
May	Spring Musicale - Gr. 4 - 6
May	Bake Sale
May	Plant Sale
May	Teachers' Appreciation Lunch
June	Ice Cream Day
June	Burger King Night
June	Promotion Activities

### **P.T.O. Special Activities**

The 1998/99 school year proved to be another successful P.T.O. year, with numerous meetings held, including a fourth grade ESPA workshop with Mrs. Perrone / Mrs. Sautter in attendance.

The family welcome picnic was a success again this year.

The Pumpkin Patch was new to Radcliffe School this year and went extremely well for its first time here at Radcliffe.

The Santa Sale, as in the past, proved to be a worthwhile event.

The Radcliffe School Tricky Tray, the major fundraiser of the year, was held at the Fiesta in March.

The Book Fair was a success again this year.

**Radcliffe Review**

Under the leadership of Mrs. JoAnn Tibaldo and her staff, the Radcliffe Review highlighted P.T.O. activities and the creative writings of our students. A weekly Radcliffe Newsletter was sent out by Mrs. Sheri Harris, and kept parents/guardians informed on a week-to-week basis.

**Extended Day Program**

There was continued implementation of a before and an after care program conducted in our school, under the direction of the Nutley Township - Department of Parks and Recreation.

**School Performance Objectives*****Results of School Level Objectives - 1998/99***

During the 1998/99 school year, students in first and second grades (1-2) were introduced to public speaking through a variety of activities. More than 95% of the students in grades 1 – 2 have demonstrated proficiency in public speaking and have successfully achieved a minimum of 85% or better on a teacher-constructed prompt assessed with a state-developed rubric.

During the 1998/99 school year, more than 95% of the students in grades three through six (3-6) demonstrated proficiency in five open-ended mathematical questions with a score of 80% or better on a standard grade level rubric. This was the result of class activities, skills development, and practice questions introduced by teachers.



**School-Based Planning Team**

Mrs. Mariana C. Francioso, Chairperson  
Michele Cristantiello  
Gail Kahn  
Lee Anne Bucci  
Diane Morgan

The members of the planning team proposed the following school level objectives for 1999/00:

By June 2000, students in grades one and two will demonstrate proficiency in solving open-ended questions in mathematical problem solving, where a situation is presented and students are asked to communicate a response. The questions will have two or more parts, and will require both numerical responses and explanations or mathematical arguments, which help reveal thought processes employed by the students.

Possible responses may include the following:

- Demonstration of a procedure
- Written explanation
- Diagram to fit specific condition or enhance an explanation
- Description or extension of a pattern

Responses will be holistically scored using the New Jersey ESPA Mathematics Generic Rubric (3-0). A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve an average score of at least 2 or better on a grade level assessment, consisting of five open-ended questions assessing proficiency in mathematical problem solving, to be administered during the first week of June.

By June 1, 2000, students in grades three through six (3-6) will be given a problem-based research project in the area of social studies, utilizing computer technology, as well as other related resources. Eighty percent (80%) of the students in each grade level (3-6) will score a "C" or better. The final written project will be evaluated by the classroom teacher.

**School Level Objectives for the 1999/00 School Year**

1. Continue to implement newly developed curriculum, aligned with New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards.
2. Continue to provide staff development for New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards.
3. Monitor and maintain building security and safety.
4. Continue to review Mastery Skills related to the fourth grade Elementary Proficiency Test (ESPA), eighth grade Proficiency Test (GEPA), and eleventh grade High School Proficiency Test (HSPA).
5. Continue the use of technology as it is infused into the curriculum and to implement safe use of the Internet in the School Program.
6. Address Affirmative Action goals for schools/classroom practices.
7. Continue to closely monitor safety and maintenance in and around the building.
8. Continue to promote moral values and self-esteem in the students of Radcliffe School.
9. Continue to promote independent reading through a variety of planned school activities.
10. Continue to monitor instruction through the use of Instructional Theory Into Practice (ITIP).
11. Involve all Radcliffe School students and staff in the orientations of the library and classrooms.

## Annual Report

Radcliffe School

**Concerns**

Due to our continued increased student population, I recommended the following:

- close examination of building security
- close examination of school facilities
- continued evaluation of the school lunch program

**Conclusion**

In closure, I wish to express my sincere appreciation and thanks to Dr. Kathleen Serafino, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. John Walker, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, members of the Board of Education, Miss Barbara Hirsch, Director of Special Services, Mr. John Sincaglia and Mr. Don Stasi, and to my colleagues for their support, advice, and guidance during my first year as Principal of Radcliffe.

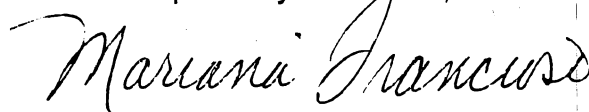
I particularly wish to express my gratitude and congratulations to all the wonderful teachers, staff members, parents, and children who make Radcliffe School the extraordinary place that it is. Without the support, cooperation, and dedication of all of these fine people, it would not be possible to do the job that is done.

Our secretary, Mrs. Beverly Cullari, is to be commended on her continued efforts on behalf of Radcliffe School. She brings a high work ethic, a caring and warmth in dealing with all connected to our school, and the ability to manage the office with efficiency and vision. She is greatly appreciated.

As part of her responsibilities, Mrs. Cullari oversees the Radcliffe School aides, Mrs. Alessio, Mrs. Cifalino, Mrs. Cristiano, and Mrs. Gumeny. These staff members continue to do a fine job on behalf of the students and staff of Radcliffe School.

A special thanks to the P.T.O. organization for their hard work and support on behalf of Radcliffe School.

Respectfully submitted,



Mariana C. Francioso  
Principal

**SPRING GARDEN SCHOOL**

# SPRING GARDEN SCHOOL

59 SOUTH SPRING GARDEN AVENUE  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

LUCY P. ANELLO  
Principal

Tel: (973) 661-8983  
Fax: (973) 661-5138

TO: John H. Walker, Assistant Superintendent

FROM: Lucy P. Anello, Principal

SUBJECT: Principal's Annual Report - School Year 1998/1999

The annual report represents a compendium of the following:

District and school priorities

Monitoring, challenging and encouraging staff to participate in all activities, curriculum development and school programs

## **CONTINUING PRIORITIES REVIEW**

During the 1998/1999 school year, the K-8 math program was successfully implemented which provided the students with new core curriculum standards in scope and sequence, problem solving strategies, open ended math problems and current resources for enrichment.

K-8 science curriculum was implemented with proficiencies congruent with the NJ Core Curriculum Standards.

The implementation of both the music and art curricula continues to be progressively implemented according to proficiencies and standards.

K-4 Primary Academic Talent Program (P.A.T.). The P.A.T. program continued to be developed through staff training, and in service programs. Mrs. Carol VonAchen, a Spring Garden representative attended the N.J.A.C. for the gifted/talented in New Brunswick. In keeping with the challenges, the Spring Garden students participated in a knowledge-based in-district competition, "Academically Speaking" at Franklin Middle School.

The district inclusion program has been implemented in grade four. Two special education students from Mr. Siculietano's class have been included in fourth grade science and social studies classes.

**Annual Report 1998/99****Spring Garden School**

The five-year strategy planning model for technology integration, Network infrastructure installation, staff development have been an ongoing process. All fifth and sixth grade classes have been wired and will be accessed to the Internet before the end of the 1998/99 school year.

In the area of critical thinking, problem solving strategies and higher level thinking activities continue to be implemented in the interdisciplinary challenges provided for the students.

The teaching tolerance program continues to be developed through health and social studies addressing diversity in the culture and acceptance of social demographic and differences.

Our state mandated school-level objectives under the Quality Assurance Plan has been implemented and evaluated. Students in grades one and two demonstrated proficiency in speaking, meeting the district goal. The goal was carefully monitored, renewed carefully, and successfully measure. Students in grades three-six demonstrated proficiency in open-ended questions in mathematical problem solving and successfully met the district goal.

The second phase of technology implementation of wiring at Spring Garden has been completed. The library is Internet accessible with appropriate cyber space controls. Grade five and six have also been wired with Internet accessibility forthcoming by the onset of the new school year.

School parenting initiative through the efforts and planning of the P.T.O., Principal, Mrs. Lorraine Restel fifth-grade teacher, Mrs. Rosemary Clerico our district technology coordinator, and Sgt. Steve Rogers, conducted an evening workshop on the appropriate use of the Internet for students and children. District-wide parent communities were invited to attend both an informative seminar on the points of danger to avoid in computer usage at the home site and also to learn about the security measures installed by the school district. Mrs. Restel and Mrs. Clerico also presented a chronology and update of the district technology plan.

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

Teacher participation at the Saturday curriculum workshops was represented by various staff members and grade levels: The social studies revisions committee, N.A.T. revision in math, reading and language arts, kindergarten revision committee, Career Awareness committee, World Language Development committee. Changes, modifications and committee recommendations were reported at monthly faculty and grade-level

**Annual Report 1998/99****Spring Garden School**

meetings. Each committee member report included the alignment of the Core Curriculum Content Standards in the revision of the aforementioned curricula.

Areas of participation by the Spring Garden School staff in and out of district:

- . Science seminar sponsored by Hoffman-LaRoche. Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute.
- . In-service Technology Workshop
- . Inclusion Workshop provided by Ms. Hirsch, the Director of Special Services
- . 1999 NJAC Gifted and Talented Convention in New Brunswick
- . 1999 New Jersey Library Association Convention
- . NJECA - New Jersey Education Computer Cooperative Workshop at Montclair University
- . Adaptive Physical Education seminar
- . ETTC - Technology Convention
- . Tom Synder Workshop - Internet
- . Scholastic Reading Seminar
- . Orton Workshop - Reading Method for Dyslexia
- . Terra Nova - Testing presentation
- . Library Centers - Reading and Writing with Young Children
- . Revitalizing Science and Technology - three week course at Ramapo College July, 1999.

During monthly faculty meetings "Instructional Theory into Practice" Madeline Hunter process was reinforced and redefined through video tapes with follow-up discussions and hand outs focusing on the importance of the elements of a good lesson.

