

**ANNUAL REPORT  
TO THE  
NUTLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY  
SCHOOL YEAR - 2003/2004**

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TO THE  
NUTLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY  
SCHOOL YEAR -2003/2004

## **NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Mrs. Maria Alamo, President  
Mr. Alan Genitempo, Vice-President  
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Mr. Gerard Del Tufo  
Mr. Sal Olivo  
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Mr. James Viola

### **TERM EXPIRES**

2006  
2004  
2005  
2007  
2005  
2005  
2004  
2006  
2006

### **ADMINISTRATORS**

Dr. Kathleen C. Serafino  
Dr. James S. Vivinetto  
Mr. James Mallen  
Mr. Joseph Zarra  
Mr. John Calicchio  
Mrs. Cynthia Anne Healy  
Mrs. Mariana Francioso  
Mrs. Rosemary Clerico  
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Miss Barbara Hirsch

Superintendent of Schools  
Assistant Superintendent of Schools  
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Nutley High School  
Franklin Middle School  
Lincoln School  
Radcliffe School  
Spring Garden School  
Washington School  
Yantacaw School  
Director of Special Services

# **NUTLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

## **Nutley, New Jersey**

August 30, 2004

Members of the Board of Education:

The 2003/2004 school year was a wonderful year for our students, staff, and Board of Education.

Our students realized an exceptional year in special awards:

- Johns Hopkins University Talent Search
- Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars
- National Merit Commended Students
- 2004 AP Scholars
- State Award – Invitation to CTY Awards Ceremony
- Mathcounts Competition
- 2004 Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship
- Award of Excellence for Exemplary Display of Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity
- 13<sup>th</sup> Annual J.P. Morgan Chase Lincoln Douglas Debate

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

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

### **Athletic Awards:**

- 2003-04 Girls Tennis Team – NNJIL Champions
- 2003-04 Girls Bowling Team – NNJIL Champions A Division
- 2003-04 Wrestling Team – NNJIL Champion A Division
- 2004 Baseball Team – Group III Section I Sectional Champions  
GNT Champions  
NNJIL Division A Champions



### **Music Awards**

- 2004 NJ All State Chorus – Diane Aragona  
Daniel Rohe

### **Music Department Group Performances**

- Cavalcade of Bands Championships, Williamsburg VA  
Orchestra, Jazz Lab Combo and Concert Band received  
a first place trophy  
Winter Guard placed third  
Raider Marching Band placed second
- In June, the Madrigals performed in London England  
for ten days
- FMS and NHS Concert Choir and NHS Choralettes  
performed at Carnegie Hall

Additional positive information pertaining to students proceeding to higher education and the scholarships they received, continues to be revealing and is reflected in the following pages. Please note that 90.8 percent of students will be going on to higher education and that they have been offered a total of \$3,570,689 in scholarship awards. Our graduates continue to attend a diverse array of quality academic institutions throughout the nation.

Curriculum development occurred in the following areas:

- K-3 Language Arts Literacy – Guided Reading
- 1-6 Alternate Instructional Strategies in Math
- 7-12 Business Education Curriculum
- K-12 Family Life/Chemical Health Curriculum
- Social Studies Curriculum – NJ Studies/World Cultures
- Core Curriculum Content Standards
- Facilities Plan – Franklin Middle School
- District Technology Plan
- New District Handbook, New Policies/Procedures
- K-12 World Language Curriculum
- AP Statistics
- IT Essentials
- Advanced Culinary Arts
- Cast IV Production

The following initiatives continue to be implemented:

- No Child Left Behind (NCLB)
- Gifted and Talented K-3
- Montclair State University – The New Jersey Network for Educational Renewal
- Seton Hall – Project Acceleration
- Cisco Networking Academy Program-Levels 1 & 11
- C.A.S.T. - Communications Arts & Science Training-Levels 1, 11 & 111
- World Languages (Elementary Schools/Seventh Grade)
- Character Education
- Music Programs – Madrigals/Jazz Ensemble
- Five Year Facilities Plan/Bond Referendum
- NJ State Mentoring Program
- AP Macro Economics
- Archaeology of Ancient World
- AP Environmental Science
- Transition Program/Clara Maass
- Staff Professional Development
- Revised Emergency Management Plan
- Summer Enrichment Program
- Alcohol

As we begin the 2004/2005 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.

## **REPORT ON COLLEGE ADMISSIONS**

### **CLASS OF 2004**

ENROLLMENT.....	316
TOTAL APPLICANTS PURSUING HIGHER EDUCATION.....	287
% OF CLASS OF 2004 GOING ON TO POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION....	90.8%
Four-Year College/University.....	214 (67.7%)
Two-Year College.....	48 (15.2%)
Other Post-Secondary School.....	25 ( 7.9%)
Military.....	4 ( 1.3%)
Full-Time Employment.....	17 ( 5.4%)
Undecided.....	8 ( 2.5%)

## **REPORT ON SCHOLASTIC AWARDS**

### **NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT**

#### **CLASS OF 2004**

SCHOLARSHIPS	\$3,570,689
GRANTS	24,000
	\$3,594,689
OFFERS ACCEPTED	\$2,047,984
OFFERS DECLINED	1,546,705
	\$3,594,689

NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

To: Members of the Nutley  
School community

Date: JUNE 28, 2004

From: The Nutley Board Of Education

Subject: 2003/2004 Student  
Achievement Test  
Scores

NATIONAL

TERRANOVA TEST

2004

National Percentile of Mean NCE

<u>Grade</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>
Reading	89	84	82	73	78	77	79	75	80
Language Arts	92	86	84	78	79	84	79	79	83
Mathematics	90	86	83	81	79	83	80	80	85
Total	93	88	86	80	81	84	82	81	85
Science	83	77	77	74	75	72	67	75	71
Social Studies	85	84	71	69	71	74	70	72	76

Grade 4 NJ ASK Results 2003/2004

	% Part. Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Adv. Proficient General Ed	ALL	Total % Prof. General Ed	ALL
Language Arts	2.5	9.5	95.8	90.5	1.7	2.0	97.5	92.5
Mathematics	17.2	22.6	54.6	52.4	28.2	25.0	82.8	77.4

Grade 8 GEPA Summary Results 2003/2004

	% Part. Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Adv. Proficient General Ed	ALL	Total % Prof. General Ed	ALL
Language Arts	8.3	14.0	86.9	81.7	4.8	4.3	91.7	86.0
Mathematics	17.6	23.6	57.8	54.1	24.6	22.2	82.4	76.3
Science	8.6	12.3	59.4	59.0	31.9	28.8	91.3	87.8

Grade 11 HSPA Summary Results 2003/2004

	% Part. Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Adv. Proficient General Ed	ALL	Total % Prof. General Ed	ALL
Language Arts	1.8	12.2	79.4	71.5	18.8	16.3	98.2	87.8
Mathematics	8.5	17.7	62.1	56.3	29.4	26.0	91.5	82.3

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



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**NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL**

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

**2003-2004 ANNUAL REPORT**

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>STUDENTS ENROLLED</u>
9	329
10	330
11	296
12	<u>307</u>
	1,262

**STAFF**

<b>Classroom Teachers</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>Administrators</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Athletic Director</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Guidance Personnel</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Department Coordinators/Chairpersons</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>AV Coordinator</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Librarian</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Nurse</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Special Education</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Work Experience Coordinator</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Computer Network Technician</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Technology Teacher Coordinator</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Student Assistance Coordinator</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Permanent Subs</b>	<b>4</b>

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**GUIDANCE**

**MATHEMATICS**

**MUSIC**

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

**SCIENCE**

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

**MEDIA**

**COOPERATIVE INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION**

**ATHLETICS**



## **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

## ANNUAL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT 2003 – 2004

This school year was rewarding and exciting and, once again, it was a time of growth, many changes, and student achievement.

Credit must be given to Dr. Serafino, Superintendent of Schools, for her vision and leadership as well as the Nutley Board of Education for their support of our school and our students. Also, our high school administrators, faculty, and support staff must be acknowledged for their dedication and commitment to our students. All of these components are key ingredients to student success, achievement, and growth.

As a school we continue to be committed to our students. We are always mindful of our responsibility to them, their families, and their dreams and aspirations. We attempt to provide a safe and supportive learning environment where students can grow and develop to their fullest potential.

We are very proud of our students and their accomplishments in so many areas. They have distinguished themselves in academics, the arts, athletics, student activities, and community service. These accomplishments are a very positive reflection of the wonderful partnership that exists between the Superintendent, the school district, our staff, parents, and the community. All have contributed and share in the success of our students.

As this report outlines, each department in our school continues to develop to meet the changing needs of our students, changing trends in education and in our society, state mandates, and changing interests and needs. Additionally, we are proud to point out that while teaching and nurturing our students, many of our own staff have themselves been recognized for their contributions to students and their own accomplishments in education.

Noteworthy among the many innovations and achievements this school year are:

Very involved changes to our physical plant are taking place at the High School. A new science wing is under construction. This will provide eight fully equipped science labs, preparation rooms, lecture areas and a greenhouse.

The original science wing is being converted to regular classroom use. All of the windows have been replaced. The senior courtyard is undergoing a major renovation, room 106 and 104 are being combined to create a new instrumental room and storage is being created in many areas. This will free up other classrooms to meet the growing needs of the math department and health classrooms. Additionally, the Department of Special Services and the Child Study Team are now located in converted classrooms across from the guidance office.

New courses for 2004-2005 include Advanced Placement Statistics, IT Essentials, and Advanced Culinary Arts.

The Fine and Industrial Arts Department and the Business Department have been combined under a Curriculum Area Coordinator to better serve the needs of our students and to infuse technology into these classes.

The Senior Benefit has been changed. It now falls under the Performing Arts Department. This year's presentation was *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* and by all accounts it was a very successful production.

Many of our students were honored for their academic and athletic accomplishments. Twenty seniors were named Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars, six were named National Commended scholars, one was named a National Achievement Scholar, and two were named Advanced Placement Scholars.

Numerous students did very well on advanced placement tests earning advanced placement standing at their college or university.

Our student's educational experiences have included European travel. Students have traveled to England, Spain, and Italy and our vocal group performed in England this June to rave reviews.

In athletics, Tennis, Bowling, Wrestling, and Baseball had outstanding seasons and captured league, county, and state titles. A great many athletes were honored by our league, the media, the county, and the state for outstanding individual performances. At the close of the school year, a grant was awarded to our school district to refurbish the Oval.

SAT scores are a priority, and we address this goal in all of our academic classes as well as SAT prep courses offered during the summer and the school year. Our SAT scores continue to exceed the state and national averages. The 75<sup>th</sup> percentile scored a 580 Verbal and a 590 in Math and the mean score was 508 in Verbal and 522 in Math.

Also, our English Department continues with our summer reading program for grades 9 through 12.

We have completed our school level objectives for 2003-2004.

Advanced Placement Tests were once again given this May allowing students in our Advanced Placement Courses to earn college credit. Additionally, our partnership with UMDNJ and with Seton Hall University continues to offer our students outstanding educational opportunities.

In the area of State Mandated Testing, Nutley High School students continue to perform in a commendable fashion on the HSPA. All graduating seniors in the Class of 2004 have

successfully fulfilled this obligation. Our high expectations have assured that the Class of 2005 has demonstrated mastery of the proficiency standards.

Our Terra Nova results show that our sophomores achieved very good scores in reading, language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. For the freshman in the same disciplines the grade nine three-core subject scores positive indicators of our students' scholastic growth.

In an effort to remain current, many new textbooks were reviewed and through our Saturday curriculum committees, textbooks were recommended and approved for purchase by our Board of Education.

Our inclusion classes continue to be successful. We are very pleased with the results of our initiatives regarding tolerance.

Our faculty have taken advantage of in-service courses as well as other opportunities for professional development.

We continue to stress student activities and student service to our school and community. It is an important part of our school. Our activities schedule continues to be second to none with many clubs and class activities, dances, car washes, clothing sales, and other events to foster school spirit, encourage participation and pride, and teach teamwork and leadership skills.

Assembly programs and other initiatives continue to address issues of importance for our teenage students. Among them are smoking, alcohol and drug use, tolerance and student self-esteem.

The Class of 2004 has received acceptances from some of the top colleges and universities in our nation. Eighty-eight percent of this class will continue their education. Our graduation exercises were memorable and our students were outstanding throughout the ceremonies.



## **BUSINESS EDUCATION**

## BUSINESS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT YEARLY REPORT 2003-2004

### **Accomplishments:**

1. This year the Business Education Department held Saturday curriculum sessions to revise our course outlines and write curriculum for new courses. This curriculum was presented at a Board of Education meeting and accepted by the Board.
2. A new course, Information Technology Essentials, was proposed and accepted for next year. We will have three sections of the course taught by Mr. Kearney.
3. We added the Sports Marketing course this year and it was very successful. Mr. Christadore and Mr. Kearney taught four sections and incorporated many field trips and guest speakers.
4. The College Prep Accounting course was accepted by Fairleigh Dickinson University for college credit in their Middle College program. Next year students may elect to receive three credits at Fairleigh Dickinson for this course.
5. The CISCO Networking Academy courses for CCNA certification were designated Honors courses for this year. This has created renewed interest in the course and an increase in enrollment.
6. The Perkins Vocational Funding grant allowed us to purchase additional equipment and software for the CISCO Academy as well as flat screen monitors, a color printer and new computers for Mrs. Mullane and Mrs. Romaglia.
7. Our Advisory Council for Career Education met several times this year. This committee provides input and guidance for our career programs. The Council organized an award program recognizing the accomplishments of students in the career programs. Requests for donations were made to local businesses and five students will be recognized with monetary awards at this year's Senior Awards Assembly.
8. The Business Department continues to upgrade both hardware and software. Room 211 was upgraded this year. Over the summer Room 227 will be transformed into our new CISCO Academy lab. Perkins funds will purchase new student workstations. Equipment will be moved from Room 217.
9. The department, after consulting with Mr. Presuto, made the decision to change the software programs taught in Computer Applications and our other computer courses to Office 2003. This will take effect in September. We are continually revising the curriculum to keep up with changing technology.

10. This year for the first time we administered the Computer Applications Proficiency Test to Franklin Middle School students. Approximately 30 students took the test and two passed.
11. The zero period Computer Applications class continues to run successfully. Next year we are requesting a Saturday workshop to investigate running an online section of this course.
12. Mrs. Mullane continues as the district Web Master. This year she was able to post snow closings on the district web site by 5:30 a.m. Also teacher home pages increased by 100%.
13. The Consumer Education class participated in the New Jersey Consumer Bowl. Nutley hosted the Essex County event in March.
14. Mrs. McDonnell received a Study Group Grant (Career Exploration in Business) from Montclair State University.
15. Mrs. McDonnell coordinated a Technology Day student assembly and faculty workshop with Sree Sreenivasan from ABC News. He spoke to the entire freshman class and conducted a workshop for interested faculty.
16. Mrs. McDonnell also coordinated a Career Day event with a panel of speakers from business who spoke to 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> grade business students about career opportunities.
17. All members of the department were involved in Professional Improvement. These professional days bring renewed interest and improved teaching techniques to the entire department.

**Concerns:**

The Business Education Department continues to be concerned that Special Education students are struggling with our Computer Applications required course. We have recommended an inclusion section of this course in the past and will continue to do so.

**Requests:**

Saturday Curriculum Committee to research the possibility of instituting an online Computer Applications class for the 2005-06 school year.

**ENGLISH**



## 2004 Annual Report

To: Mr. Joseph Zarra, Principal of Nutley High School

From: Ms. Dianne De Rosa, Coordinator of Language Arts

### I. Testing

Student preparation for the High School Proficiency Assessment is a priority of the English Department. Students on each grade level completed assignments which were developed to reinforce and strengthen the skills that students need to perform well on the HSPA.

The TerraNova was administered to ninth and tenth grade students in March. Students who are considered to be "at risk" for passing the HSPA will be placed in basic skills classes.

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

### II. Curriculum

A. The Advanced Placement English Language and Composition course was offered to students for the first time this year.

B. The use of technology in the classroom is continually increasing as students use the internet as a tool for research. Webquests, internet scavenger hunts, and power point presentations are just a few of the ways in which the writing lab has enhanced student learning. The computer also continues to be a strong tool for student writing.

#### C. Reading Program

Students are required to read a fiction or non fiction book each marking period as part of the supplemental reading program. Literary circles were introduced last year as part of the supplemental reading program. Students are also given a summer reading list and asked to read three books during their vacation. Students are given an assignment in the fall in which they are asked to write about the books read.

#### D. Basic Skills Reading/Writing

There were eight classes of basic skills reading and writing classes this year. Classes were comprised of students who did not pass the Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment as eighth graders in the spring of 2003, and ninth and tenth grade students who did not pass the TerraNova administered to all freshmen and sophomores. Students entering our school who had not taken the GEPA and who had not met the standard in the testing at their former school were also placed in a basic skills class.

There were three senior ESL students who failed the October 2003 HSPT. These students successfully completed the SRA process.

There were 272 General education students who took the HSPA In 2004. 98.2% of our students received a passing score.

A final writing project gives students the opportunity to select, revise, and edit their favorite piece(s) of writing for a class publication. 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.

### III. English Electives

#### A. Journalism Program

Five issues of the school newspaper, *The Maroon and Gray*, ranging from 6 to 18 pages, were produced. All issues were written and prepared in class, using QuarkXPress for desktop publishing, Photoshop, and other peripheral programs, including scanning and special graphics software. Photography was either digital or scanned photos, all taken and processed by students. All issues were sent, camera-ready, to an outside printer and distributed in homeroom by the students.

Journalism I students learned the principals of journalistic writing, layout and design and computer operation, along with software applications. The text (*Scholastic Journalism*, English & Hach) was supplemented with a copy for each student of *The New York Times*. Some pages in the May and June issues of the paper were designed and produced by Journalism I. Journalism II students designed and executed pages for all departments of the newspaper. Advanced Journalism students were page editors and produced pages for the paper. They were also mentors to

Journalism II students. Students from all levels attended the Garden State Scholastic Press Association Student Press Day at Rutgers University and the NSJA/JEA conference in Washington, D.C. Journalism II and Advanced Journalism students were required to complete a journalism project per marking period.

#### B. Cast I and Cast II/III

Students in the C.A.S.T. Program completed several projects. Students produced and directed commercials, demonstrations, and public service announcements. The highlight of the year included a video featuring a script written by Cast II students, director by Cast II student Cory Smith and starring Hugh Jackman.

#### IV Writing Contests

Students are encouraged by their teachers to enter contests that are offered by community and educational organizations.

#### V. Staff Development

Several staff members attended workshops and seminars during the 2003-2004 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. Mr. Bonadonna is president of this association and a presenter at this conference.

Journalism students attended the JEA/NSPA fall conference in Washington, D.C.

##### Mrs. Rowe

Mrs. Rowe attended the Rutgers' Winter Writing Conference, on the implementation of Literary Circles, and A Montclair State conference exploring the resistance to

slavery among persons of African descent.

#### VI. Enrichment

- A. Mrs. Hunlger escorted a group of 32 students and 16 adults on an historical and literary tour of London and Windsor, England, January 15-19, 2004. Sites covered included the Tower of London, Harry Potter references, the Temple, Dicken's references, St. Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey, the Globe Theater, the Blackfriar's district, the East End ( Patricia Cromwell's "Jack the Ripper" allusions, Roman London, the Temple of Mithras, architectural sites (Lloyd's of London, M6, the Lord Mayor's Mansion and Office, Guildhall,) Convent Garden, Buckingham Palace, and Parliament.

Mrs. Hungler also took students on a field trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

- B. Mrs. Rossillo's English classes attended a performance of short stories performed by Encore at the Newark Symphony Hall.
- C. Mr. Sasso's English I Honors class attended a performance of Poe's short stories and of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* at Castle Shakespeare. His seniors were escorted on a field trip to St. John the Divine and the Cloisters.
- D. Mrs. Graziano's classes attended a production of *The Scarlet Letter*.
- E. Poetry Month : Students in Mrs. Hungler's creative writing class selected poems to be posted around the school for their classmate's reading enjoyment.

#### VII. Career Speakers:

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

A representative from Katherine Gibbs School spoke to students about career choices.

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

A representative from the Citonne Institute spoke to seniors

about careers.

#### 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 and collects books from teachers' classrooms, keeping an accurate total of books requisitioned for classroom use at all times.

#### IX. Concerns for the future

The continued implementation of the revised curriculum and the revision of the honors program is a concern.

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

Continued staff development of technology – especially in the use of the Smart Board as a teaching tool.

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

**FINE & INDUSTRIAL ARTS**

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

**CREATIVE ARTS DEPARTMENT**

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

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

**May 24, 2004**

**TO: Mr. Joseph Zarra**

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

**RE: Annual Report 2003-2004 School Year**

The following activities summary/highlights of the Academic Year, 2003-2004 are being submitted for your review.

**1. STAFF WORKSHOPS - DEVELOPMENT DAYS - PROFESSIONAL VISITATIONS**

Various members of this department were involved in workshops and professional day visitations, including, but not limited to: Educators of Family & Consumer Sciences – New Jersey and New Jersey Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Curriculum Connections Conference “FCS Teachers Assuming the Leadership for New Education Opportunities”, Art Educators of New Jersey Annual Conference “art can change the world”, NJECC Conference, (CIAP) Construction Industry Advancement Program of N.J. Consortium Meetings, The 2004 New Jersey Apprenticeship & Training Conference “Apprenticeship: A Roadmap for Your Career”, Understanding Section 504 in New Jersey: A Practical Contrast with IDEA & ADA, Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute (EOSHI) Safe Schools Program “Writing a Safety and Health Plan”, 18th Annual TEANJ Conference & Expo 2004, Fall TEANJ Professional Development Training Workshop, NJ Department of Labor OSHA Safety Training Program, Curriculum Development – review & revise Advanced Culinary Arts Curriculum.

**2. FIELD TRIPS**

The Home Economics classes visited Johnny Carinos Restaurant, Clifton Commons.

Trade and Technical classes visited the Operating Engineers Local No. 825, District Council of Northern New Jersey Ironworker Locals, Heavy & General Laborers Local

No. 472, Metro Auto Electronics Training Institute.

Art classes entered the Annual "Chalk Walk" at Rockaway Mall.

### 3. GUEST SPEAKERS

Trade and Technical schools such as F.I.T., Savannah School of Art & Design, Art Institutes of Philadelphia, Lincoln Technical Institute, Engine City Technical Institute, Gibbs College, Metro Auto Electronics Training Institute, and the Cittone Institute sent representatives to speak to our students about their school and careers in related fields.

Former students currently attending various Colleges and Universities, members of the Armed Services, leaders in local industry, and staff members returned to speak to our students about their post High School experiences, careers, and/or hobbies.

In coordination with the Work-Study classes we again offered our students the OSHA Ten Hour General Industry Outreach Safety Certification Program.

Eric Wood, Head Chef at Johnny Carinos Restaurant observed and presented a cooking demonstration to our Culinary Arts Classes.

John Scheckel, Architect, spoke to our Advanced Architectural Design classes regarding real life architectural experiences.

Dr. M. Lee Pisauo, YTTW Grant Coordinator, spoke to our Technology and Work Study classes about opportunities available in the construction trades, and administered pre and post Work Keys tests.

### 4. SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

The staff participated in the following school and community service projects: served as members of the Faculty Senate, member of the Vocational and School-to-Work Advisory Committee, Chairperson – Intervention & Referral Services, Head Coach Boys and Girls Varsity and JV Bowling Teams, designed and produced Awards Certificates for various School Departments, Art Club Advisor, Photography Club Advisor, Art Director for Ontario & Western R. Y. Historical Society, Guest Lecturer for History Classes on the subject of the Vietnam War, member of the Volunteer Fire Department (Frankford Township).

The Creative Arts Department and its student population produced numerous school visuals (bulletin boards, administrative signs, program covers, business cards, assemblies banners, spirit week banners, yearbook, honor society book, etc.), school employees ID cards, town visuals (festivals, parades, etc.), St. Joe's preemie baby quilts, clothing for Salvation Army bears, various pieces of art work, Fundraisers, developed and printed



Maroon & Gray photos, yearbook pictures, taught in Nutley's C.A.T. program, and produced Arts Fest "04".

The Industrial Arts staff assisted with the move of equipment from rooms 122 and 124 to our new location A121. Many extra hours were involved in this move both before school, after school, and during the summer of 2003.

## **5. AWARDS / SCHOLARSHIPS**

Students from the Creative Arts Department were the recipients of numerous awards including Morris Hills HS Annual "Chalk Walk" and U.S. House of Representatives "An Artistic Discovery" Art Competition.