**Annual Report 1998/99****Spring Garden School****HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRAMS**

**D.A.R.E.** - Officer Nat Ferrara conducted the D.A.R.E. program to the sixth grade classes on Wednesdays from October 1998 through January 1999. He also completed the D.A.R.E. program for three weeks in October 1998. The sixth grade D.A.R.E. sessions were interrupted by the medical adversity of Officer Ferrara in January. The sixth grade staff continued with D.A.R.E. instruction in addition to units covered in the health curriculum. To bring the course to closure, the sixth-grade classes participated in a district-wide field day at Monsignor Owen's Field.

**Drug Awareness Day** - Students in grades five and six participated in a special drug program held in the Nutley Oval. Posters regarding drug awareness were prepared and sponsored by the various clubs of Spring Garden School.

**Fire Prevention Week** - During Fire Safety Week, (October) all grades K-6 including two special education classes participated in the Fire Prevention assembly and equipment demonstration.

**American Dental Week** - To raise dental health/hygiene awareness, students participated in a poster contest sponsored by the Essex County Dental Association. Special presentations were conducted by Doctors Anthony and Vincent DeVincentis.

**SCHOOL ACTIVITIES****American Education Week**

During American Education Week in November, Spring Garden School invited the parent community and grandparents to visit the classrooms, to view a myriad of activities and displays depicting American education, its past, current trends and aspects of technology.

**Black History Month**

Throughout the grades, Black History month was celebrated with a variety of Afro-American cultural activities. Banners lined the corridors depicting a vast range of contributions made by the Afro-American society of America. A selection of famous black Americans, civic leaders, sports figures, artists and authors were significantly displayed throughout the building.

**Women's Month** A plethora of activities, corridor exhibits, videos, writing and poetry experiences were conducted to impact the contributions of women in American history.



**Annual Report 1998/99****Spring Garden School****School Safety Patrols**

The Spring Garden Safety patrol comprised of fourth, fifth and sixth graders continues to be effective as they serve at crosswalks under the supervision of adult advisors (crossing guards). They assist on the playground and monitor the kindergarten through third grades entering and leaving the building. Office patrols assist in answering the phone and separating mail during the lunch hour.

**Intramural Program**

This district program is an organized after school activity offered to fifth and sixth graders. The program was well attended with active participation of students under the supervision of Mrs. Tracy McCormick and Mrs. Kimberly Algieri.

**Bears Around the World**

This project involved sixth-grade students under the supervision of Mr. Adubato. Small stuffed bears with a journal insert literally traveled with relatives and friends to different parts of the world.

Many bears were returned to Spring Garden School with post cards, memos, videos, etc. of the bears transcontinental or transworld trip. All memorabilia the students received was put into scrapbooks and the bear destinations were documented on a U.S. or World Map. Return of the bear with requested information came from all continents including Africa and Antarctica. Throughout the year, it was evident that the unique activity enhanced social studies concepts and the geographical experiences of the children.

**Park Patrol and Environmental Club**

Mrs. Claire Menza, advisor of the Park Patrol (Grade 4-5), provided students with activities on environmental hazards and problems. The focus of the club enabled the students to develop environmental awareness. Students explored various concerns: recycling, water, air pollution, endangered and threatened species. The club worked closely with Parks and Recreation Dept. Visit to PAWS Animal Shelter, Montclair, and Richfield Farms, Clifton.

**Scrabble Club**

Ms. Laura Curry, club advisor, provided the students in grades 3-6 with a game-mode to increase vocabulary development and its application in writing experiences.

**Annual Report 1998/99****Spring Garden School****Olde World Crafts Club**

Mrs. Algieri and Mrs. Cocco exposed the students to old world crafts of crochet, cross stitch and various types of sewing. The participants had an opportunity to discover these crafts through hands-on experience, as well as to learn the history behind them.

**Newspaper Club**

The newspaper club met every other Monday under the supervision of co-advisors, Miss Laura Curry and Mr. Phillip Siculietano. Four outstanding comprehensive issues were prepared by the students. The club afforded the children a successful experience in the areas of communication, writing, reading and computer skills. All issues were distributed to the student body and parents.

**Art Club**

The Art Club met under the supervision of Ms. Robyn Burns. Students in grades 3-6 participated in art activities on Wednesdays and Fridays during lunch period. Various projects were developed including weaving, painting, clay sculpture, murals and art appreciation. Visit to Montclair Art Museum.

**Student Council Activities**

Mrs. Sally Ryder advised all student council activities. They accomplished their agenda of activities with enthusiasm, support and participation from its members and the involvement of students from grades 3-6. The mission of the council focused on school and aspects of community service. Major projects included Thanksgiving food baskets, holiday caroling throughout Spring Garden neighborhoods, Valentine friendship grams, bake sales, Earth Day, Career Day, and feeding the homeless at St. John's in Newark and Nutley Senior Citizens.

**Critical Thinking Club (Olympics of the Mind)**

The club met every Tuesday under the direction of Mrs. Marilyn Hannon. Strategies began with skills of recognition and recall, working up to the more advanced skills of analysis and synthesis. Through puzzle sheets, games, individual efforts and team work, the students had fun and were challenged while working out problems and finding solutions.

**Annual Report 1998/99****Spring Garden School****Computer Club**

The students of grades 3-6 met each Friday in the library computer center, under the supervision of Mrs. Lorraine Restel. The students used computers to run favorite programs and CD Roms, developed skills using the word processor and expanded their ability to use the Macintosh computer and modem.

**Garden Club**

Mrs. Noreen Baris, advisor, met every Tuesday from 12:00-12:30 p.m. Gardening techniques were introduced to the students. A variety of garden tomatoes, cucumbers,

and flowering annuals were grown from seed. Special acorn wreaths and topiaries were also fashioned for decor. Flowers grown from seed were planted around the school early

in the spring. Window sill box planters were cultivated and displayed during promotion exercises.

**Chess Club**

The club met every Wednesday at 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. under the supervision of Mr. Gerard Adubato. Students from grades 4-6 learned strategies of the chess game and enjoyed competing with classmates. The challenge of chess enhances higher level thinking skills.

**Debate Club**

Under the supervision of Mr. Gerard Adubato, the newly formed club debated in a forensic format, current issues in education. The members entered a debate competition at Montclair State University.

**Architecture and Engineering Club**

This newly formed club afforded second grade students an opportunity to experiment with a variety of building materials to design a variety of constructions. Critical thinking skills were encouraged to manage and build special projects. A favorite product was a balloon powered car.

**Annual Report 1998/99****Spring Garden School****Library Club**

The students involved in the library guild assisted with organizational tasks; shelving and carding books, filing cards and shelf reading. This experience allowed the members to learn the basic operations of the library

**Science Club**

The Science Club explored various areas of physical, biological, and life sciences employing the scientific method.

**Jeopardy Club**

The Jeopardy Club meets every Friday from 11:30-12:00. The club is open to students in grades 4-6. The game tests the students' knowledge of: math, science, history, English, geography, and civics.

Each week, teams accumulate points by answering questions correctly. At the conclusion of each game, teams may wager any part of their team's points in Final Jeopardy. A winner is then declared. In June, teams that have accumulated the most points will play in a grade-level tournament.

**Peer Buddy Club**

The Peer Buddy Club was a pilot tutoring program this year involving 4th, 5th, and 6th grade students. Meetings were held on Wednesdays from 11:30-12:30. Students brought their lunches and ate together for about 20 minutes, and then we broke into tutoring pairs at the various learning centers in the room. Students were paired with lower grade students. The 4th graders worked with the 1st and 2nd graders, and the 5th and 6th graders worked with the 2nd and 3rd graders. Students rotated from center to center every eight minutes. This enabled all the tutors to assist all of the lower grade students. Basic skill development was stressed.

**Weaving Club**

Activities centered around creating weaving projects using various yarns and loops. Several projects were submitted to the Essex County Creative Arts Fair held at Livingston Mall in 1998.

**Spring Garden Choral Concerts**

- December Holiday Program
- Budget Night Music Program
- Spring Concert

**Annual Report 1998/99****Spring Garden School****Assembly Programs**

- October 1997 - Patricia Shih, poetic song and dance
- October 1997 - Annual Halloween Parade
- November 1997 - Essex County Sheriff's Dept., Canine Dogs
- December 1997 - Laser Light Holiday Music Show
- January 1998 - "Einstein Alive"
- February 1998 - "Honest Abe"
- March 1998 - "Three Strong Women" performed by The Shoe String Players

**Awards Assembly**

The fifth annual awards assembly under the supervision of Mr. Gerard Aduato and Ms. Margaret Dougherty honored all students who participated in school activities, local contests, and community service with special certificates and commendations as a form of recognition.

**FIELD TRIPS:**

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| Grade 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Nutley Public Library</li> <li>. Tenafly Nature Center</li> </ul>   |
| Grade 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Museum of Natural History</li> <li>. Bergen County Technical School - "The Nutcracker"</li> <li>. Liberty Science Center</li> <li>. Newark Museum</li> <li>. Lenne Lenape Park, Parsippany</li> </ul>   |
| Grade 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Paper Mill Playhouse - "A Christmas Carol"</li> <li>. Franklin Mineral Museum</li> <li>. Waterloo Village, Stanhope, NJ</li> <li>. Nutley Museum, Kingsland Manor, &amp; Franklin Reform</li> <li>. Nutley Police Dept., Town Hall, &amp; Fire Department</li> <li>. Mrs. Algieri's class - Northvale School to visit w/pen pals</li> </ul> |
| Grade 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. John Harms Center of the Arts - "Young Tom Edison"</li> <li>. Bronx Zoo</li> </ul>  |
| Grade 5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. West Point Academy, New York</li> <li>. Canfield-Morgan House to meet w/ Governor Whitman</li> <li>. Township of Cedar Grove Waste Water Treatment Plant</li> <li>. Liberty Science Center</li> <li>. Drug Awareness Rally</li> </ul>   |

**Annual Report 1998/99****Spring Garden School**

- Grade 6
- . Camping Trip - Three day environmental program accompanied with experiences in ecology, social interaction, peer bonding skills, building and fostering self esteem and respect for each other through teamwork and group activities
  - . St. John's the Divine & Cloister Tour
  - . Ice Skating - So. Mountain Arena
  - . Mayor's Youth Council
  - . Drug Awareness Rally
  - . Debate Competition - Montclair State University
    - District First Place
    - District Third Place
    - District Fourth Place

**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS**

Many students received special awards and recognition in both local, county, state, and national levels this year. The following represents a list of honors in the field of literature and art.