Scholarships were awarded in varying amounts to our Art students from Pratt Institute, Berkeley College, and Art Institute of Boston.

Scholarships were also awarded in varying amounts to students in the Trade and Technical Program including Gisela Widdersich Academic Booster Club, Community Building Association, Montclair Society of Engineers, UNICO, Fame Drama Booster Club, Woman's Club of Nutley, Israel & Celia Sonenshein Memorial Award, and Nutley Rotary RETS Scholarship.

## **6. STAFF**

The Creative Arts Department is composed of one Department Chairperson ( Mechanical Drawing, Residential Architectural Design, Civil Architectural Design, and Senior Architectural Design), one Home Economics instructor ( Basic Sewing, Facts of Fashion, and Culinary Arts), two Art instructors ( Art I, II, III, Advanced, and Photography) and one full time Industrial Arts instructor ( Woodworking, Carpentry, Furniture Fabrication, Metalworking, Metal Fabrication, and Advanced Metalworking, Electricity, Electronics, and Advanced Electronics).

Mrs. Anita Dubas joined our Department this year as our new Home Economics instructor. Mrs. Dubas is an experienced instructor having taught eleven years in other systems and has proved to be a welcome addition. She has brought with her many new and creative ideas. With her assistance, I am happy to say, we will be offering Advanced Culinary Arts beginning with the 2004-2005 school year and are currently working on a Child Development course that hopefully will be offered for the first time during the 2005-2006 school year.

Mr. Sangiovanni was responsible for one student teacher from Montclair State University.

Staff member Mr. Louis Sangiovanni was honored as the recipient of the Governor's Award for Excellence in Education.

## **7. GOAL(S) SHORT TERM**

During the 2002-2003 school year a committee was formed and met throughout the school year one or two afternoons per month. Our charge was to look at the current outdated Fine & Industrial Arts Course Curriculum (1986), review changes that have been integrated into our classes through the years, research successful Technology, Family and Consumer Science, and Art programs in the State, and revise our written curriculum. Alignment with the NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards was and still is also a goal. Curriculum alignment needs to be further modified to meet newly added Standard 8.2 – Technology Education – Engineering and Technological Design. As I stated in the spring of 2003 this task is not complete. Time needs to be allotted to complete this revision.

We must continue with the integration of computer technology into the curriculum in all Trade and Technical areas.

We must also continue to expand the use of computers in our Art program at all levels. Mr. Sangiovanni has been and continues to be very instrumental with this project.

The use of digital photography is currently being integrated with our traditional Photography lessons. Within the near future I feel that a stand-alone Digital Photography Course be considered, perhaps as a half-year offering to start.

I again propose that a new course offering, Auto CAD – Computer Aided Drafting, be developed in addition to Mechanical Drawing, for the 2005-2006 school year, also as a half-year course during the first year. Students could use this course as an alternative choice to satisfy Nutley's computer applications graduation requirement.

Have Creative Arts courses count towards students overall GPA for all grade level students. Historically we have mixed classes (9-12) taking the same class during the same period. Freshmen now receive credit while the sophomore or junior sitting next to him or her do not receive credit towards their GPA. Equity should be provided for all students currently enrolled in the same class at the same time.

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

To increase student (male and female) awareness, interest, and enrollment in Creative Arts Courses at the High School level.

Re-establish pure level classes wherever possible.

Continue the integration of Computer Technology into our curriculum.

With a new addition in the planning stages for Franklin Middle School, provisions for a modern Technology Lab should be considered. Technology Education would serve as a stepping-stone to our High School Creative Arts program. This should be a totally new course integrating the Design Process and Design Loop Problem Solving approach. This type of course should also be considered for the High School level. This would be a new course offering to be staffed by a new teacher holding a Technology Education degree.

## **9. CONCERNS**

As our staffing decreases and with our Course Offerings remaining high (8 different subject areas, up to 4 levels within each offering, adding up to 19 totally different lesson plan preparations) it becomes increasingly difficult for a reduced staff to adequately maintain all eight areas. Couple this with classes comprised predominantly of students with special needs. It is my recommendation that strong consideration should be given to increasing staffing by one full time member. This would also allow us the opportunity to add a Problem Solving Technology Course to our offering. Recently the State added Standard 8.2 to the N.J. Core Curriculum Content Standards. This needs to be addressed. This year, as in past years, our enrollment in the Family & Consumer Science classes far exceeds available space. It has been our practice to re-distribute these students to other areas. Thought should be given to hiring another full or part-time teacher to cover these extra sections.

A maximum of five teaching periods plus one maintenance period / teacher would help afford time for all staff to better maintain equipment and prepare for such a variety of offerings.

With mixed level classes it forces certain necessary components of a program to be either eliminated or not covered as thoroughly as needed; pure level classes are advisable when and if possible.

## **10. MADELINE HUNTER**

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

## **11. ARTS FEST "2004"**

On May 13, 2004 the Creative Arts Department set-up and displayed hundreds of

examples of our student's creative, talented works. The display again was set up in the School Cafeteria and featured live student participation in most areas. The Arts Fest was open during the four lunch periods to afford all students and faculty the opportunity to view the work of these multi-talented youngsters. Evening hours afforded parents and the community an opportunity to attend this wonderful exhibit. Attendance during the day showed an increase over previous years. Students from Franklin School visited during the afternoon hours and we remained open during eighth period to accommodate these young future artists. Enthusiasm by the participants, staff, and visitors was evident all day long. Attendance by both parents and students in the evening again showed an increase over previous years. This was a very rewarding experience for both the staff and student exhibitors. It was unfortunate that, due to previous commitments, members of the Central Office Administration and members of the Board of Education were not able to attend this show. They truly missed a wonderful presentation. Circumstances did not allow the Elementary Schools to visit. I suggest that next year the show day and hours be expanded and coordinated with the Elementary Schools and transportation department to afford the 6<sup>th</sup> students the opportunity to view our displays. This would not only increase our exposure but also serve as a feeder for our program.

## **WORLD LANGUAGES**

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

TO: Mr. Joseph Zarra, Principal of Nutley High School

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

SUBJECT: Annual Report – 2003-04

**I. Statistical Data and Staff**

1. Approximately 69% of the student population was enrolled in world language classes. (French, Italian, Latin and Spanish levels 1-5-AP)
2. Eleven staff members including the coordinator taught 40 sections of 22 course offerings (three teachers were itinerant between the High School and Franklin Middle School).
3. Mr. Violante continues to be also the Coordinator of Project Acceleration with Seton Hall University. During the academic year 2003-04, about 175 students signed up for Project Acceleration credits in the Fall and Spring semesters.

**II. Curriculum**

1. During 2003-04 school year, the curricula for three new courses were written. 1. The AP Italian Language. 2. Spanish for Native Speakers 1 and 2. The new courses will be offered to students in September 2005, for the 2005-06 school year. The teachers worked very diligently on Saturdays and during scheduled meetings after school. These courses will be presented to the full Board of Education for their approval in the near future. Also, along with the new curricula, new textbooks were chosen.  
The members of the AP Italian Committee were: Mr. Cicchino, Mrs. Camarda, and Ms. D'Angio. The members of the "Spanish for Native Speakers 1 and 2" were: Mrs. Rein, Mrs. Rucinski and Mrs. Papaleo. Both committees were chaired by the Coordinator, Mr. Violante.
2. Mr. Cicchino and Mrs. Papaleo mentored a student from Seton Hall University doing his Junior practicum in Italian.

### 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 Italian, Spanish and Latin students accompanied by Mr. Cicchino participated in the Annual Poetry Recitation Contest held at William Paterson University on May 20, 2004. About 50 different schools took part in this contest. The categories were Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced and Native in all languages. The Nutley High school winners were: Senior, Marcelina Statkiewicz, 2<sup>st</sup> place in the native Italian category. Junior, Jessica Chesney, 2nd place in the advanced Italian category, other students received certificates of recognition.
2. Mrs. Camarda's French classes attended a performance of the Opera "L'Italiana in Algeri", at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City. On a different date, the students also visited the Cloisters and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.
3. Mrs. Camarda's French I - AP classes participated in the National French Contest. Eight Level 2 students participated. Alexandra Mateescu, received blue ribbon for 10<sup>th</sup> place; 2 students received gold certificates. Five level 3 students participated. One student received gold certificate. Chloe Barbieux, a level 4 students placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the region. She received a silver medal and a *Certificat d'Honneur*.
4. The annual National World Languages Honor Society induction took place on April 7, 2004. 110 students were inducted into the National Italian, French, Spanish and Latin Honor Society.
5. Mr. Cicchino's, Mrs. Camarda's and Mr. Violante's Italian students participated in "The Benedetto Croce Educational Society Annual Essay Contest". The contest was open to all Essex County K-12 public and parochial schools. Three Nutley High School students won first price, and were awarded \$150.00 check. The students were: Raquel George grade 9, Jeremy Fede grade 10 and, Danielle Paterno grade 11.
6. Mr. Cicchino's Italian classes attended a performance of the Opera "Tosca" on January 22, 2004, "Nabucco", on April 2, 2004, at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City.
7. Mrs. Stepansky's Latin classes participated in the National Latin Exam. Most of the students received recognition (certificates of merit). Over half of the students won awards, 10 received "**cum laude**" awards, 5 received "**magna cum laude**" awards and 1 students earned "**summa cum laude**" awards and a gold medal and 12 silver medals. The students have been Nationally recognized by the National Latin Exam Committee and the Junior Classical League for their fine achievement.

8. Mrs. Papaleo accompanied the Spanish 5honors and AP to the Metropolitan Museum of Art to view exhibits by famous Spanish artists.

#### IV. Workshops - Professional Conferences

1. Mr. Violante attended several Professional Development Workshop Series for World Language Educators sponsored by the State Department of Education. He also attended the by-monthly Roundtable of New Jersey State World Language Supervisors in Monroe Township.

Some of the Conferences/workshops were..

- a. *Gaining Achievement in the New Standards..*
- b. *Using the Modes of Communication to Develop Curriculum and Assessment for the Revised Standards.*
- c. *New Jersey Supervisors of World Languages - "Using the NASA GLOBE Program in K-12 World Languages Classrooms"*
- d. *Seton Hall University - Project Acceleration Conference*

Mr. Violante also applied for funding for the Elementary Italian Program for the school district. For the fourth year, the district was awarded \$10,000 by the Italian Consulate General in New York.

2. Mrs. Papaleo as president of the Italian Teachers Association of New Jersey organized several workshops for teachers throughout the state. She also attended several conferences/workshops:
3. Mrs. Camarda attended the following workshops/conferences:
  - a. *American Association of Teachers of French Conference.*
  - b. *French AP program Conference in New York City.*
4. Mr. Cicchino Took a group of students to Italy Spring vacations.
5. Mrs. Papaleo took a group of students to Spain during Winter vacations.

#### V. Departmental Goals/Recommendations :

1. To insure continuity, all teachers in the department need to develop strategies and activities that support communication based language as outlined in the revised New Jersey State Content Standard using the three Modes of Communication. These activities should begin with level one. Most teachers are using it and developing these strategies.
2. There is a strong need to lower the number of students in language classes at a reasonable size (20-22) especially in the first three levels so that oral communication skills may be practiced more extensively.
3. Continue to explore the idea of tracking levels of languages - Offer honors courses starting with level two, if possible level one. This is done in the English as well as the History



Departments. Why it should not be done in the Language department as well? This will ensure a smooth transition and higher success rate for levels 4, 5 Honors and AP courses. It will also be an incentive for incoming freshmen to sign up for level two. These students studied level one at the middle school over a two year period. They are much more advanced in the language than students who studied level one at the high school. Also, students who sign up for level two are being held back, because the first three months of level two were done at the middle school. They have covered more material over two years. Presently incoming freshmen who studied level one at the middle school and received an "A" or "B" average may opt to retake level one over again at Nutley High School. These students many times are bored and become a discipline problem in the classroom.

Respectfully submitted  
Ciro Violante, Coordinator  
June 2, 2004

## **GUIDANCE**

**ANNUAL REPORT  
2003-2004  
GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT**

**Introduction**

According to the National Standards for School Counseling Programs, the purpose of a school counseling program is to promote and enhance the learning process. In this regard, school counselors continuously assess students' needs, identify obstacles that may hinder student success, and advocate programmatic efforts to eliminate these barriers.

**Structure**

Counselors facilitate student development in three broad areas: academic, career, and personal/social development. In order to meet these needs, the Nutley High School Guidance Department works with students individually, in groups, and with parents and teachers to assist in meeting graduation requirements and preparing for post-secondary plans. To be successful in meeting these goals, students must proceed in a healthy, positive way, and counselors are relied upon to understand and respond to the challenges presented by today's diverse student population.

**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Guidance Department at Nutley High School is to work with individual students and groups of students, directly through the curriculum, alone and together with the whole educational team, to ensure 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 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.

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 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).

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. 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, counselors initiate actions based on their own professional judgment.

Counselors recognize that students will likely face problems in the future. Therefore, they help students learn problem-solving skills that are of value for current and future problems. 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 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.

#### 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.

### **Counselors' Duties**

Counselors duties include but are not limited to:

- Individual and group counseling
- Crisis intervention
- Academic advising/scheduling
- College/career planning
- Social/personal development counseling
- Development and execution of educational programs for parents and students (College Fair, Financial Aid, Freshman Orientation for Students and Parents, College Planning Seminars, Scholastic Awards Program)
- Expansion of programs and services for all students
- Enhancement of Guidance website
- Testing administration and interpretation (PSAT, SAT, HSPA, TerraNova, AP)
- Consultation with teachers
- Networking with post-secondary schools and businesses
- Functioning as liaison to parents, teachers, support services, outside agencies

### **Professional Development**

Counselors are cognizant of the importance of professional development and have participated in the following during the 2003-04 school year:

#### **Conferences/Workshops**

- NJ School Counselors' Conference
- NJ Higher Education Student Assistant Authority's Financial Aid Workshop
- CASA Conference – Family Matters: Substance Abuse and the American Family
- Essex County School Counselors' Association Meetings
- Workshop – Dealing with At Risk Youth and Enabling Parents
- Workshop – College Admission for Children with Learning Disabilities
- College Board – New SAT
- UMDNJ/MSU Montclair State Univ., Pre-Med Program
- Workshop – Caldwell College, Allied Health Program
- Workshop – Rider University
- Workshop – William Paterson University
- State System of Pennsylvania Higher Education

#### **College Visits/Tour**

- Bentley College
- Bryant College
- So. Massachusetts Colleges
- Boston Area Colleges
- College visitations/evening programs: Stevens Institute, Fordham, Seton Hall, FDU, St. Peter's, Berkeley College, Bloomfield College

#### **Other**

- Faculty Senate Meetings at NHS
- School-to-Careers Committee
- Field trip – Fordham University
- Intervention & Referral Services Team
- Mentor, Montclair State Guidance Intern
- Honor Society Review Committee
- Junior/Senior Parents' Meeting – College Admission
- College/Career Fair
- Freshman Parents' Meeting
- Financial Aid Seminar
- ASVAB
- Freshman Orientation, Class of 2008
- Guidance Website Development and Maintenance
- ABCs of College Admission – Power Point Presentation
- Scholastic Awards Program
- Newsletter – five issues

## **MATHEMATICS**

May 30, 2004

TO: Mr. Joseph Zarra  
FROM: Toby D'Ambola  
Subject: Annual Report – Mathematics Department, High School

I. Staff

- A. Departmental statistics indicate that thirteen teachers taught a total of 62 class sections. This included 18 regular subjects in addition to classes in the Basic Skills Improvement Program. As of May 2004, the average class size was 20.9 in the regular classes, which represents an increase of .4 students from last year's average class size of 20.5, and there was an average of 10 students in the basic skills classes.
- B. In September, Mr. Darren Mischel joined the math staff full time. Mr. Mischel replaced Mr. Suffren who retired last year after teaching for 47 years. Mr. Mischel taught two sections of Plane Geometry, two sections of Basic Algebra II and one section of Integrated Math. Mr. Mischel is a dedicated teaching professional that has created a positive learning environment in his classroom. His willingness to work with his colleagues and the time he spends both before and after school helping and assisting students shows his dedication to his profession and because of this dedication he has helped to improve the mathematical environment here at the high school. Mr. Mischel's background in statistics has helped us immensely. Together we wrote the AP Statistics Curriculum, which was approved by the Board of Education in December and will become part of our math curriculum in the 2004 – 2005 school year. This has allowed us to continue to upgrade our curriculum and meet the needs of all of our students.

II. Testing

- A. The math portion of the High School Proficiency Assessment was administered on March 2nd. A preparation program, implemented in early September, was carefully designed to provide practice in solving HSPA type problems and to familiarize students with the actual test format. Teacher prepared materials, publisher workbooks, and a practice test given to us by the state of New Jersey was used to supplement the curriculum. This year an extra effort was made to reach those juniors in both Basic Geometry and Basic Algebra I. Mr. Manfria created a series of open-ended questions that were given out periodically to these students. This action was taken because we found a weakness at this level in last year's HSPA's results. We will know the results of this year's assessment by July.



- B. This year the TerraNova was administered to all ninth and tenth graders from March 2<sup>nd</sup> to March 5<sup>th</sup> 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 HSPA. 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. This year we had two Basic Skills 10 classes and one Basic Skills 11 class. We also ran two remedial classes during the zero period for those seniors who failed the HSPA last year. Ms. Martin and Mr. Sorensen did an excellent job conducting these classes. In fact, of the 46 seniors who failed the HSPA initially, 26 were able to pass the retest given on October 7<sup>th</sup>. The remaining students successfully completed the SRA process and will be able to graduate with their class on June 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- C. On Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, the advanced placement test was administered to 15 seniors in level AB Calculus. Student results for this exam are normally reported in July. Last year's results, 7 of the 9 students taking the exam passed the exam by scoring 3 or higher. Four had a score of 3 while three had a score of 4. The average for all students was 3.0

### 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 Selected Topics classes and one Computer Programming class. In addition, the center was used periodically by geometry and basic skills classes and 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 HSPA, 100 additional TI-34 and 30 TI 83 plus scientific calculators were purchased this year. Calculators this year were not distributed to all students but instead each instructor had a set of calculators to be used in the classroom as a tool for problem solving and also to properly prepare students for the HSPA. This year we tried to reduce the student's reliance on the calculator to do calculations that they should be able to do manually. Graphing calculators were issued to all students in our AP Calculus, PreCalculus, Trigonometry, Advanced mathematics and Accelerated Algebra II classes. At the request of Seton Hall University, calculators were not issued to students in the Calculus Honors class.

- C. The SAT preparation program continues to serve our students preparing to enter college. Leann Martin conducted eight evening sessions in mathematics during the fall semester from 6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. involving approximately 60 students planning to take the PSAT or SAT. A similar program was conducted during the spring semester for approximately 50 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 Selected Topics 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 250 members of the class of 2003 showed a mean mathematics score of 522. This score compares to 515 for the class of 1999, 528 for the class of 2000, 534 for the class of 2001 and 522 for the class of 2002. The state average for this test is 515. Approximately 85 percent of the graduating class took the SAT with 25 percent of the students scoring above 590 and increase of 10 points over last year.

- D. In October 2003, the HSPA was administered to 46 twelfth graders who still needed a passing score on the math section in order to satisfy the graduation requirement. Twenty-seven students were successful on the retest and the rest were subsequently entered into the Student Review Assessment (SRA) process and requirements for graduation were accomplished for all students.
- E. This year we had two student teachers. Michael Gaccione a student from Seton Hall University worked under Mrs. Cofone while Anthony Petruzzi a student from Montclair State University worked under Mr. Sorensen. Both students completed their student teaching successfully and were certified by the state of New Jersey to teach mathematics. We also had a field student from Montclair State who was supervised by Mrs. Elinor Alboum. Mr. Thorton had to complete 16 hours of classroom observations over a 5-week period.

#### IV. FIELD TRIPS

On November 13<sup>th</sup>, Mr. D'Ambola took his Calculus Honors class to a Math Fair presented by William Paterson University. The topic was "Applications of Math at the High School Level" presented by Dr. Bruce Bukiet. The students found the seminar both exciting and rewarding.

On March 29<sup>th</sup> Elinor Alboum and Rosemary Vivinetto accompanied the Accelerated Algebra II classes 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.

## V. MATHEMATICS CONTESTS

On Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> Mrs. Cofone chaperoned a group of 11 students to a math contest at Seton Hall University. A total of 249 students from 24 high schools participated in the competition. Nutley placed 6<sup>th</sup> out of the 24 competing schools.

The Math Club, sponsored by Elinor Alboum and Rosemary Vivinetto, met monthly to conduct contests and discuss problem-solving strategies. Students participated in six contests during the year sponsored by the New Jersey Math League. The contest involved approximately 55 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 19<sup>th</sup>. The only team to place in the top three was the Calculus team, which took 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

This year the mathematics department celebrated Pi day on March 15. Posters, which were made in class, were placed in the math hallway and activities relating to pi took place in the math classrooms. This was done under the direction of Mrs. Elinor Alboum.

## VI. STUDENT AWARDS, HONORS, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

High honors in mathematics were granted to nine of our graduating seniors. In addition, 47 seniors were granted honors for achieving above average grades in four years of high school mathematics.

## VII. WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS, AND OTHER VISITATIONS

The following is a list of seminars and workshops that were attended by members of the math department:

Susan Gesumaria attended with Raymond Chapman a workshop on HSPA/SRA questions and answers on September 24<sup>th</sup>.

Darren Mischel attended an AP Statistics roundtable at Fair Lawn Middle School in November.

Michael McQuade attended an AP Calculus roundtable at West Essex High School in December.

Toby D'Ambola and Raymond Chapman attended a statewide conference on the HSPA on February 4<sup>th</sup>.

Rosemary Vivinetto attended Math workshops at an ASCD Convention in New Orleans on 3/20 – 3/23.

Toby D'Ambola and Vincent Turturiello attended a workshop on "Building a Foundation for Success in Algebra & Beyond" on March 25<sup>th</sup>.

Darren Mischel attended the NCTM conference in Philadelphia from April 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>. At this conference he attended many meetings and brought valuable information and materials back for discussion by the staff.

Toby D'Ambola attended four math supervisors roundtables.

## VIII. DEPARTMENTAL GOALS FOR 2003 – 2004

- A. Continue expanding the use of computers and scientific and graphic calculators in the classroom. Continue to train teachers in the use of computers as a tool for enhancing lessons and also in the use of the Internet in the mathematics classroom.
- B. Group students according to grade level in Basic Skills classes so that we may better meet the needs of these students. Also carefully monitor the Pre Algebra curriculum to make sure it meets state-mandated requirements.

- C. 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 and state testing.
- D. Rewrite the trig/stat. curriculum to include more pre-calculus topics. This will give our students a stronger background in mathematics which will make them better prepared to take calculus either here at the high school or when they enter college. Also there is a need to replace the trigonometry book which has been in use for more than 10 years.
- E. Change the level of the current PreCalculus course to an honors level to encourage more students to take this course so that they will have a stronger background to study Calculus in the future.
- F. Start a discussion to integrate the teaching of Physics and Calculus using block scheduling.
- G. Continue to incorporate the open-ended question into our regular classroom activities and to include these types of questions on class tests and final exams.

**MUSIC**

6. The Concert Choir expanded to eighty-six members. Besides performing at the Yuletide Concert, Spring Concert, and the NHS Graduation the Concert Choir was selected to perform Mozart's *Solemn Vespers* at Carnegie Hall.
7. A new group, the NHS Chamber Music Singers/ Madrigals had a wonderful second year. They performed at the dedication of the 911 Memorial at Eagle Rock Reservation, the three day Madrigal Feast Dinner in December, and at the end of June will perform in London, England for ten days.
8. Professional Days: Mr. Vitkovsky attended the music workshops at the November NJEA Convention. Mr. Vitkovsky and Mr. Zellea attended the three day New Jersey Music Educators Convention/Workshop in New Brunswick.
9. Assemblies: The Band, Orchestra, Octets, Concert Choir, and Choralettes presented our annual Yuletide assembly for the school. This Yuletide program was also performed for the town on December 11, 2003. A large group of students from the Choralettes, Octets, Concert Choir, Orchestra, and the Band participated in the Spring Musical, "The Mystery of Edwin Drood."
10. Music Boosters Café Night: Twelve instrumental groups and the Octets performed. This performance was made possible by the dedication of the students and staff to rehearse many hours for this event both before and after school.
11. Winter Guard: This group lost several key students due to graduation. Even though their scores in the M.A.I.N. circuit were not as high as last year Ms. Aurilla Card and her students are to be commended for never giving up and working very hard all season. At the Williamsburg, Virginia competition they received a third place trophy.