**Grade 3:**

- Elks Drug Free Poster Contest - First, Second and Third Place winners
- Amvets Poser/Essay Contest - Honorable Mention
- Christopher Columbus Picture Contest

**Grade 4:**

- Star Ledger/Panasonic Contest - First Place
- American Legion Coloring Contest - First, Second and Third place
- Christopher Columbus Picture Contest
- Amvets Poster Contest
- Zaner-Bloser Handwriting Contest
- Free Throw Contest - First Place
- Scholastic Storyworks - Limerick Contest
- Scholastic Storyworks - Creative Character Contest
- Lions Club Spelling Contest - First Place

**Annual Report 1998/99****Spring Garden School****Grade 5:**

- American Legion Coloring Contest
- Amvets Auxiliary Essay Contest

**Grade 6**

- ABC Science Fair - First Place
- Amvets Drug Free Poster Contest - First Place
- Free Basketball Throw - Third Place
- Amvets Essay - First Place
- Bene Detto Croce Essay Contest - First Place
- D.A.R. Essay Contest - First Place
- History Channel A & E - Stars and Stripes Poetry Contest
- Knights of Columbus Poster Contest - First Place
- Nutley Amvets Auxiliary Contest - First Place (forwarded to NJ State Competition)

**Grade 5 & 6**

Academically speaking - In-district competition

**HONOR ROLL AND CHECK LIST**

Each marking period a special Honor Roll bulletin board recognized the students who achieved Honor Roll status. A similar bulletin board recognized students who achieved all check marks in the social and personal growth areas of the report card.

**P.T.O. ACTIVITIES**

Dr. Gerard Parisi, P.T.O. President, led the association to a productive and successful year. They provided many unique and educationally motivated assembly programs that enriched the students with challenging ideas and perspectives. The effort and diligence of the membership fostered a positive spirit of cooperation and understanding between the school and parent community.

Special P.T.O. purchases include 27" inch screen TV monitor with a TVator to project learning from a computer monitor to the TV.

One thousand dollars for library books and associated equipment.

- |             |                              |
|-------------|------------------------------|
| ♦ September | New Parents Night            |
| ♦ October   | Annual Halloween Celebration |
|             | Sixth Grade Camping Trip     |

**Annual Report 1998/99****Spring Garden School**

- ◆ December
  - Holiday Boutique
  - Family Day - NYC "Christmas Carol"
  - Appropriate Internet Usage
  - Conducted by: Lorraine Restel & Rosemary Clerico*
- ◆ May
  - Staff Appreciation Week
- ◆ April
  - First Talent Show - Franklin Middle School
- ◆ June
  - Strawberry Festival - 50th Anniversary
  - Students Special Day - Ice Cream
  - Sixth-Grade Festivities - St. John the Divine & Cloister
  - Ice Skating
  - Kindergarten Recognition Day
  - Promotion Activities

**The Annual Book Fair** - Sponsored by the school

**Parent Volunteers**

A number of parents assisted in our library, performing clerical and book shelving tasks. Two former Spring Garden staff members volunteered their assistance in the primary reading program. (Mrs. Rosemarie Baranko and Mrs. Betty Chapin) Mr. James Greengrove, former parent, also volunteered.

Other parent sponsored activities; Daisies, Brownies, Cub Scouts, and Girl Scouts.

**CONCLUSION:**

In closure, I would like to thank Dr. Kathleen Serafino, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. John Walker, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, the support of the Board of Education, Ms. Barbara Hirsch and the Child Study Team who aids us with our special education children and their programs, Mr. John Sincaglia and Mr. Donald Stasi who have been instrumental in the maintenance of the building and to my colleagues who continue to share their experience and expertise with me.

I particularly want to note the outstanding achievement of the Spring Garden students in the Nutley Science Fair. A sixth grade student received first place for the Nutley Amvets Drug/essay contest at the local level and will represent Nutley at the State Competition. A fourth grader received a first place honor from the Star Ledger Partners in Education program.

Spring Garden students continue to achieve high scores in the IOWA Test of Basic Skills and the Nutley Achievement Tests. Our students also succeeded well in the State mandated ESPA Tests.

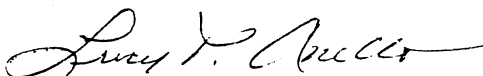


**Annual Report 1998/99****Spring Garden School**

The dedicated staff, secretary, and non-professional employees continue to work diligently to renew the spirit, high standards and academic excellence that are the benchmarks of our school district.

I close this annual report with a special message of gratitude to the Nutley Board of Education. It was your combined support, encouragement, guidance and supervision that helped to make the past 39 years as an educator an extraordinarily fulfilling experience. As I reflect upon both the past and present, I realize what a privilege it was to serve in an outstanding school district and community. I feel that I have accomplished my goal to have made a positive difference in the lives of the children I taught, administered to and guided.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lucy P. Anello".

Lucy P. Anello

**WASHINGTON SCHOOL**

# MEMO

**To:** Dr. Kathleen Serafino  
**From:** Mr. Carmine D'Aloia  
**Subject:** Annual Report – 1998/99  
**Date:** June 28, 1999

The following covers the priorities of district, as well as goals and objectives for Washington School.

## CURRICULUM

Reading: This was the third year using the revised Reading Curriculum. The revised scope and sequence proved to enhance the teachers' ability to improve reading levels. The teachers also continued to use the reading texts currently used and agreed that these texts are still good and would be kept until something better comes available. Next year increased use of computer software will be used to help supplement our reading program. Hopefully this will improve test scores and make reading more enjoyable for the children.

The Nutley Reading Test was administered at the end of May to the students of grades one through eight. Their performance, overall was very acceptable. However, our district continues to look for excellence. As a result, a summer reading requirement was incorporated for grades three through six, to help improve reading skills.

Mathematics: The Mathematics Curriculum was reviewed and revised last year by a committee of twenty teachers and four administrators. Changes to the scope and sequence were made to meet the State Core Content Curriculum Standards. The committee determined, that our math text contained the material necessary to meet the Standards. The Math Curriculum will also be supplemented with increased use of the computer software programs. New software programs have been provided by the P.T.O.'s book sale.

The Nutley Math Test and the IOWA Test of Basic Skills were also administered at the end of May with some outstanding results.

Language Arts: This was the third year for the revised Language Arts Curriculum. It has met the needs of the children with the use of the English text. Composition writing

continues to be a top priority. The Nutley Writing Process is used as a guideline to develop good writing skills.

The students continue to do well in the writing area of the IOWA Test of Basic Skills and the Nutley Writing Test.

Science: The Science Curriculum was also revised last year by faculty members and administrative staff. The new Science Curriculum was developed to meet the Core Curriculum Content Standards mandated by the State. The committee created a curriculum that provides an excellent guide for the teachers. The curriculum developed outstanding concepts that place an emphasis on hands-on experiences, with various equipment, and provides proper instruction to prepare the fourth grade children for the ESPA Test.

Social Studies: The teachers continue to use the Social Studies Curriculum and text efficiently. The students were taken on several field trips to make the areas more meaningful. One trip was to the State House in Trenton where they met Assemblyman John Kelly, Assemblyman John DeGeatano, and Senator Gary Furnari, and received a first hand tour on how our State government works.

The Geography test was administered in May to all sixth grades. Again the results were very good.

Computer Curriculum: Our district's five-year plan was formulated and finalized. The first phase of the plan began with the wiring of our school for the Internet. We presently have twelve lines running into our library, and two lines in our main office. During this summer every classroom will have five Internet lines installed.

A large effort was made to increase computer use in our classrooms. The P.T.O. helped purchase twelve lap top computers. Eight of these computers were purchased with money from our P.T.O./Mothers' Club. The twelve laptop computers created a floating lab and were utilized in the classrooms and the library.

A library communications period was built into the master schedule for all fifth and sixth grades. A four-part instruction program was developed and taught by the principal, faculty, and parent volunteers. The first phase taught computer keyboarding using a Disney software program. The second phase taught word processing skills using Microsoft Word. The third phase consisted of instruction on the Internet. The children were taught how to access educational research information utilizing the twelve lines in the library. The final

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phase had the children research a topic off the Internet and write a paper using Microsoft Word. The program was a total success. The children enjoyed working with the laptops and the teachers were pleasantly surprised by the success of the research papers.

In addition, new software to supplement our math and reading programs were purchased. It was evident that our teachers constantly had their children utilizing the computer and you could tell the children enjoyed it very much.

Our plan for next year will be to purchase four more laptops and introduce Power Point to the fifth and sixth grades. We will also introduce the fourth graders to the laptops. For grades K through 3, we will purchase approximately twenty to thirty Alpha Smart word processors to teach keyboarding skills and word processing.

In-service courses in computer technology were constantly offered to teachers who wanted to learn more. The network person also helped his colleagues with repairs, software programs, and inventory lists. We are presently computerizing the office staff. A scanner was purchased to enable us to get many of our required forms into our computers. This will improve our office efficiency.

Kindergarten: The kindergarten program continues to serve the youngsters of Nutley very well. The Letter People activities prepare them for first grade. These pupils adjust easier and are more successful with our reading and spelling programs.

For the second time at Washington School, there was a Kindergarten Recognition Program. This was a program requested by the parents. The kindergarten teachers along with a parent committee put together a program that was successful and very enjoyable.

Special Subjects: The Art Curriculum is still excellent and serves the pupils of all grades. The artwork is outstanding with many youngsters entering a number of poster contests, and many winners are realized. This year we had two, first place State winners. Their work is going on to the National competition. They also learned much about graphic art on the computer. Our talented students created many of our art decorations, for special events. For the second time this year, we had an art show, displaying the artwork of the children from Washington School.