## CONCERNS

There is a need for additional computers and electric keyboards to be installed in Room 102. Four more computers and six electric keyboards in room 102 would enable our students to use music notation software and music websites that are available on the Internet. 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. Also, the new keyboards would permit our department to offer a Piano Lab Class.

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Mr. Joseph Zarra, Principal of Nutley High School

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

**Re:** Principal's Report for the 2003 - 2004 School Year

The following are activities of the 2003 - 2004 school year, present concerns, and recommendations that are being submitted for your review and consideration.

### ACTIVITIES

1. This year enrollment in Concert Band, Choralettes, Octets, Orchestra, Jazz Lab, and Fundamentals of Music I and II remained the same. The Concert Choir continued to grow while the enrollment of the Raider Marching Band continued to decline.
2. In the Fall, the Raider Band participated in the competitions of the Cavalcade of Bands Association, as well as all home and away football games. At the end of the marching season the band participated in the Cavalcade of Bands Championships in Hershey, Pennsylvania. The highlight of the year for the Marching Band, Winter Guard, Orchestra, and Jazz Lab Combo was the trip to Williamsburg, Virginia. The Orchestra Jazz Lab Combo, and Concert Band received a first place trophy. The Winter Guard placed third and the Raider Marching Band second place.
3. This was a rebuilding year for the Orchestra since fourteen seniors were lost last year due to graduation. The Orchestra students worked very hard all year long and their efforts were rewarded with excellent performances at the NHS Yuletide Concert, Café Night and Williamsburg. Continuing a tradition that began nine years ago, the Orchestra and Band will jointly perform at the NHS Graduation.
4. The Choralettes and Octets had a very productive year, which included the following performances: Nutley Rotary Club, Nutley Old Guard, the Mayor's Tree Lighting Ceremony, the Town Yuletide Concert, the Police Chief's Swearing In Ceremony, the Nutley Commissioner's Swearing In, and for the Nutley AARP. Diane Aragona and Daniel Rohe were selected (by audition) to the 2004 N.J. All State Chorus. Also, Christopher Georgetti of the NHS Octets came within one point of being selected to the All State Chorus. On April 4, 2004 the NHS Choralettes performed John Rutter's *Mass of the Children* at Carnegie Hall.
5. The Jazz Lab Combo performed at the NHS Open House, Women in History Month reception, Café Night, and at the National Honor Society Induction.



## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Purchase several additional computers and electric keyboards for the music department.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH**

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

**Anna Melnyk**  
Department Chairperson

**Fax: 973-661-3664**  
**Phone: 973-661-8855**

**To: Mr. Zarra**

**Re: Annual Report 2003-2004**

**Date: May 19, 2004**

The year began with the displacement of the two health rooms, 116 and 120. Health classes were moved to the "old" special education rooms that had been converted into classrooms. These rooms were room 126 and 128. After the Christmas break the health classes had to be reassigned again since construction was beginning in that area of the building. With the help of Mr. Catrambone and the high school administration the health classes would use the cafeteria and the auditorium for periods 1,2 and 3. During periods 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 the health classes shared some of the math rooms that were not being used during the day. The use of the cafeteria as a teaching station was not as conducive as the auditorium. Teachers and students were constantly interrupting, thinking that there weren't any classes in progress. The auditorium as a teaching station was fine if and only there weren't any assemblies occurring. If that did happen the classes had to move to the cafeteria, library, the gymnasium or stay for the assembly. I am pleased that the staff adapted to the situations at hand.

Mr. Noonan submitted a proposal for a "zero period physical education class". A survey was handed out to the 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade homerooms. The students remitted a positive response. This would be geared to an advanced physical education class, we are waiting on the administration as to the next step in the scheduling process.

Mr. Sanfillipo organized a "hall of fame" for physical fitness awards. Those students who performed at the 60<sup>th</sup> percentile or better were listed as either gold, silver or bronze fitness winners. Mr. Sanfillipo gathered the lists from all of the teachers. All students were listed on the wall as soon as you entered the gym. Mr. Sangiovanni created a laminated sign, "Nutley High School Fitness Awards". This sign can be used over the years and gives the students a little more incentive when it comes to the Presidential Council on Physical Fitness Tests.

Badminton intramurals were held for the first time this year. Approximately thirty students participated in the event. Basketball intramurals were also held prior to the basketball season.

The annual Class Volleyball Tournament continues to create a lot of enthusiasm amongst the students and the staff. The tournament is held one week prior to the Christmas vacation. Each physical education period has a class winner, each team competes during periods 1-3 as the other students observe or serve as cheerleaders.

Mr. Sanfillipo took one of his senior physical education classes on a field trip to a golf driving range. This complimented the skills that were being taught in class, allowing the students to hit "live" golf balls.

All classes continue to have health and physical education for five days a week. The staff would like to see health as a separate grade. We would like to see health listed on the report card so that we can decipher when a student had health. What marking period, what teacher, what grade, what year etc. Many confusing issues would be answered if this was possible and comes to fruition.

**Revisions needed:**

- Health should be listed as a separate grade on the report card.
- Physical Education Curriculum needs to be revised to coincide with the NJ Core Curriculum standards.
- Locker Room Security – Most problems occur because the students do not have locks to lock their lockers. I would like the administration to provide students with locks. It was a program that was in place years ago, it should be reinstated.
- Boys Locker room – Lockers need to be added so that each boy has their own storage area.
- Men's physical education office needs to be expanded to accommodate the staff.
- Hiring a dance instructor for curriculum changes.
- The floor in the main gym needs to be replaced as soon as possible; the amount of wood that is left after sanding is done looks to be very minimal. Some of the boards are warping, some are loose, some have major divots, and bouncing a basketball in some of the dead spots creates a negative effect on the game.

**SCIENCE**

***Nutley High School  
Science Department  
Annual Report  
2003-2004***

**To: Mr. Joseph Zarra**

**From: Mr. Michael Fetherman**

**Re: Principal's Report for the 2003-2004 Academic Year**

**Date: June 2, 2004**

The Nutley High School science department experienced a dynamic year of both progress and change. The addition of several new staff members for retirement replacement and course expansion purposes contributed to an adventuresome year, with mentorship responsibilities handled admirably by both Mr. Lawrence Jinks and Mrs. Paula Kasner, two master teachers with decades of experience between them. 2003-2004 also brought to conclusion the NHS teaching career of Mr. Walter Sautter, to whom we say good-bye and best wishes for a happy and healthy retirement! His commitment to the students, faculty and staff of the Nutley School District will not soon be forgotten – thanks, Walt!

Please find in the pages that follow the statistics, activities, accomplishments, accolades, concerns and recommendations that are being submitted for your review and consideration.

**I. The Science Staff**

Departmental statistics for the 2003-2004 school year indicate that 16 diverse and dynamic teachers taught 14 different course selections. The implementation of two new courses, *AP Environmental Science* and *Biology for Living*, helped maintain a healthy balance of entry-level and academically advanced coursework. The following is a section by section look at the science department documenting the class, number of sections and instructor.

**AP Environmental Science – Teacher: Mr. Joseph Tagliareni.**

There were four sections of our newest advanced placement offering, each meeting six periods per week. A total of 57 students enrolled in this program sat for the AP exam, with the results to be made public sometime this July.

**AP Biology – Teacher: Mr. Lawrence Jinks.**

Mr. Jinks returned to the helm of our highly successful *AP Biology* program. Students responded favorably to Mr. Jinks' return, necessitating an additional section for the 2004-2005 school year. This year only one section of *AP Biology* was offered, with 11 students having sat for the AP exam.

**AP Chemistry – Teacher: Dr. Frank Ellis.**

Dr. Ellis took over the reigns of Nutley High School's advanced placement physical science courses and has challenged our students to meet the demands of a comprehensive, college preparatory curriculum. Two sections of *AP Chemistry* were offered this year, with 19 students having sat for the AP exam.

**AP Physics – Teacher: Dr. Frank Ellis.**

Dr. Ellis revamped our *AP Physics* course of study to meet the rigors of college preparatory physics and, in the process, encouraged many of our best students to sit for the advanced placement exam in physics. One section of *AP Physics* was offered this year, with 13 students having sat for the AP exam.

**Biology IX Honors – Teachers: Mr. Lawrence Jinks and Mr. Kent Bania.**

There were four sections of *Biology IX Honors*, each with its own laboratory period. Three sections were taught by Mr. Jinks, while one section by Mr. Bania.

**Chemistry Honors – Teacher: Miss Doris Dean.**

Nutley High School welcomed Ms. Doris Dean to the science staff, an experienced teacher whose latest assignment included teaching science in Hawaii! There were three sections of *Chemistry Honors* this year, and Ms. Dean taught all of them.

**Physics Honors – Teacher: Dr. Frank Ellis.**

There were no sections of *Physics Honors* offered this year, but the revision of our course prerequisites in physics has created the need for three section of *Physics Honors* for the 2004-2005 school year.

**Human Physiology Honors – Teacher: Mr. Kent Bania.**

There was one section of *Human Physiology Honors* that met five periods per week.

**Human Physiology – Teacher: Miss Jennifer Santos.**

There were two sections of *Human Physiology* that met five periods per week. Ms. Santos taught both sections.

**Microbiology – Teacher: Mrs. Paula Kasner.**

There were five sections of *Microbiology*, including one inclusion class, meeting five periods per week. All sections were taught by Mrs. Kasner with the help of Mr. Robert Harbison, inclusion teacher, during the first period offering.

**College Prep Biology – Teachers: Mrs. Eleni Koukoularis, Miss Jennifer Santos, Mr. Scott Kindler, Miss Kati Gratz, Mr. Michael Fetherman and Mr. Steve Starrick.**

There were a total of nineteen sections of *College Prep Biology* taught by six different teachers. Changes to the sequence of study found both ninth and tenth graders enrolled in *College Prep Biology*, necessitating the hire of Miss Kati Gratz, a welcomed addition to the staff here at Nutley High School. Extended maternity leave was granted to Mrs. Koukoularis, with her position filled satisfactorily by Mr. Starrick, long-time chemistry teacher here in Nutley.

**Biology for Living – Teacher: Mr. Kent Bania.**

The second of two new course offerings, *Biology for Living* offered the students of Nutley High School an entry-level science option for the technical school/career oriented student. All three sections were designed and taught by Mr. Kent Bania, with one section taught with Mr. Harbison in the inclusion setting.

**College Prep Chemistry – Teachers: Mr. Walter Sautter, Ms. Doris Dean, Ms. Christa Delano and Mr. Michael Fetherman.**

There were eleven sections of *College Prep Chemistry*, each with its own lab period. Three sections were taught by Mr. Sautter and Ms. Dean, while four sections were taught by Ms. Delano and one by Mr. Fetherman. Ms. Delano was a welcomed addition to our department as a teacher of physical science, and we are sorry to see her leave before making her mark here at Nutley High School.

**College Prep Physics – Teacher: Mr. Walter Sautter and Dr. Frank Ellis.**

There were two sections of *College Prep Physics*, each meeting six periods per week.

**Earth/Space Science – Teacher: Mr. Wayne Barreto.**

There were four sections of *Earth/Space Science* taught by another new hire, Mr. Barreto.

**Environmental Science – Teacher: Mr. Wayne Barreto.**

There was one section of *Environmental Science* taught by Mr. Barreto.

## **II. Advanced Placement Testing**

Advanced Placement testing was offered this year in four courses: *AP Environmental Science*, *AP Biology*, *AP Chemistry* and *AP Physics*. The number of students sitting for the test were as follows:

Advanced Placement Biology – 11  
 Advanced Placement Chemistry – 19  
 Advanced Placement Physics – 13  
 Advanced Placement Environmental Science – 57

## **III. Science Awards**

A number of awards offered in the sciences were distributed among several well-deserving students of Nutley High School. Both Juniors and Seniors were eligible to receive awards, and the recipients' names appear below:

*Bausch & Lomb Science Award* – Mamoon Khokhar  
*Nutley Elks Gerald Danche Memorial Science Award* – Mamoon Khokhar  
*Nutley Elks Ladies Auxiliary Science Award* – Jeffrey Klatsky



#### **IV. Staff Development**

Several staff members in the science department sought and participated in professional development opportunities ranging from workshops to lecture series to field trips. The following is a list of professional development activities and events attended or participated in by the staff. I commend all participants on a "a job well done:"

- New Jersey Science Teachers Convention
- Pharmaceutical Engineering for HS Teachers
- College of St. Elizabeth Women in Science Day
- NJ Audubon Environmental Seminar
- Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering Workshop
- Technology Applications in the Science Classroom
- "Teach at the Beach" Seminar
- Rutgers University "Adventures in Food Chemistry" Seminar
- Physics Day – Six Flags Great Adventure
- New Jersey Teachers for Biodiversity Workshop

#### **V. Curriculum Development**

The NHS Science Curriculum Committee met last Fall to revise the NHS Science Curriculum and ensure its alignment with the NJ Core Curriculum Standards. It was also necessary to adjust the curriculum to ensure that all students could fulfill the new state graduation requirement of three years of science. To this end, all incoming ninth grade students were enrolled in biology for the 2003-2004 school year, and meetings to be held this Fall will focus, in part, on the effectiveness of this latest change in course sequence. Additional emphasis will be place on the efficacy of the newly implemented *Biology for Living* and *AP Environmental Science* courses.

#### **VI. UMDNJ Partnership**

This year saw the continued participation of our students in the *Heath Dynamics* and *Human Physiology* courses offered here at the high school. When these courses are taken concurrently, students can sit for the qualifying exams at UMDNJ, earning valuable college credits. Results of this year's examination will be published in the near future.

A special thank you to Mrs. Rose Cioffi and Mrs. Sharon Romaglia for their continued support of the UMDNJ-Nutley High School program. Rose Cioffi taught the *Health Dynamics* course offered during zero period Tuesday mornings. Sharon Romaglia attended monthly meetings at the UMDNJ-Scotch Plains campus and acted as liaison between the UMDNJ community and Nutley High, as she coordinated numerous activities for our students to take part in. In short, our students enjoyed access to this selective program due in large part to the time and effort of these two women. Both Rose and Sharon deserve a great big thank you!

## **VII. Project Acceleration**

Several students received college credits through Seton Hall University's Project Acceleration program. With the completion of the new science wing, additional courses offered here at the high school will be submitted for Project Acceleration status approval, including *AP Environmental Science* and *AP Biology*.

## **VIII. Extracurricular Activities**

The following is a list of extracurricular activities participated in by members of the science department:

Lacrosse coach – Mr. Kent Bania  
 Outdoor Adventure Club – Mr. Kent Bania  
 Chess Team Coach – Mr. Kent Bania  
 Weight Room Supervisor – Mr. Kent Bania  
 C.A.T. Program – Ms. Kati Gratz  
 Ultimate Frisbee Club – Mr. Wayne Barreto  
 Sophomore Class Advisor – Ms. Jennifer Santos  
 Gymnastics Coach – Ms. Jennifer Santos  
 C.L.A.W. Advisor – Mr. Joe Tagliareni  
 Science tutor – Mr. Walter Sautter  
 KEY Club advisor – Ms. Christa Delano

## **IX. Guest Speakers**

Several sections of *College Prep Biology* and *College Prep Chemistry* were treated to a guest lecture delivered by Ms. Nya Ebam, Nutley High School class of 1998. Nya, a second-year medical student, spoke of the opportunities in science for both women and minorities. Nya painted a realistic picture of high school, college and medical school life as it relates to her experiences and encouraged all students to maintain a positive attitude and solid work ethic. Thank you again, Nya!

## **X. Textbook Implementation**

*Modern Biology* (2002 edition) was phased into the *College Prep Biology* classes and *Environmental Science: Earth as a Living Planet* (4<sup>th</sup> edition 2003) by Botkin and Keller was adopted as the textbook for the new *Advanced Placement Environmental Science* Course. Additionally, a new *AP Physics* textbook (*Physics*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. – Walker) and accompanying student problems sets were purchased for use during the upcoming school year.

## **XI. Concerns for the Future**

Changing circumstances has led to the departure of several staff members and the need for their replacement. Candidates are being screened as we speak with an eye toward

energetic, knowledgeable and professional staff members being brought on board. Mentoring of new staff as well as their successful integration into the culture of our school remains high on the priority list as we aim to provide the best services for our children.

Completion of the new science wing and the smooth transition to our new location will ensure many challenging days ahead. With anticipation of an efficient relocation, the science staff looks forward to the fringe benefits of our renewed surroundings and the educational opportunities they bring with it!

While the *Biology for Living* course has worked out well, I speak confidently that the primary reason why we had so few problems was Mr. Bania's pedagogical expertise and experience in handling diverse learning styles. It is my recommendation that we consider implementing the inclusion model for ALL sections of this course, rather than just one. While the cost may seem exorbitant, the benefits to both students and staff would be priceless. Past experiences have shown that neglecting entry-level course offerings creates mountains of administrative headaches in the form of discipline referrals and lower staff morale, avoidable consequences under more favorable circumstances.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

## Nutley High School

**To:** Mr. Joseph Zarra, Principal

**Date:** June 21, 2004

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

**Subject:** Principal's Report for 2003 - 2004 Academic Year

The Social Studies Department continues to offer a rich and varied curriculum that addresses a broad range of social studies concerns and requirements. This is accomplished through a curriculum of fourteen different courses, which includes four honors courses and three advanced placement courses. Eleven teachers and the coordinator cover fifty-three sections, as well as one section of the interdisciplinary Humanities course. Total enrollment for all courses is currently 1456 students, including a substantial number of students who are taking two or three courses within the department.

During the course of the academic year, the faculty continued to implement the revised curriculum in order to ensure compliance with the recently issued New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards. The teachers continued to incorporate both PowerPoint and Internet - based materials into instructional strategies, and utilized the smartboards and LCD projectors to infuse these presentations into the instructional strategies. In addition, the department has shared resources between faculty members via a new mapped drive on the district network. Current goals are to complete an upgrade of the department's website, providing more resources for both students and teachers.

### I. Curriculum

- A. The curriculum is well - designed to meet the current needs of the students, and is continually examined in light of the state standards.
- B. The faculty is continuously working to enhance and update the curriculum and instructional strategies, and to locate and develop new materials for the various courses. To this end, two new courses, *World History* and *World History Honors*, were granted Board approval and a curriculum was developed in accordance with the revised draft of the Core Curriculum Standards. These courses replace the previous freshman requirement of either *World Cultures* or *World Cultures Honors*.
- C. A new course, *Archaeology of the Ancient World*, was implemented, and drew and enrollment of over 100 students.
- D. The faculty has continued to provide extra emphasis on geography instruction, and to explore strategies that will enhance student retention of geographic learning.
- E. 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 II classes. Roundtable discussions at a state sponsored conference at The College of St. Elizabeth established that Nutley High School was the only school in attendance with a working assessment of student proficiency concerning tolerance and the Holocaust.

- F. 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 II curriculum, and a faculty generated test was administered to the students in many of these classes.
- G. 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 2003 – 2004 academic year. Members of the faculty evaluated current texts, and continued the search for other suitable works during monthly department meetings. Three new supplemental texts were suggested, focusing upon the political theory, the Civil Rights Movement and Cold War foreign policy.

## II. Staff Development Activities

- A. The Social Studies faculty took part in the following workshops and seminars:
  - 1. Affirmative Action In-service training
  - 2. Conference on Affirmation Action and completion of Comprehensive Equity Plans
  - 3. New Jersey Council for the Social Studies / New Jersey Geographic Alliance Annual Convention
  - 4. Four HSPT II Workshops
  - 5. Intervention and Referral Services Training Workshops
  - 6. NJASSP Student Activities Conference

- B. Faculty members completed graduate courses in the following areas:

Archaeology and Ancient History at City University of New York

## III. Enrichment

- A. The following activities were conducted by the Social Studies faculty:
  - 1. Completion of a school level objective project focused upon the economic development of nineteenth century New Jersey and the United States.
  - 2. Debates regarding the bombing of Hiroshima, affirmative action, federal funding of education, and the social movements of the 1960's

3. Debates concerning the nature of the American Revolution, slavery, the inevitability of the Civil War", and Reconstruction
4. "Create a Civilization"
5. Mock trials
6. Reenactments and role playing
7. Forbear Project
8. Political Personality Profiles and Voting Analyses
9. Guest Speakers
  - a) Carl Ohlson, Vietnam veteran
  - b) Civil War reenactor
  - c) Social workers, Nutley Family Services
10. Creation of travel brochures and virtual tours of the countries
11. Mock Elections
12. Neighborhood Analysis (Sociology)
13. Creation of Early Childhood Learning Centers (Sociology)
14. Use of library and classroom 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. Re-enactment of the Convention of 1860
21. Field Trips
  - a) Veterans' Home
  - b) Jewish Museum
  - c) Tenament Museum
  - d) Metropolitan Museum of Art
  - e) Brooklyn Museum
22. Humanities - five field trips to sites and venues in New York City
23. New Jersey Association of Student Councils Convention
24. Hands-on archaeology: Creation of mud bricks and building a wall, cleaning Roman coins and making rubbings of inscriptions.

#### IV. Textbook Management

- A. Textbook age, condition, and inventory are continually monitored.
- B. The department would like to replace the current European History textbook with a book that provides greater coverage of the Greco-Roman and medieval eras. This was delayed due to budgetary concerns.

## V. Social Studies Awards

Awards to graduating seniors:

1. Daughters of the American Revolution, Yantacaw Chapter: Yasmine Shama
2. American Legion - Excellence in History: Denis Sendros, Mamoon Khokhar
3. League of Women Voters of Nutley: Meghan Ashley
4. Brian McGinley Award for Outstanding History Student: Michael Catelli
5. The Carmen A. Orechio Civic Association: Jessica Zarra

## VI. Items New to the Social Studies Department for 2003 - 2004

- A. Two new elective courses, *World History* and *World History Honors*, were submitted for approval by the Board of Education and the Superintendent. The curriculum was developed by a faculty committee.
- B. The department continued to develop a cooperative relationship with the Nutley League of Women Voters to promote civic awareness and responsibility. The department encouraged student participation in the League's celebration of Women's History Month.
- C. Recognizing the increasing importance of the Internet for students, the department, revised its website, a project that will continue in future years. The new "Resources" page contains links for elementary schools to review basic concepts of the American political system, as well as voter registration links for students and citizens in the community. Enhanced study guides to assist parents and students with the new World History courses will be added in the near future.
- D. A search was conducted for two new faculty members, one to replace Mr. Jacobs, and another to address the rising enrollment.
- E. A student teacher from William Paterson University was mentored this year.
- F. Multi-media presentations, utilizing both Microsoft's *PowerPoint* and Apple's *AppleWorks* were integrated into the instructional strategies practiced by the faculty. In addition, the additional laptop computer, and shared drive facilitated the infusion of technology into social studies instruction.

## 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 continue the ongoing investigation of new strategies for teaching geography, in order to enhance student understanding and retention of key geographic concepts and content.
- C. The scheduled revision of the curriculum should await the final report of the ongoing state revision of the Core Curriculum Standards, as well as the pending report of the state's Amistad Committee. This would ensure that whatever changes are made to the curriculum would match the latest requirements of the state Department of Education.
- D. The department would like to be granted several curriculum sessions to develop a pamphlet that explicitly states the infusion of New Jersey history, politics, and government into the United States History curriculum, as per state law. These activities are conducted yearly, however the department would like to document them for any future monitoring, as well as create a valuable resource for new staff assigned these courses.
- E. BBEdit, a web-authoring program, was recently purchased for the department coordinator and utilized to revise and update the department's website. The purchase of additional copies of this, or related web-authoring software, for the other members of the department is recommended as more of the department's activities are becoming Internet accessible for students and parents. The department is grateful for the previous support of the Board and the Administration in this regard.
- F. In order to enhance the effective use of computer applications and resources, and in response to strong faculty demand for the currently available resources, the department would like to investigate the procurement, through grant or purchase, of laptop computers and additional smartboards and LCD projectors. Again, the department is grateful for the previous support of the Board and the Administration in this regard.

## **COOPERATIVE INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION**

**NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL**  
**300 Franklin Avenue**  
**Nutley, NJ 07110**

**William Farkas**  
**CIE Coordinator**

**Tel: (973) 661-8844**  
**Fax: (973) 661-3664**

**TO: Mr. Joseph Zarra**

**FROM: Mr. Bill Farkas**

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

**DATE: June 30, 2004**

**FACT SHEET**

1. CIE Regular Program. Mailing Work Directory attached.
2. Began with 18 students and finished with 10 students.
3. The 10 Students break down as follows:
 

One (1) will perform the same work they were trained for on the CIE program either on a full time or part time basis.