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Our library is fast becoming the hub for our computer technology instruction. This year our librarian performed instructional duties during the library communications period. Students and faculty are presently using four desktop computers. One computer is "on-line" with the Internet and is primarily being used by the librarian and staff to acquire educational materials. As stated previously, a "floating lab" of twelve lap top computers was in place. Our librarian utilized them with our fourth, fifth, and sixth grades primarily for Internet use. A monitor will also be installed in the library. This monitor will be connected to a computer for instructional purposes to students, faculty, and office staff.

The librarian also assisted the classroom teachers, kindergarten through fourth grade, in providing challenging materials for gifted youngsters in these grade levels. The pupils spent time after school in the library doing more difficult tasks.

The physical education course of study continues to be very good. The children do well in keeping their bodies fit for various athletic activities.

The music curriculum continues to develop skills in reading music, singing and playing various instruments. The students also acquired an appreciation for classical music and learn much about the composers who created it. However, we lost our music room this year and instruction had to take place in the auditorium. We have great need for additional classrooms and hopefully this problem will be resolved and we will eventually have a music room again.

### ACHIEVEMENTS

The children of Washington School maintained their good scores on the ITBS and the Nutley Achievement Tests. They met all challenges in every subject and often excelled in specific areas. Wherever indicated, individual needs were given special attention.

The support of all supplemental teachers was very important too. Due to their efforts, progress was evident in those children who needed extra support and attention.

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Some members of the faculty continued to pursue their own academic endeavors. They attended graduate school to attain degrees beyond their current status. Others took in-service workshops to further their knowledge in computers, science, and mathematics, with the use of the calculator.

The youngsters continued to enter various poster and essay contests. We had several State winners and it was wonderful that so many were willing to participate in the competitions.

### SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

There were three P.T.O. meetings held throughout the year. They were Open House, the April Musicale, and the May Musicale Program. The attendance of parents at all of these affairs was outstanding.

The P.T.O. sponsored a Book Fair in November. The profits received went toward the purchase of a planner book for each child in grades three through six, plus a box of crayons for each youngster in kindergarten through third grade. In addition to every classroom receiving books due to the credit from the Book Company, they also received new software programs for math, reading, science and social studies.

This year the teachers and the P.T.O offered five parenting programs. Teachers of grades one, three, four, five, and basic skills spoke on how parents could help their children with homework. Study skills, reading, mathematics and compositional writing were emphasized. The fourth grade parents were also given information on the details of the ESPA Testing Program that was mandated by the State. The parents were very pleased with these presentations and recommended that they be continued in future school years.

The Mothers' Club continues to be the fundraiser of Washington School. Through their efforts, the children and teachers get special educational materials, shows, and events. For the 1999/2000 school year the Mothers' Club has agreed to provide us with fifteen Alpha Smart word processors and increase computer technology at Washington School.

Parents and grandparents visited the school during American Education Week. They

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participated in various topics or projects.

We also had the "Read Across America Program." Several outside groups, including students from the High School and Franklin School joined in by reading to the children in our classes.

The Elks Club and D.A.R.E. Program continued to make the youngsters aware of substance abuse. The booklets and oral presentations reinforced that tobacco, alcohol, and drugs are dangerous. We utilized our new Crisis Prevention Counselor, Miss Lisa Santosuosso Markman, who provided a three-session program to our fifth grades, on the evils of tobacco. The program was very successful.

Project "Renaissance" was also in effect this year. Old textbooks, workbooks, etc. were collected and sent to Third World Countries.

"Denim Day" was incorporated into our school. This was a charity fund raising event that proved to be very successful. Funds were collected for four charities this year. We plan to continue this activity next year.

Washington School housed the Nutley Science Awards Program, sponsored by the Academic Booster Club. Many Washington School students placed in the contest. The committee found our school to be an excellent venue for this affair and asked if we would house it next year.

Our Student Council implemented a flower planting ceremony honoring Earth Day. They were able to develop and maintain a beautiful flower garden on the West Side of the building. This also helped develop the children's pride in our school.

Washington School Art Show. Sponsored by the P.T.O./Mothers' Club and Art faculty. This show displayed the artwork of all our students. Several displays were very professional looking.

To celebrate the new millennium, a time capsule was buried at Washington School. Children, parents, and faculty put together a ceremony that was very exciting and enjoyable to all. The time capsule is buried on the north side of the building and will be opened in twenty-



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five years.

### ASSEMBLIES

Fire Prevention  
 Multi-Cultural Program  
 Ozzie Alive – Tracing Your Roots  
 Meet the New York Football Giants- Drug Awareness  
 Mr. Wizard Science Program  
 Safety Program  
 Christmas Musicale  
 Black History Program  
 Women in History Program  
 Read Across American  
 Nutrition Program - Third Grade  
 A Career Assembly – Meet the Illustrator of “Goose Bumps”  
 Primary Musicale  
 Intermediate Musicale  
 Nutley Library Presentation - Sixth Grade  
 Push Cart Players – Christopher Columbus  
 Accepting Handicap People - Third Grade  
 Nutley Distinction Awards Assembly  
 Kindergarten Recognition Program  
 Awards Assembly  
 Sixth Grade Promotion

### FIELD TRIPS

October 22, 1998	First Grades	Turtle Back Zoo
November 23, 1998	Fifth Grades	Meadowlands Complex
November 30, 1998	Sixth Grades	Meadowlands Complex
March 30, 1999	Third Grades	Nutley Public Library
May 4, 1999	Third Grades	Kingsland Manor
May 10, 1999	First & Second	Theatreworks Montclair

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May 20, 1999	Fourth Grade	Waterloo Village
May 24, 1999	Sixth Grades	Trenton State House
May 28, 1999	Fifth Grades	Franklin Mines
June 3, 1999	Fifth & Sixth	Junior Olympics
June 9, 1999	Third Grades	Meet the Mayor
June 10, 1999	Fifth Grades	Liberty Science Center

### GOALS ACHIEVED

Maintained Nutley's standards and students achieved high scores on standardized and local test.

The school environment continued to be a happy one with all learning to the best of their ability.

Self-esteem booklets were used and it was apparent that the youngsters were happy and feeling successful.

Tolerance was emphasized and results were very evident.

80% of all third, fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students scored a 2 or better on a test for open-ended math questions. The test consisted of five questions and the children were able to meet this school level objective for 1998-99.

The first and second grade students were given two-minute speeches related to a given prompt. They were graded using a State developed rubric. The purpose of this task was to help prepare students for the fourth grade-speaking component on the ESPA Test.

80% of students taking the test passed with a two or better. This was another school objective for the 1998/99 school year.

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### GOALS FOR 1999/2000

Increase the amount of lap top computers and promote use of the Internet into various disciplines of the curriculum. A school requirement for third, fourth, fifth and sixth grade students will be to complete a research paper utilizing the Internet.

Increase computer technology in the office administrative duties by training office personal. This will be done to make this department more modern and efficient.

Implement a "once-a-week payment" for our lunch program. Again this will provide time for the office aides to perform other duties and make our school more efficient.

Purchase Alpha Smart word processors to increase technology in the primary grades.

Increase use of computer software to help improve math and reading scores.

Expand the library by removing the west wall and utilizing the storage area for student use.

Develop the old wood shop into usable classroom space to help provide much-needed classrooms.

Maintain Nutley's standards and encourage high achievement in all subject areas.

Promote tolerance and self-esteem.

Continue to implement Affirmative Action goals.

Continue to administer all Nutley Achievement Tests and assess results.

It was a pleasure working with my colleague, Dr. Serafino, in her new position as superintendent. She was very supportive and provided the leadership to help improve Washington School.

Dr. Kathleen Serafino

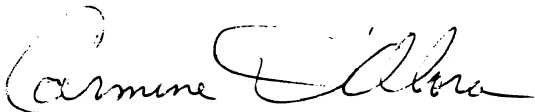
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My second year as Principal of Washington School continued to be a very enjoyable, exciting, and gratifying experience. The cooperation from the children, parents, faculty, staff and fellow administrators are the reason for my enjoyment.

I thank the Board of Education members for giving me their vote of confidence and providing me with this wonderful career opportunity. I eagerly look forward to next year and hope my leadership duties will continue to keep Washington School as great as ever.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carmine D'Aloia".

Carmine D'Aloia

**YANTACAW SCHOOL**

# NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

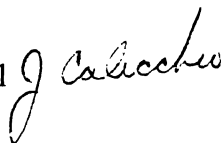
YANTACAW SCHOOL  
20 YANTACAW PLACE  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

JOHN CALICCHIO  
Principal

Tel: 973-661-8892

**TO:** Dr. Kathleen Serafino, Superintendent of Schools

**FROM:** Mr. John Calicchio, Principal of Yantacaw School



**DATE:** June 25, 1999

**RE:** Principal's Annual Report - 1998-1999 School Year

This annual report represents a composite of the following: District and school priorities; monitoring and encouraging staff, curriculum development and implementation; staff development, and various school activities.

## Continuing Priorities Review

The Physical Education, Family Life, World Language, Social Studies curriculums were reviewed and updated so as to align with the New Jersey Core Content Standards. The Scope and Sequence Charts were updated to reflect the alignment to the Core Content Standards. The scope and sequence charts will be reviewed for appropriateness in June 2000. Also, the Nutley Achievement Tests in Reading, Mathematics, and Writing were reviewed and updated. The updated tests were administered in May of this school year. The kindergarten committee visited school districts with full day programs in the area. All the committees made a presentation and recommendations to the Board of Education during the May and June meetings.

The school districts technology implementation efforts were continually communicated to the Yantacaw staff by Mrs. Ferraro, our Computer Network Coordinator. Mrs. Ferraro continues to monitor and upgrade our software, CD Roms, and other various items.

Several instructors from Yantacaw School attended the Instructional Theory into Practice (ITIP) and Critical Thinking In-service Programs. Dr. Mutch is to be commended for its content, presentation, and direction.

Several instructors from Yantacaw School attended the Computer Orientation Program for all teachers new to the district. Mrs. Clerico is to be commended for its content, presentation, and direction.

Several Computer In-service Workshops were offered this past year at Yantacaw School. Mrs. Ferraro coordinated and implemented many various strategies to give the participants a positive feeling for the use of the computer in the classroom. The use of various software, a scanner, and the digital camera was demonstrated. Twenty district staff members attended the five day program. Mrs. Ferraro conducted a seminar on how to use the Alpha Smart keyboard. The workshop was offered during lunch time and was well attended.

Mrs. Clerico offered a Computer In-service Workshop for the entire K-6 instructional staff. The grade level staff attended a half day session. Integration of the computer into all curriculum areas, available software, and the use of the Internet was discussed.

Various staff members attended the Special Education In-service, Drug Awareness, and Science Workshops. These workshops provided valuable information that could be incorporated into the classroom setting. The staff that attended the workshop shared that information at faculty meetings throughout the school year.

#### **School Level Objectives - 1998-1999 School Year**

Our school objectives were implemented, monitored, and were successfully completed during the 1998-1999 school year.

The following details Yantacaw School's progress in meeting the school level objectives for the 1998-1999 school year.

By June 1999 students in first and second grade (1-2) will demonstrate proficiency in speaking through preparing a speech based on a given prompt. Students will be given preparation time and materials to develop visual aids for the speaking activity. A minimum of 85% of the students in grades 1-2 will demonstrate proficiency by scoring a two or better on the state developed rubric for scoring the speaking component of the fourth grade ESPA test.

By June 1999 students in grades three through six (3-6) will demonstrate proficiency in solving open ended questions in mathematical problem solving where a situation is presented and students are asked to communicate a response. The questions will have two or more parts and require both numerical responses and explanations or mathematical arguments, which help reveal through processes employed by the students. Responses will be holistically scored using the New Jersey ESPA mathematic rubric (3-0). A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of a two or better on a grade-level assessment, consisting of five open-ended questions assessing proficiency in mathematical problem solving. The open-ended questions were completed during the week of June 7, 1999.

## **Results**

During the 1998-1999 school year, monthly grade level meetings were held with grade 1-6 instructors. Teachers analyzed skill areas and class activities closely for related skill development. Skills needed for correctly completing open-ended math questions were introduced in grades 3-6. Practice questions were utilized to check for recall of knowledge. Open-ended math questions were developed during Articulation Day and at Saturday Curriculum Sessions.

In grades 1-2, public speaking was introduced through a variety of activities throughout the year. Speaking prompts were developed and the speaking activity was administered during the first part of June. One hundred percent of the second grade students scored above a score of two or better and one hundred percent of the students in grade one scored a two or better in the speaking component of the school level objective.

In the mathematics open-ended questions, grade three, 91% of the students scored a two or better. In grade four 99% of the students scored a two or better. In the mathematics open-ended questions, grade five, 95% of the students scored a two or better. In the mathematics open-ended questions, grade six, 100% of the students scored a two or better.

### **School Level Objectives - 1999-2000 School Year**

The school based planning team made up of parents, staff, and administration met during March, April, and May to develop the school level objectives for the 1999-2000 school year. The school level objectives were submitted for approval. The following details the school level objectives for the 1999-2000 school year.

By June 2000, the students in grades one and two will demonstrate proficiency in solving open-ended questions in mathematical problem solving where a situation is presented and students are asked to communicate a response. The questions will have two or more parts, and require both numerical responses and explanations or mathematical arguments which help to reveal thought processes employed by the students.

Possible responses may include the following:

- Demonstration of a procedure
- Written explanation
- Diagram to fit specific condition or enhance an explanation
- Description or extension of a pattern

Response will be holistically scored using the New Jersey ESPA Mathematic Generic Rubric (3-0). A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of a two or better on a grade level, consisting of five open-ended questions assessing proficiency in mathematical problem solving, to be administered prior to June 1, 2000.



By June 1, 2000 students in grades three to six (3-6) will be given a problem based research project in the area of social studies utilizing computer technology as well as other computer related resources. Eighty percent (80%) of the students at each grade level (3-6) will score a grade of a 'C' or better. The final written project will be evaluated by the classroom teacher.

The Yantacaw staff consisted of twenty-one classroom teachers, four special teachers, one instrumental instructor, one nurse, one learning consultant, one school psychologist, one speech instructor, one ESL instructor, four aides, one and one half special education instructors, two basic skills instructors, one permanent substitute, two and one half custodians, and one secretary. We also have a Guidance Counselor who is with us each Friday. There are currently 468 students enrolled at Yantacaw School. The staff continues to actively participate in Saturday Curriculum Workshops, In-service classes, Holistic Scoring for the Nutley Writing Achievement test, and the staff continues to improve instruction by taking various graduate level courses.

### **Principal Priorities for the 1998-1999 School Year**

The results of the Nutley Achievement Test (1-6), IOWA Test (K-6), and Geography Test were carefully reviewed. The progress of the students in Basic Skills and Special Education were closely monitored. The youngsters continue to show academic progress in all subject areas. The use of a grade distribution chart in the reading, math, science, and social studies areas was implemented this school year. The use of this chart enabled administration and staff to monitor academic progress in the four curriculum areas. Also, test scores continue to improve in all areas. The fourth grade Elementary School Proficiency Assessment was given this year. Feedback from staff and students continues to be closely monitored. Test scores for all of the above are continually reviewed.

The building principal attended and participated in the various Saturday Curriculum Sessions, and chaired the Physical Education and Family Life Curriculum Revision Committee. This information was shared at various parent and faculty meetings. The principal attended all PTO executive board meetings.

The building principal also attended the CAT program, Patches meetings, Superintendent's Advisory Committee, and provided input to the various committees with concerns from the staff. This information was shared with the faculty. During Articulation Day, the principal served as the facilitator for the first and second grade meetings. Core agenda items and other concerns were addressed. During the first half of the meeting, second and third grade instructors shared concerns among grade level personal. During the second portion of the meeting, staff articulated with the first grade instructors. During the first half of the meeting the first grade instructors shared concerns with kindergarten staff. During the second half of the meeting concerns were shared with second grade staff. Suggestions and concerns were well received. Recaps were reviewed and forwarded to Mr. Walker.

### **Principal's Priorities for the 1999-2000 School Year**

- Implement the updated K-12 Physical Education, Family Life, World Language, and Social Studies Curriculums
- Continue to implement the K-8 Health, Language Arts, and Reading Curriculums
- Implement the updated K-8 Math, Science, Art, and Music Curriculums
- Continue to underscore ITIP/Critical Thinking Methodology for the Yantacaw staff
- Review Core Content Standards with all teaching staff
- Continue to underscore the importance of the preparation of students in grades 1-4 for ESPA and GEPA to all staff members
- Continue to oversee all school level objectives development, implementation, and completion
- Continue to oversee the implementation of the Parent Handbook and the Self-esteem Handbook
- Continue to encourage staff to implement the use of the computer to enhance classroom lessons
- Implement the use of the Internet as a valuable instructional aid in all classrooms
- Implement the use of the computer lab to enhance the curriculum and implement various means of research and telecommunication
- Continue to encourage staff to participate in the various in-service programs
- Continue to encourage staff to be a part of various Saturday Curriculum Revision Committees
- Continue to encourage staff to keep abreast of the profession through graduate courses, workshops, communications with staff, administration, and first hand experiences
- Continue to encourage staff to be the advisor to the various clubs and intramurals at Yantacaw School
- Continue to encourage the students to actively participate in the variety of clubs offered at Yantacaw School

### **Principal's Advisory Committee**

Teacher Representative - Mrs. Freedman

Parent Advisor - Mrs. Sandra Carella

Building principal and students from grades five and six

This committee, for the 1998-1999 school year, met on alternate Tuesdays during lunch hour. The focus of this committee was to become involved in addressing school issues, reviewing various existing activities and programs, concerns of the student body by discussing the progress of our educational goals, participate in decision-making, sharing positive experiences, and to review new programs and activities designed for the student body. This year the Principal's Advisory Committee sponsored a lollipop sale for Valentine's Day and a Beach Party Dance. Both activities were planned by the members of the committee. These activities were well planned and well received.

**Other Curriculum Related Items - Staff Development**

Mrs. Ferraro, along with other network staff members, conducted computer in-service programs for the district instructional and secretarial staff. Many Yantacaw teachers attended these programs that familiarized the staff with the computer, the use of the Internet, and various grade level appropriate software.

Miss Hirsch conducted several in-service programs. The fall in-service workshop focused on drug awareness. Mrs. Markman, the SAC Coordinator, addressed a variety of issues that relate to drug education. In the spring Miss Hirsch conducted an in-service program which focused in the area of inclusion, 504 modifications, and various topics dealing with Special Education.

Mrs. Danchak, Coordinator of Science, presented a Science In-service EOSHI Workshop entitled: Ecology and Recycling. The K-1-2 staff participated in the program and found many strategies discussed to be useful in the classroom. Textbooks, science kits, and hands-on activities related to elementary school were explored.

New staff members attended the mandated Madeline Hunter's Instructional Theory into Practice and Computer Awareness Saturday programs.

Monthly faculty meetings continually highlight curriculum committee reports, school level objectives, Core Content Standards, Gifted and Talented (PAT), Special Education/504 accommodations, Basic Skills, special areas, affirmative action, homework, progress reports, technology update, Superintendent's Advisory Committee, safety and liability concerns, maintenance/classroom management concerns, field trip procedures, and various items that need to be addressed.

All staff members continue reinforcing and refining the elements of a good lesson. Part of all our faculty meetings included various strategies that reinforce the elements of a good lesson and encourage staff to include Madeline Hunter's Instructional Theory into Practice into all lessons.

Several teachers from Yantacaw School participated in the Standardized Test Review Committee. The Iowa and Terranova Tests were reviewed. The committee suggested that the Terranova better aligns with the school district curriculum. The committee recommended switching to the Terranova for the 1999-2000 school year.

Many staff members participated in the various Saturday Curriculum sessions, in-service programs offered by the Board of Education, as well as many programs offered outside the school district.