Six (6) will go to vocational school, two years or less.

Three (3) will go to the county college.
4. Total earnings of these students during the 2003-2004 school year amounted to \$41,867.00.
5. Several of our CIE students participated in a scholarship program offered by the New Jersey State Coordinators Association.
 

Three Nutley students won scholarships. Jeni Benaquista received a \$3,000.00 scholarship to Roman Academy. Michael Dolocheck received a \$6,700.00 scholarship to the Teterboro School of Aeronautics, and Richard Vlasakakis received a \$6,000.00 scholarship to Rets Institute.
6. We had twelve (12) students participate in the Construction Industry Advancement of N.J. Program. Attached is an accounting of each student and the trade for which they qualified.

7. For the third straight year we had 40 students participate in the OSHA ten hour General Industry Outreach Program given at Nutley High School by the New Jersey Department of Labor and the Brotherhood of Electricians Local 269.
8. For the past couple of years I have become very active performing placement service duties for all Nutley High School students, both part time and full time permanent positions. This office has placed many students, and many others are aware of job possibilities offered through me.
9. I had over 40 speakers from various vocational schools speak during my 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> period classes about the opportunities provided at their schools. (List attached)
10. Finally, the Career Club I started six years ago took eleven field trips to various businesses and medical and technical institutes to give students ideas of what other options are available if any decide not to go to a two or four year college.

Sincerely yours,



William Farkas  
CIE Coordinator

WF/md  
Attachments

**C.I.E.  
MAILING WORK DIRECTORY  
2003-2004**

**JENNY BENAQUISTA**

Statewide Staffing, Inc.  
366 Passaic Avenue  
Nutley, NJ 07110  
973-667-0109  
Attn: Michele

**JENNY BENAQUISTA**

Tuxedos by Cozy  
695 Passaic Avenue  
Clifton, NJ 07014  
973-661-9781  
Attn: Roland

**CHRISTOPHER CZARNECKI**

Touch of Class  
5<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Paterson, NJ  
973-247-1700  
Attn: Marilyn

**NICOLE DI ANTONIO**

Nicholas Pellecoro, DPM  
526 Franklin Avenue  
Nutley, NJ 07110  
973-667-1066  
Attn: Nick

**MICHAEL DOLOCHECK**

T-Mont Plumbing  
208 Harrison Street  
Nutley, NJ 07110  
973-284-1173  
Attn: Anthony

**STEPHANIE DERIBIN**

B. Trematore Plumbing & Heating  
5 Daniel Road  
Fairfield, NJ 07004  
973-227-8330  
Attn: Roy

**BRADLEY FARRELL**

Total Precision Autoworkers  
20 Watchung Avenue  
Belleville, NJ 07109  
973-759-8522  
Attn: Mark

**KRISTIE GESUMARIA**

RCA Insurance Group  
1333 Broad Street  
Clifton, NJ 07013  
973-472-8600  
Attn: Joe

**MARISA MELILLI**

Tri-County Endodontics  
791 Passaic Avenue  
Clifton, NJ 07012  
973-471-7500  
Attn: Dolly

**MICHAEL MIGLIORATI**

B. Trematore Plumbing & Heating  
5 Daniel Road  
Fairfield, NJ 07004  
973-227-8330  
Attn: Roy

**SCOTT NICASTRO**

Journeys  
#1 Garden State Plaza Drive  
Paramus, NJ 07652  
201-843-4343  
Attn: Jose

**THOMAS PARISI**

Nutley Public Works  
4 Tremont Drive  
Nutley, NJ 07110  
973-284-4983

<p><b><u>ERIC SCHIWE</u></b></p> <p>Richards The Florist 464 Franklin Avenue Nutley, NJ 07110 973-667-0011 Attn: Tony</p>	<p><b><u>ROCCO TURANO</u></b></p> <p>Tuxedo by Cozy 695 Passaic Avenue Clifton, NJ 07014 973-661-9781 Attn: Roland</p>
<p><b><u>RICHARD VLASAKAKIS</u></b></p> <p>T. Goglia Electrical Contractors 10 Van Riper Place Nutley, NJ 07110 973-667-1111 Attn: Janice</p>	

6/10/04

# NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL

300 FRANKLIN AVENUE  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

William L. Farkas  
Career Industrial Education Coordinator

Tel: (973) 661-8844  
Fax: (973) 661-8840

## SCHOOL TO CAREER

### 2003/2004 VOCATIONAL SCHOOL SPEAKERS AND FIELD TRIPS

DATE	NAME
<b>2003</b>	
September 23	DeVry Institute
October 1	American Business Academy
October 9	European Academy of Cosmetology
October 14	Occupational Safety Health Administration
October 15	Occupational Safety Health Administration
October 16	Rets Institute
October 21	Giant Stadium – Field Trip
October 22	Lincoln Tech, Union, NJ
October 24	U.S. Marines
October 27	Construction industry
November 4	High Tech Institute
November 12	ASVAB Test – Nutley High School
November 13	Capri Institute – Field Trip
November 14	Berdan Institute
November 17	Construction – Heavy Duty Equipment – Field Trip

November 18	Dover Business College
November 20	Pennsylvania School of Culinary Arts
December 2	Engine City
December 3	U.S. Army
December 5	Lincoln Tech, Mahwah – Field Trip
December 9	Teterboro School of Technology
December 11	Lincoln Tech, Mahwah – Field Trip
December 16	Jersey Gardens – Skill Center – Field Trip
December 18	Cittone Institute
2004	
January 6	Commerce Bank
January 8	Ironworkers Training Program - Field Trip
January 14	Berkeley College
January 16	High Tech Institute
January 21	Chubb Institute - Jersey City
January 23	Youth Detention Center - Newark Jail - Field Trip
January 26, 30	OSHA Safety Course
February 3	U.S. Marines
February 4	NASCAR Technical Institute
February 5, 10, 12, 25	OSHA Safety Course
February 24	Dover Business College
February 27	Artistic Academy



March 8, 11, 15, 19, 23, 25	OSHA Safety Course
March 9	Stenotech Career Institute
March 18	Construction Industry Program
March 30	Roman Academy
April 8	Quick Start Careers
April 13	Metro - Auto Electronics
April 15	Construction - Labor Union - Field Trip
May 5	N.J. Safety Council
May 11	Metro - Auto - Field Trip
May 13	Key Skill Learning, Inc.
May 19	The Institute For Health Ed.
May 20	Jersey City Skill Center - Field Trip
May 26	Roman Academy of Beauty Culture

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*Philip Kinzel*  
Kinzel & Company

# CIAP

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY  
ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM of N.J.  
P.O. Box 6553  
Edison, New Jersey 08818-6553  
(732) 738-8636 FAX: (732) 738-9665

June 1, 2004

Mr. George Ackerman  
Industrial Arts Coordinator  
Nutley High School  
300 Franklin Avenue  
Nutley, NJ 07110

Dear George:

Enclosed are the results of the second testing of the ACT. All of your students with the exception of Michael Migleorati qualified for one of the three trades in our grant. The following is an accounting of each student and the trade for which they academically qualify. Remember they need to complete an application, be interviewed and pass a drug test. They must also have a valid drivers license, have reliable transportation, and have a high school diploma.

Marc J. Alfano	-	operating engineers, laborers
Michael J. Doloscheck✓	-	all three trades
Jason J. Endres	-	operating engineers, laborers
Christian A. Garcia	-	laborers
Gary L. Giubiloo	-	laborers
Sean Goldrick	-	operating engineers, laborers
Taleb S. Hassan	-	operating engineers, laborers
James E. Michalek	-	operating engineers, laborers
Nicholas P. Reo	-	laborers
Sal S. Vitale	-	all three trades
Matthew G. Vizzone	-	laborers
Richard D. Vlasakakis✓	-	operating engineers, laborers, and maybe ironworkers

Please provide the score and enclosed certificate to your students. Looking forward to working with you next year.

Regards,



M. Lee Pisaurro  
Education Representative

encl (as noted)

04728478-319003-14

**WorkKeys<sup>®</sup>  
Summary***Report for:* RICHARD D VLASAKAKIS*Test Date:* 05/2004*Test Site:* CIAP*Report Date:* 05/13/2004**Applied Mathematics** (Levels range from 3 to 7) Level: 5

This person scored at Level 5. Individuals with Level 5 skills can set up and solve problems involving multiple-step calculations on a mixture of whole numbers, fractions, decimals, or percentages, when the information is presented in a logical order.

**Locating Information** (Levels range from 3 to 6) Level: 4

This person scored at Level 4. Individuals with Level 4 skills can correctly use straightforward workplace graphics, such as basic order forms, line graphs, standard tables, and basic diagrams, to find several related pieces of information, compare trends and main points, and/or summarize information within a single graphic or across more than one graphic representing related information.

**Reading for Information** (Levels range from 3 to 7) Level: 6

This person scored at Level 6. Individuals with Level 6 skills can understand reading materials with a substantial amount of detail about a topic, such as excerpts from straightforward regulatory and legal documents, a memo outlining procedures to be followed in the case of injuries, or a rental agreement. They can correctly apply complex instructions from such reading materials.

We hope you find this WorkKeys information useful. If you have questions about these scores or about the WorkKeys system or skills, please contact WorkKeys (96), ACT, 2201 North Dodge Street, P. O. Box 168, Iowa City, IA 52243.

**Official  
Skill Report****WORKKEYS****ACT<sup>™</sup>**

04728478-319003-3

WorkKeys<sup>®</sup>  
Summary

*Report for:* MICHAEL J DOLOCHECK  
*Test Site:* CIAP

*Test Date:* 05/2004  
*Report Date:* 05/13/2004

**Applied Mathematics** (Levels range from 3 to 7) Level: 5

This person scored at Level 5. Individuals with Level 5 skills can set up and solve problems involving multiple-step calculations on a mixture of whole numbers, fractions, decimals, or percentages, when the information is presented in a logical order.

**Locating Information** (Levels range from 3 to 6) Level: 5

This person scored at Level 5. Individuals with Level 5 skills can correctly use complicated workplace graphics, such as complex forms and tables, multivariable graphs, and detailed diagrams, to compare trends and main points, and/or summarize information within a single graphic or across more than one graphic representing related information.

**Reading for Information** (Levels range from 3 to 7) Level: 5

This person scored at Level 5. Individuals with Level 5 skills can apply information from reading materials to situations that are similar to those described in the materials. They can correctly understand written materials containing a moderate amount of detail about a topic, such as a memo describing a company's benefit package, directions for new office procedures, or instructions for estimating prices. They can also understand words and phrases having specialized or multiple meanings.

We hope you find this WorkKeys information useful. If you have questions about these scores or about the WorkKeys system or skills, please contact WorkKeys (96), ACT, 2201 North Dodge Street, P. O. Box 168, Iowa City, IA 52243.