## **Health and Safety Programs**

- Mrs. Maguire, our school nurse, conducted scoliosis screening to the students in grades 5-6
- Mrs. Maguire performed eye exams, checked height and weight, and updated all student medical information as needed
- Mrs. Maguire conducted vision screening for grades one and five
- The Lions Club conducted vision screening in grade three as a service to Yantacaw School and the Nutley School District
- Dr. Barry Prystowsky and Dr. Ramer conducted various physical and dental exams for Mrs. Markman visited various classes to discuss the role of the Substance Awareness Councilor
- Mrs. Markman conducted a program for fifth graders entitled, "Tobac Attack." The program was well received by the students
- In May, the sixth grade students attended a district-wide Drug Awareness Program sponsored by the Nutley Elks
- The annual fire prevention drill and demonstration took place during Fire Prevention Week
- Hearing screening tests were administered to all students at Yantacaw School
- Officer Ferrara visited classes K-4 discussing topics related to social safety, drugs, and the role of the police in the community discussing topics related to social safety, drugs, and the role of the police in the community The Dare Picnic was held in mid June. All sixth graders, district-wide, participated in the activities at the picnic. The program was enjoyed by all in attendance.
- Mrs. Joyce Wood visited all classes at Yantacaw School to discuss the role of the elementary guidance councilor
- Mrs. Wood conducted a program for grades three, four, and five entitled, "Conflict Resolution"
- Mrs. Wood initiated the "Gem Program". The program rewarded acts of kindness that were displayed by the student body. Gems were posted on the bulletin board outside the auditorium. The recipients received certificates and a gift certificate to a local pizzeria.

## **SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

### **Intramural Program**

This successful program continued under the district supervision of Mr. Walker. Miss Rossi, Mr. Grant, and Miss Vonroth assumed responsibility for serving as faculty advisors to the fifth and sixth grade after school program.

**Grandparent's Day/Special Person Day**

During National Education Week grandparents and special persons were encouraged to attend a brief meeting with the principal. At the meeting the district and school goals and objectives were addressed. The guests were encouraged to visit classes during the morning hours. The staff prepared many interesting activities for the visitors.

**Technology Night**

Mrs. Clerico, the Director of Technology, along with the PTO of Spring Garden School, sponsored a district-wide Computer Technology Night. The instructor discussed the use of the computer in the classroom, available software, access to the Internet, the District Users Policy, and other technology related items. Next year the program will be expanded.

**Mayors Advisory Committee**

Several times during the school year, this committee, made up of five sixth grade students from each of the five elementary schools, meet with the mayor. The purpose of the committee is to discuss items and future activities that could enhance our Recreation Department and our town. This group of youngsters provided valuable insight on a large variety of topics. This program will continue to expand in future years.

**Academically Speaking Team**

This group of fourth, fifth, and sixth grade youngsters competed in a county wide competition. The students, under the leadership of Mrs. Olivo, represented Yantacaw School in a very fine fashion. We are hopeful to once again compete in this Academic Jeopardy competition next year.

**Guest Speakers**

During the course of the 1998-1999 school year a variety of guest speakers visited our school. Many of them having expertise in a wide variety of areas. The youngsters and staff benefited and enjoyed these interesting presentations.

**Parents New to Yantacaw**

This annual meeting was held with all new families early in September in the library. A group discussion, question and answer period, and a tour of the building were the order of the evening.

**Annual Halloween Parade**

This annual parade started on Yantacaw Place and ended on the campus. The whole student body and parents alike were invited to participate in this annual event.

**Poster/Essay Contests**

This year the students in grades 1-6 participated in many poster/essay contests throughout the school year. The fact that many youngsters participated demonstrates their enthusiasm for learning. The Yantacaw staff and parents continually reinforce the importance of participation in these extra activities.

**Debate Team**

This year the students in grade six participated in a district wide debate competition. Several students were selected from the district competition to represent Nutley at the Essex County Debate Competition. Once again, the youngsters achieved well.

**Megan's Law Presentation**

Maureen Kanka, mother of Megan Kanka, gave a presentation to approximately 150 parents in January. The program highlighted various methods to protect our children from being abducted. All parents at the presentation were given an opportunity to ask questions. Megan's Law and its tier classifications were discussed.

**Lunch with the Principal**

The principal had an opportunity to have lunch with the student body during the school year. A weekly schedule was set up and the youngsters were given an opportunity to express concerns of the student body and school issues. This program gave the principal the opportunity to meet with the youngsters to share ideas that will help to make Yantacaw a better school.

**Third-Half Basketball Tournament**

The basketball team was selected after several weeks of try-outs. The team was made up of fifth and sixth graders that competed during the later part of March. The Yantacaw team represented the school in a fine manner.

**Nutley Sun School Page**

Many Yantacaw School activities were highlighted throughout the school year. The staff contributed many activity write-ups along with pictures that helped to keep the community informed of activities at our school.

### **Holiday Sing-Along**

Mr. Laubach, Mrs. Adubato, and Miss Margulies put together a "Sing-Along" for the kindergarten and third graders. The youngsters sang many holiday favorites.

### **Musicales**

Mr. Tobias, our instrumental instructor, and Mrs. Carollo, our general music teacher, conducted three musicales in December, April, and May. During the December program grades 4-6 sang a variety of holiday songs. The audience was encouraged to participate. This program created a very festive environment. During the April program grades 1-3 sang a variety of songs that were learned throughout the year. The instrumentalists played many favorite songs. The May concert highlighted the instrumental group playing many songs that were practiced throughout the school year. The fourth graders played several selections on the recorder. Lastly, the evening concluded with the Minnesingers singing a variety of songs. These concerts highlighted the progress of the children in the areas of vocal and instrumental music. These programs continue to be well attended and successful.

### **Affirmative Action**

During the course of the 1998-1999 school year Yantacaw School had many activities honoring Dr. Martin Luther King and Black History Month. During the month of March activities were planned to honor "Women in History" month. Activities during these months were conducted in grades K-6. Some of the activities that were conducted were as follows: Reading books about famous women and black Americans, writing poetry, speeches on famous women and black Americans of choice.

### **Assembly Programs**

Fire Safety Assembly  
 Edd Paterson Magic Show  
 Awards Assembly  
 Virginia Fazzi - "Tolerance"  
 Festival of Percussion  
 Alan Brannigan - Professional Soccer Player  
 Tim Moss - Drugs: Don't Myth the Facts  
 String Players  
 Birds of Prey  
 Patricia Hurt, Essex County Prosecutor

### **Parent Volunteers**

Once again, Yantacaw School had many parent volunteers come in and assist in many areas. The Yantacaw staff continues to welcome them into our building and greatly

appreciate the time and effort they give to our youngsters. In June, these volunteers were honored at a luncheon given by the PTO.

## **YANTACAW CLUBS**

### **Police School Partnership Program - Mrs. Ferraro**

This club consisted of Sgt. Rogers coming to school to discuss police procedures to a group of fifth graders. He often brought films with him, discussed Internet safety, and talked with the students personally about any concerns they might have.

### **Computer Support Club - Mrs. Ferraro**

The club was made up of seven sixth graders. We met once a week during the entire school year. I taught the children how to install software and solve basic troubleshooting problems. We also kept the computers and tables dust free in order to have the computer work properly.

### **Art Club - Ms. Nagle**

The Art Club was very productive this year volunteering their help throughout the school. Because we were so busy, we met approximately twenty times. The following is a list of accomplishments:

- Tricky Tray centerpieces
- Decorations for the Halloween Dance
- Large scale snowmen to hang throughout the halls during winter
- Mural for the stairway
- Individual/personal projects
- Painted flowers in kindergarten classroom
- Decorations for the Beach Ball Dance

### **World Language Club - Mrs. Latka**

During the school year I met with 4th graders each Monday after school. The purpose of the club was to introduce the children to the Italian language. I had two fifth year Italian language students from Nutley High School work with the students. The students taught the 4th graders Italian words and phrases. We talked about the similarities and differences between Italian and American history and cultures. A notebook was kept by each child for at home practice.

### **Debating Club - Mrs. Masullo**

The Yantacaw Debating Club met weekly from February 3 - May 19, 1999. The students used the Internet to gather information to defend or challenge specific resolutions.



Debating strategies were taught and several debates were prepared. The Yantacaw students debated their peers at Radcliffe and Spring Garden Schools. Three of our students will represent Nutley at a county debate at Montclair State University.

### **Principal's Advisory Club - Mrs. Freedman**

Our club met twice a month over the past ten months. The club was very busy coming up with ideas for a dance. The children decided on a beach theme. We sold lollipops to pay for the dance. The lollipops were sold during Valentine's Day and at the Yantacaw Talent Show.

The children are putting This club met twice a month to allow students the opportunity to discuss questions and concerns regarding Yantacaw School. Several important issues have been raised during these sessions. The committee has discussed lunchroom concerns, campus situations, and tolerance within our school.

The committee also conducted fund-raisers for "Campus Beautification" and a club sponsored a "Luau Party" which was attended by 94 students.

### **2-Reilly Literary Club - Mrs. Reilly**

The 2-Reilly Literary Club consisted of twenty-three members of Mrs. Reilly's self-contained class. The students and teacher met monthly during the lunch hour in room 201.

The students ate their lunches and socialized, first, while "brainstorming" the topic for that particular meeting.

Students worked individually or in small groups and created poems, short stories, puzzles, riddles, and illustrations. These centered around seasons, holidays, important people, etc.

The students' creations were shared, read, and discussed. Many creations were sent to the school newspaper: The Tom Tom. The 2-Reilly Literary Club was a valuable activity for both students and teacher.

### **Literature Club - Mrs. Fischer**

The Literature Club met on alternate Mondays during the lunch hour in my homeroom classroom. There were seventeen students from the third grade who were members of the club. The club met sixteen times this year.

A variety of books were read and discussed during the meetings. The genre consisted of fairy tales, poetry, historical fiction, realistic fiction, classics, fables, and biographies. Different authors were studied to demonstrate the many styles of writing in children's

literature. The students viewed videos of authors' lives and their works to get first hand information on the way in which the authors develop ideas and create books.

The children were willing to volunteer their times for this endeavor. They seems to enjoy and gain a great deal from this informal gathering of the Literature Club.

#### **Student Council - Grade 6 - Mrs. Batchelder-Mitchell**

The Yantacaw Student Council is a service organization that is committed to helping others while maintaining the highest citizenship standards for ourselves. Members must participate in activities and demonstrate a positive attitude and proper behavior by maintaining their citizenship checks.

The grade six Yantacaw Student Council participated in numerous service-oriented activities this year:

- collected money for the Children's Wish Foundation
- collected food and organized baskets for Thanksgiving for needy Yantacaw families
- collected shoes for the Clara Maass Medical Center and St. John's Church
- entertained Nutley Senior Citizens for the holidays, brought Santa and took pictures
- held campus clean-ups
- prepared breakfast for the faculty - Staff Appreciation Day
- visited the Intrepid
- attended numerous meetings

#### **Student Council - Grade 5 - Ms. Schoem**

The fifth grade Student Council met ten times during the school year. Numerous projects were conducted throughout the year. Some of the projects included:

- campus clean-up
- Read Across America
- gathered shoes for Clara Maass Abuse Program and St. John's Church
- food drive at Thanksgiving
- entertained Senior Citizens at Christmas time
- staff appreciation breakfast

#### **Drama Club - Mrs. Ruffo, Mrs. Olivo**

During the 1998-1999 school year approximately 10 children met twice a month and participated in the Drama Club.

The club fosters a good self-image for the children and gives them the opportunity to express themselves through creative dramatics. The students create, prepare, rehearse, and perform dramatic skits and puppet shows. We have also included choral reading.

It has been a very successful and rewarding experience for all of the participants.

#### **Brainteaser Club - Grade 6 - Mrs. Olivo**

The Brainteaser Club met every other Tuesday during the school year at lunch time. Approximately 15 sixth graders participated. The first half of the year was spent on the computers playing different mind-challenging games. The second half of the year was spent with a select group who were chose to participate in a county-wide event called Academically Speaking. This group of eight students represented Yantacaw School in a jeopardy-style competition.

Another group of students was chosen to represent our school in a District-Wide Event held in June at the Franklin Middle School. All of the students who came to the club found it to be a rewarding experience and they truly enjoyed the challenge.

This was the third year for the club and I feel that it was quite successful. I look forward to doing this again next year.

#### **Brainteaser Club - Grades 4/5 - Mrs. Olivo**

The Brainteaser Club met every other Tuesday during the school year at lunch time. Approximately thirty fourth and fifth graders participated. The first half of the year was spent on the computers playing different mind challenging games. The second half of the year was spent with a select group who were chose to participate in a county-wide event called Academically Speaking. This group of eight students represented Yantacaw School in a jeopardy style competition.

Another group of students was chose to represent our school District-Wide Event held in June at the Franklin Middle School. All of the students who came to the club found it to be a rewarding experience and they truly enjoyed the challenge.

This was the third year for the club and I feel that it was quite successful. I look forward to doing this again next year.

#### **Library Club - Mrs. Gernitis**

The Library Club met October through January each Wednesday during lunch time. It consisted of approximately fifteen students. The club allows students to gain a better understanding of how the library functions through hands on use. Due to their efforts, a greater wealth of information is gained in areas including: the Dewey Decimal Classification System, the card catalog draw system, arrangement, and the variety of sources of information in our school library. This club fosters a love of books, reading as a life long leisure activity, and assisting the school as a volunteer.

### **Desktop Publishing Club - Mrs. Gernitis**

This club met February through May once a week during lunch time. The club consisted of ten members who were in sixth grade. The students utilized the computers in the library/media center. The focus is on the students' creative and original writing in forms which may include:

- poetry
- verse
- short stories
- children's books

Original writings along with illustrations, graphics, and other visual expressions will be created by students using Claris Works. These school published works will then be displayed, read, and enjoyed by the many students who utilize our school library.

### **Watercolor Painting Club - Mrs. Ruffo, Ms. Schoem**

The Watercolor Painting Club is open to fifth and sixth graders. The club provides lessons for the children and helps them to express themselves through creative painting projects. This club met for ten sessions on Mondays during the lunch hour. The students created paintings, bookmarks, and cards.

### **Italian Language Club - Mrs. Ruffo**

The Italian Language Club met at lunch time throughout the 1998-1999 school year. We explored Italian Fairy Tales and Folk Tales, vocabulary, and everyday expressions, numbers, days of the week, months, children's names, etc. A folder was prepared for each student for future reference and study.

Our meetings were very successful and rewarding for all.

### **Chess Club - Danielle Ferraro**

This club was held for 5th and 6th graders on Wednesdays twice a month for ten months. The children played as well as taught other students strategies and techniques of chess.

### **Human Relations Club Grade 5 - Jill Freedman**

Our club met at lunchtime unless a trip was planned to St. John's.

The Human relations Club is very proud to say that we have been going to a church in Newark to make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for the homeless. The children not only make the sandwiches, but they serve them as well. This activity has proven very

beneficial not only for the homeless but for the children and myself as well. We also had help and company, Mr. Calicchio, Mr. Walker, and Miss Wood.

#### **Craft Club - Ms. Franks**

The club met once a month at lunch time during the school year. The members made crafts that they were able to take home. All the students followed verbal directions and used the teacher-made model as a guide to the finished product. The members left each meeting with a positive feeling about themselves and their finished products. Some crafts were holiday related and others were not. Every student member had a rewarding experience in the club.

#### **Game Club - Ms. Franks**

This club met each month at lunch time. It was open to sixth graders. Children played various board games brought in from home and supplied by the teacher. The children enjoyed competing with each other.

#### **Tom Tom Newspaper - Mrs. Keating, Mrs. McAloon**

This club is the school's literary magazine of our students' writing and accomplishments.

Sponsors meet at least weekly to edit the written work and to have planning sessions. Almost every day we are in contact with individual students, teachers or students artists about assignments.

The club has homeroom representatives and a few special assigned helpers, plus student artists, totaling about 28 students. Publications are three times a year.

#### **Minnesingers Club - Grade 3 - Mrs. Carollo**

This club met during lunch period each Tuesday from October 6th through March 29th. The students performed for the Yantacaw Winter Concert and the April 29th Spring Concert.

#### **Minnesingers Club - Grades 4, 5 and 6 - Mrs. Carollo**

This club met during lunch period every Monday from October 5th through May 3rd. The group performed for the Nutley Tree Lighting Ceremony, The PTO Luncheon, the Yantacaw Winter Concert, and the May 5th Spring Concert.

#### **Yantacaw Safety Patrols - Mrs. Dow**

The Yantacaw Safety Patrols are divided up into three categories: courtesy guides, street, and office. All of the students are required to attend eight meetings held during the course

of the year. Emphasis is placed on the importance of their jobs, to solve problems, and to answer questions that the patrols encounter.

Courtesy Guides assist the younger students in and out of the building. Street patrols assist the crossing guards on the corners to ensure a safe environment for the children while crossing the street. Office patrols assist Mrs. Luzzi at lunch time by distribution flyers and sorting the mail into the proper mailbox. We have a total of 48 patrols this school year.

### **Parent Groups**

The Yantacaw parent groups continue working cooperatively with our staff, students, and the community. Some of their projects are as follows:

### **PTO**

- Plant Sale
- Ice-cream Sunday Day
- Holiday Boutique
- Staff Appreciation Day
- Tricky Tray
- Lunch with the Principal
- Holiday Luncheon
- Movie Special (children were admitted free at the Franklin Theater during winter/spring break)
- Guest speakers
- Pizza Luncheon - Grades 4-6 and staff were treated to pizza, drinks, and dessert after the Olympics
- Book Fair
- Staff Appreciation Day Luncheon (staff, crossing guards, and volunteers)
- Yantacaw T-shirts were provided for patrols, Olympic participants, and all fourth, fifth, and sixth graders
- Yearbook Signing Party - pizza provided for students
- Promotion Party - for all sixth graders
- Refreshments - following promotion exercises for Kindergarten and the sixth grade
- Kindergarten Screening - assisted students
- Various donations to the school - 45 Alpha-smarts, 5 Epson Printers
- Pocket folders and planners for the student body
- Parent Resource Directory
- Provided several educational assemblies
- Gifts to the staff (to spend on their classes)
- Staff Appreciation Day
- Amateur Night/Talent Show

- Co-sponsored Yantacaw Standardized Testing Night
- Innisbrook Fund-raiser - wrapping paper
- Birthday Books - each child received a book on his/her respective birthday
- Book Fair
- Funfest - Sunday family activity
- Pumpkin Patch
- Halloween Party for grades 1-6
- TGIF Party

### **Class Trips**

Grade 1 - Liberty Science Center

Grade 2 - Paper Mill Playhouse

Grade 3 - Liberty Science Center

Grade 4 - Green Meadow Farms

Grade 5 - Museum of Early Trade and Crafts

Grade 6 - West Point

Student Council - Toured the Intrepid and the Circle Line

### **Conclusion**

Congratulations to the Yantacaw teaching and non-teaching staff for all of their help in maintaining high standards and giving all of the youngsters a chance to continue to progress socially and academically. Yantacaw students continue to have outstanding IOWA and Nutley Achievement Test scores. The Academically Speaking Team, consisting of fourth and fifth graders, competed in the Essex County Competition and represented Yantacaw School in the finest fashion. This group also participated in a district-wide Academically Speaking competition. The teams were comprised of team members from each of the elementary schools. Our sixth grade competed in the Conrail 24 Math Challenge this past spring.

A special thanks to the custodial staff, under the direction of our Head Custodian, Mr. Frank Lotito. They continue to do an outstanding job maintaining a clean and safe environment for the youngsters at Yantacaw School. Mr. Don Stasi, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, has been most helpful and cooperative and has greatly aided in keeping our school in excellent condition for our students, parents, staff, and members of the school community. I would also like to thank the Maintenance Crew for their quick response and care given to maintenance requests at our building.

Our PTO was most supportive and always there for students and staff at Yantacaw. The extra touches they bring to the school help to maintain the fine tradition at Yantacaw School.

Miss Barbara Hirsch, Director of Special Services and the Child Study Team, continually assisted the staff, youngsters, parents, and administration. Their efforts to quickly meet

with staff and parents, is to be commended. They continue to support what is in the best interest of all the students at our school.

Our Secretary, Mrs. Luzzi, continues to do an excellent job in coordinating the daily school activities. Her warm and caring manner in dealing with parents, children, and staff is to be commended. Mrs. Luzzi continues to oversee the four aides in order to keep the office running smoothly. Our lunch aides, Mrs. Linfante, Mrs. Zaccheo, Mrs. Krupka, Mrs. Bolcato, and Mrs. Melillo continue to do a fine job supervising the ever growing lunch program. They also assist with other duties in the office and classroom.

Mrs. Scarpa is to be commended for the modified hot lunch program for our youngsters. The items on the lunch menu continue to be monitored so as to better meet the needs of the students. The menu offers a wide variety of food. Also, pizzeria pizza has become a popular item on the monthly menu.

Thanks to the members of the Board of Education for their continued support throughout the year. A special thank you to Mr. Moscaritola, the Yantacaw School Board of Education Representative.

I would like to thank Mr. John Sincaglia, Secretary/Business Administrator, for his continued support and guidance with the many maintenance and enhancement projects at Yantacaw School.

A special thank you to Dr. Serafino, Superintendent, and Mr. Walker, Assistant Superintendent, for their continued support and guidance during the year.

Respectfully,

John Calicchio, Principal

JC:jml



## **ELEMENTARY GUIDANCE**

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## Annual Report 1998-99

### Joyce Wood – Elementary Guidance

#### **1. Elementary Guidance Objectives**

##### **To help children with:**

- Organization skills
- Test taking Strategies
- Interpersonal relationships
- Conflict resolution
- Peer relationships
- Friendship issues
- Separated, divorced, extended families
- Death grief and loss

##### **This help is delivered by:**

- Individual counseling
- Group counselling
- Classroom guidance
- Consultation with teachers, parents, and children
- Liaison for community services

##### **School schedule:**

- Monday – Lincoln
- Tuesday – Radcliffe
- Wednesday – Spring Garden
- Thursday – Washington
- Friday – Yantacaw

#### **2. Goals for 1998-99**

As this was the first year of the program, the key objective was to make myself very visible to Administration, Staff, Parents, and the Children, and to explain my role as the school counselor. This was done by attending all teachers' meetings, issuing newsletters to parents, and by classroom visits to introduce myself and explain my role.

#### **3. Schedule of Work**

I met with an average of six children a day in each building, and spoke to an average of five parents a day. My voice mail system was effectively used for contact with parents. I was available, and called upon, for any crisis that occurred, and made a point of getting to the school with the crisis as soon as possible.

### **Classroom guidance lessons**

I taught lessons to the fifth grade in each school on conflict resolution. This consisted of four thirty-minute topics, teaching the understanding of conflicts and their causes. It also emphasized the importance of dealing with conflicts in a good positive way, instead of using violence. These lessons were then taught in most of our sixth grade classes. They were reinforced at one elementary school by our high school peer leaders through an interactive program lead by Mrs. Markmen, our SAC counselor.

Lessons were also taught in all our third grade classes on bullying and teasing. The lessons reinforced ways to deal with conflicts without violence.

### **The GEM Program**

In all schools a program was started up called the Gem program. This program was set up so that each student who did something kind was recognized by any staff member. Paper Gems were displayed on bulletin boards describing the Random Act of Kindness. I then recognized each child individually. This was a way to reinforce positive behaviors in the classroom, hallways, and at lunchtime. Children who were awarded Gems were given a certificate from the Principals at the end of the school year, and were pictured in the local newspaper. This program was enjoyed by the children and made it possible for them to meet with me in a very positive happy situation.

### **Professional Development**

- a) NJ Counseling Association Fall Conference, October 26, 1998  
This had various workshops to attend. I attended a seminar dealing with elementary guidance and one which explained confidentiality when dealing with counseling and guidance.
- b) Death, Grief and Loss Workshop, October 28, 1998
- c) Saturday curriculum sessions for School to Career incentive, September - December 1998
- d) NJ Counseling Spring Conference, March 16, 1999  
School to Career Incentive workshop and Brief Counseling at the Elementary Level.
- e) Consortium on School to Career Transition, May 4, 1999

### **Professional Organizations joined**

N.J. Counselor Association  
Essex County Counselor Association

### **Program development**

In order to develop a successful elementary guidance program, I will continue to visit other programs. I have shared information with Belleville, Bloomfield, and Montclair public schools.

I will continue to keep in close communication with Principals and the Director of Special Services to find out the needs of each building. I will continue to be visible and approachable by staff and children in each school, and will continue to develop parent communication.

The program has been very well received by the teachers in all the schools, and their continued involvement and support will be encouraged.

**Recommendations for increasing Proactivity**

More elementary counselors

Peer leaders at the elementary level as we have in the Middle and High school

Classroom guidance lessons for all classes teaching individual differences and tolerance

More parent contact through our new hook up to the internet and e-mail system

Parenting workshops set up with help from all district counselors

## **SPECIAL SERVICES**

June 30, 1999

TO: Dr. Kathleen Serafino

RE: Special Services Annual Report - 1998-99

FROM: Barbara Hirsch, Director of Special Services *A*

<u>NEW REFERRALS</u>	<u>1997-98</u>	<u>1998-99</u>
Nutley High School	8	5
Franklin	10	10
Yantacaw	4	6
Lincoln	12	15
Radcliffe	6	6
Spring Garden	9	9
Washington	10	10
Preschool Handicapped	10	8
Early Kindergarten Admissions	11	24
Referral Backlog	0	0
Referrals Pending	9	11
New Referrals plus 3 year eval	183	200

NEW CLASSIFICATIONS

Auditorily Handicapped (Deaf)	0	1
Autistic	0	0
Cognitively Impaired	0	1
Communication Impaired	0	0
Emotionally Disturbed	5	3
Multiply Disabled	0	0
Orthopedically Impaired	0	0
Other Health Impaired	1	2
Preschool Disabled	8	8
Social Maladjustment	0	0
Specific Learning Disability(NI/PI)	27	36
Traumatic Brain Injury	0	1
Visually Impaired	0	0

TOTAL	41	52
Students Graduated	42	42
Students Dropped Out	1	0
Students Declassified	1	1
504 Students	52	59

	<u>Classes 1998-99</u>		<u>TOTALS</u> <u>1998-99</u>	<u>PROJECTED</u> <u>1999-2000</u>
Nutley High School	3	SLD Classes	(55)	70
	2	Inclusion	( 9)	20
	1	Resource Center	(18)	20
		Mainstreamed	(52)	55
Franklin School	4	SLD Classes	(43)	45
	2	Resource Center	(16)	20
	2	Inclusion	(13)	15*
		Mainstreamed	( 7)	10
Lincoln School	2	Resource Center	(39)	42
	3	Preschool	(25)	25
	1	Cog. Imp. Mild	( 8)	5
	1	SLD Class	(12)	36*
Spring Garden	1	Resource Center	(21)	32****
	2	SLD Classes	(24)	13***
Radcliffe School	1	Resource Center	(35)	30****
Yantacaw School	1.5	Resource Center	(31)	38*****
Washington School	1.5	Resource Center	(25)	25**
Home Instruction			(73)	65

PROJECTIONS

Day Placements	(56)	55
Residentials	(23)	2
Received from other districts	(20)	20
Eligible for Speech/Lang.Serv.(Public)	(70)	75
Non-public Classified	(53)	55
Vocational (full-time)	( 0)	0
(part-time)	(13)	15

\* 3 sections  
 \*\* 1 section with aide  
 \*\*\* 1 section  
 \*\*\*\* 1.5 section  
 \*\*\*\*\* 2 sections

**The following Special Services Priorities and issues were addressed in a positive manner during the 1998-99 school year:**

1. Year four monitoring was completed.
2. Non-public monitoring was completed.
3. The department was selected as a model for transition by the State Department of Education.
4. Training relative to the New Administrative Code (Title 6A Chapter 14) was provided for Administrators, Teachers and Parents.
5. A preschool disabled program addressing the needs of the PDD child was successfully established.
6. The primary academically talented initiative was expanded to encompass debate as well as the elementary academic competition.
7. Cooperative teaching was successfully implemented at Nutley High School in World Languages, Science and English.
8. The IEP has been revised to reflect code changes.
9. Transition plans have been developed for students at ages 14 and 16.
10. Additional technological devices were introduced to address specific student needs.
11. Non-resident students attended programs during the regular school year as well as the summer program to supplement budget.
12. In-service opportunities were offered to inclusion teachers and classroom instructional aides.
13. A general inclusive in-service and substance awareness in-service were provided to the staff.
14. The role of the student assistance counselor has continued to evolve as has the Peer Leadership Initiative.
15. Regular education staff received information on an on-going basis relative to "504" and I.D.E.A.
16. A parent handbook relative to medical procedures and process was developed and disseminated.
17. A Hepatitis B inoculation program was developed for High School Students in concert with Mountainside Hospital.



18. Policies referring to special education and the administration of epinephrine were reviewed and revised.
19. Recreational activities for the disabled were expanded.
20. Coordination of the development of an emergency response plan was initiated.
21. A quarterly newsletter was disseminated to all parents.

**Special Services Priorities 1999-2000**

1. To implement all aspects of the transition initiative.
2. To implement a class for cognitively impaired students with a specific behavioral modification component.
3. To expand in-service training for inclusion teachers, classroom instructional aides and general school aides.
4. To continue to address code changes in a timely manner.
5. To encourage greater student participation in the IEP process.
6. To develop programs with the student assistance counselor and the elementary guidance counselor to address student interaction in a positive manner.
7. To implement the Wilson Reading Program in all resource centers. (To provide appropriate teacher training relative to the objective).
8. To continue to provide opportunities to develop academic talent at the elementary level.
9. To provide appropriate accommodations and alternative assessment plans for disabled students relative to the state assessment program.
10. To develop new forms for the proper implementation of Chapter 14.
11. To address the issue of homebound instruction through the development and distribution of guidelines to staff which reflect the mandates of Chapter 14.
12. To computerize the 504 Accommodation Plan.
13. To provide training for staff and parents relative to new medication regulations (particularly the administration of epinephrine).
14. To initiate activities to engage parents in the educational process.
15. To continue to recruit out of district students to defray costs.
16. To expand related services in a cost effective manner.

17. To address child study team services particularly in the area of speech correction and social services.
18. To seek grants for expansion of services.
19. To explore CPR training for appropriate staff.
20. To expand the Hepatitis B inoculation program, in concert with Mountainside Hospital, to the Middle School.