**MEDIA DEPARTMENT**

**YEAR END REPORT**

**2003-2004**

June, 2004  
Mr. James Kelly

### **2003-2004 Media Activities and Projects**

1. The Media Department has serviced various school and community groups regarding distribution of audio-visual hardware and software.
2. The media student assistants videotaped student teachers for various departments.
3. Additions of all pertinent videos in all subject areas are continually added to our video library.
4. The Media Club attended a field trip to see MTV's TRL Live on national television. They toured studio operations.
5. 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 audio-visual hardware and problem solving information. Some of these organizations were New Jersey City University, Nutley Police Department and the Nutley Red Cross.
6. The Media Department assists with the audio for the Junior Olympics and the High School graduation program.
7. The Media Department tapes and broadcasts Board of Education meetings on Cablevision (our cable television provider.)
8. The Media Department serves as the liaison between Nutley Public Schools, New Jersey Public Television and Cablevision.
9. Overnight taping of an education program requested by the High School staff is recorded by the Media Department.
10. Our audio-visual student assistants videotaped Nutley High School and community segments for the Referendum production in April.
11. The elimination of all out-dated audio-visual hardware and software is an ongoing process. Due to construction and revamping of my work area, this process was expanded this year.
12. The Media Department routinely services the following:
 

Duplication of pertinent educational videos for the district	
AV requests	AV budgets
AV maintenance	Media room
AV inventories	Media helpers

## I. Film and Video 2003-2004

Film and videos used from outside sources were:	46
Postage money for film and video returns (UPS):	\$270.41
Rental fees for AV software:	314.10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$584.51</b>

## II. Audio Visual Hardware Requests

Daily requests	402
Long term requests	79
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>481</b>

## III. Additional Media Requests

Fall and Spring CAT Programs	20 Sessions
Fall and Spring Adult School	40 Sessions

Independent and community organization 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  
 Inventory Storage and Housing  
 Office of Operation for Media Department

## V. Expected Postal and Rental Expenses for 2004-2005 School Year

Postage	\$ 300.00
Rentals	400.00
Software Purchases	2,000.00
Hardware Purchases	<u>6,000.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 8,700.00</b>

**Missing Software 2003-2004**

The Engine Lathe, Part I    VC 621.9 Engine

**Missing Hardware 2003-2004**

None

**Summer Loans 2004**

Chris Oseja            VHS/Camera/Tripod



## **ATHLETICS**

# NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL

ANGELO FRANNICOLA  
Director

300 FRANKLIN AVENUE  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

AREA CODE 973  
661-8849  
661-8850  
FAX 661-2834

## ATHLETICS

June 25, 2004

TO: Mr. J. Zarra  
FROM: A. Frannicola  
RE: Annual Report - Athletics 2003-2004

I am pleased to report that the 2003-2004 school year at Nutley High School was very successful. This year over 728 athletes competed on 22 varsity and 18 sub-varsity teams. There were over 525 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 student athletes participated in our athletic program under Mr. Angelo Frannicola, Athletic Director, 62 Coaches, 5 Volunteer Coaches, 1 Athletic Trainer, 1 Equipment Manager, and 1 Athletic Secretary. These student athletes and their coaches shared in this important educational experience as they represented our school and community in a positive manner. We continue to have seasonal sportsmanship meetings in our program in an effort to improve in this area.

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.

In the fall, Nutley participated in the NJSIAA State Gymnastic Meet and our individual athlete finished 1<sup>st</sup> in the State and was named the Outstanding Gymnast of the Year. The girls' tennis team won the NNJIL Division A League Championship and our football team defeated Belleville High School for the sixth year in a row in the traditional Thanksgiving game. Also, our boys' and girls' soccer teams participated in the Essex County Tournament with the girls' soccer team advancing to play in the State Tournament.

During the winter season, our girls' basketball team participated in the Essex County and State Tournaments. The girls' bowling team won the NNJIL Division A Championship and participated in the State Tournament. The boys' bowling team participated in the Essex County and State Tournaments. The wrestling team won the NNJIL Division A League Championship and participated in the County, Districts, and Regional Tournaments with team members advancing to the State Tournament.

Finally, during the spring season, our track and softball teams qualified for the County and State Tournaments. Members of the track team participated in the Meet of Champions. The baseball team won the NNJIL Division A League Championship, the Greater Newark Tournament (for the third time in four years), the Group III State Sectional, and this year's team has the school record for most wins in a season – 27. Team members made All County, All State, and were selected to the local papers' All State Teams.

AF:sp

Attachments - End of Season Reports for Fall, Winter & Spring

**STUDENT ASSISTANCE COUNSELOR**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**2003 - 2004**

To: Miss Barbara Hirsch, Director of Special Services  
 From: **Lisa Cassilli**, Student Assistance Coordinator  
 Date: June 2004  
 Re: **High School SAC Annual Report**

This annual report provides a summary of responsibilities and services provided by the high school SAC for the 2003-2004 school year. The most significant function of the high school SAC is to provide *consistent and enduring support services* to students in need of assistance. The SAC offers a **broad-brush approach** in that counseling is provided to students for a **myriad of issues** including, but not limited to, substance abuse. Many students have concurrent issues that complicate effectively addressing the issue; thus requiring extended time to be dedicated to that particular student.

For example, one student in particular that received assistance this year was experiencing attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) with obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD). He developed a substance abuse problem to compensate for his frustration and anxiety. In addition, his mother, who is his primary support person, was diagnosed with breast cancer. Working with this student was a challenging but rewarding experience that required daily contact and diligent case management.

Case management of a particular student includes frequent contact with the student, parent, treatment provider(s), teachers and administrators to monitor behaviors, grades, and emotional level of functioning. Detailed documentation of all contacts must be maintained due to the sensitive nature of each case. The SAC also serves as a liaison to the administration and will be involved in discipline and parent contact for students with behavioral problems.

#### I. **STUDENT INTERVENTIONS**

Over three hundred students have been referred by guidance counselors, the attendance office, health teachers, school nurses, coaches, child study team members, parents, I & RS team, Juvenile Conference Committee, and other students. All of these students receive an informal assessment, recommendations, and follow-up. Students are monitored by the SAC on a continual basis for support services. Reasons for referral include **substance abuse, parental substance abuse, learning disabilities, divorce, behavioral problems, ADHD, grief/loss, eating disorders, mental health issues, and family conflict**. Up to 90% of referrals are recommended for some type of outside counseling to address their needs in a therapeutic environment. It should be noted that SAC services should never be used as a substitute for therapy. Students may be referred for individual, family, group or residential treatment. Students are consistently referred to self-help groups such as Al-Anon, Alateen or Narcotics Anonymous. All of the students seen by the SAC are offered educational materials, appropriate numbers to call for assistance, and ongoing support.

## II. PROGRAMS

The high school SAC continues to work hand-in-hand with the middle school SAC and elementary SAC to provide exceptional prevention and intervention programs as well as parent and staff training programs. The Substance Abuse Policy, developed by the SACs throughout the 2001-2002 school year, is utilized as an example for other districts throughout the state. In addition, cases are discussed regularly to provide supervision and a smooth transition for students entering the high school. A mentoring program is employed when the middle school SAC determines a student may need guidance from an older peer. The SACs at each level sit on a multitude of community and statewide committees, representing the Nutley School District in a positive manner.

- **New Hope/Renaissance House Recovering Speakers Bureau**
- **Violence Awareness Week Activities** included a fundraiser and a Hallway of Peace with “Let’s Take Steps to Stop the Violence”. SACs presented their programs and activities to the Board of Education. Violence Prevention Guides developed by the Student Assistance Program were distributed to students and teachers.
- **NCADD speaker in 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade health classes on drugs/alcohol, specifically ecstasy/club drugs.**
- **Alcohol Awareness Month** slogan contest and activities
- **Crash Course in Reality Drunk Driving Program annually**
- **National Smokeout Day “Buddy Program”** to quit smoking with the help of a friend.
- **The Improbable Players** Presentations address the disease of addiction, family dynamics, and enabling.
- **PEACEBRIDGE** program raises awareness about nonviolence, diversity and cooperation by providing inspirational quotes in the school on a monthly basis.
- **DR. MICHAEL FOWLIN’s** presentation, “**You don’t know me until you know me**” focused on treating others with respect and not judging others based on how they look.
- **“DIRT” ASSEMBLY** addressed drug/alcohol use through the dynamic presentation by John Morello.
- **Kick Butts Day** – worked cooperatively with middle school SAC to run a power point presentation for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders on the dangers of smoking
- **Staff Inservice and Trainings** offered at faculty meetings, department meetings, and after-school.

### III. “NOT MY KID”

Due to several incidents that occurred in our community this year and the increasing population of students involved in substances, a district-wide program was established by the high school and middle school SAC. This program, aptly named “Not My Kid”, attracted over 500 parents and was well received by all in attendance.

The program consisted of several components including a guest speaker, Joan MacMullen, who lost her son to a heroin overdose nine years ago. At the time of her son’s death she was a Nutley parent, which gave her credibility and community acceptance. Ms. MacMullen told her story, not from a place of gaining sympathy, but to educate and warn parents that it can happen to anyone. She emphatically stated that it is not a “Nutley story” but it could be any town and that it is not just “about Heroin” but about any drug. She received a standing ovation among nods of recognition as parents realized how close they are to being in her shoes. She provided a perfect springboard for discussion.

Parents were educated on the signs/symptoms of substance abuse and what to do about it. They were encouraged to utilize both the school SACs and the police to gain support and receive confidential assistance. The policy was handed out and described *in detail* by the high school SAC. Important terms were explained such as confidentiality, civil immunity, and medical leave for positive substance screens. Many different educational handouts were provided which were posted on the Nutley High School website immediately following the program. Parents were encouraged to reproduce the handouts and share with other parents.

Probably the most significant component of the program was a panel discussion. The panel consisted of the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, the Chief of Police, the President of the Board of Education, the High School Principal, and two parents. The discussion was moderated by the high school SAC. Parents were afforded the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback in an open forum. This dynamic discussion was taped and played on the Nutley TV station for several weeks. A parent network was established by the high school SAC as a result of this program. Parents currently experiencing problems with their child can call a confidential number and speak with a parent who has experienced similar problems. This support network was advertised by the Nutley Sun and is utilized as a resource for parents in the community.

#### IV. “STUDY BUDDIES”

The high school SAC ran an elementary based peer-mentoring program at Radcliffe School and Yantacaw School every Tuesday after school. Over 35 high school students were trained in mentoring and supervised on a regular basis. Parents and/or teachers selected elementary students because they needed help with social skills or academics. Elementary students felt a sense of importance for being selected and looked to their buddy for guidance regularly. High school students gained a sense of achievement and responsibility for mentoring a younger student. Teachers and parents reported being very satisfied with the program results.

#### V. GRADUATE COURSES/CONFERENCES/TRAININGS

The SAC completed two graduate courses and attended many professional conferences including the following:

- Curriculum Development and Evaluation Theory
- School Supervision and Organizational Theory – **completed requirements for Supervision Certificate**
- Association for Student Assistance Professionals (ASAP): two-day conference on substance abuse
- Over-Indulged Children: Dealing with At-Risk Youth and Their Enabling Parents
- Eating Disorders in Our Youth
- Juvenile Conference Committee Training

#### VI. MEETINGS

The SAC consistently attends meetings to coordinate services with the following groups:

- A. Child Study Team – member
- B. Intervention and Referral Services - member
- C. Municipal Alliance Committee - member
- D. Juvenile Conference Committee – volunteer member
- E. Association for Student Assistance Professionals (ASAP) – organizational member
- F. National Student Assistance Association - member
- G. Carmen Orechio’s “Drug Council Summit – Executive Member
- H. **Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse – SAC representative**



## VII. OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED

- A. **NUTLEY HEALTH FAIR** – SACs organized a presentation and informational resources for community members that attended the Fair. Several referrals for assistance resulted from this event.
- B. **INTERVENTION AND REFERRAL SERVICES (I & RS):** a **minimum of one period each day** is dedicated to this team as well as providing case management for students in need.  
**\*This team received, processed and monitored more than 100 students this year alone.** More members are necessary to continue to provide quality services to regular education services to students in need of assistance.
- C. **POLICY:** continual revision and updates to the substance abuse policy and procedures. Served on **Substance Abuse Ad-Hoc Committee of the Board of Education** for two years. Each year the policy is condensed and distributed to every student and teacher in Nutley High School.
- D. **FACULTY IN-SERVICE:** provides research-based presenters for Articulation Day, I & RS, and faculty training on substance abuse.
- E. **REFERRAL LIST:** annual revisions are made to the Referral List, which is provided to guidance counselors, nurses, administrators, and parents. This requires research and site visits. Several site visits occurred this year including:
  - Alternatives Counseling, Livingston
  - New Life Recovery, Totowa
  - Mountainside Hospital, Montclair
  - Montclair Counseling Center, Montclair
  - High Focus Centers, Paramus
  - Touchstone Hall, Rockleigh
  - Adapt Program, Hackensack
- F. **SAFE AND DRUG FREE SCHOOLS REPORT:** annually completes Title IV requirements for the Improving America's Schools Act (IASA) to maintain federal funding.
- G. **BROCHURE** – SACs organized and assembled the first Student Assistance brochure for the district.

Joseph Cappello  
Student Assistance Coordinator

June 2004

### SAC Summary 2003-2004 School Year

As the Student Assistance Coordinator of the Nutley Public Schools, my primary responsibility was to provide support services to students of Franklin Middle School. 223 students were provided services throughout the course of the 2003-2004 school year. Case management duties have included follow-up sessions with students, parent conferences, phone contact with parents and service providers, and contact with teachers to monitor grades, behavior and mood. Referrals were accepted from students, administrators, teachers, the Child Study Team, parents, self, the Juvenile Conference Committee and the Nutley Police Department.

The following list includes duties and activities throughout the 2003-2004 school year:

- Assisted administrators in implementing Nutley School District's Drug and Alcohol Policy.
  - Two FMS students were subjected to the requirements of the district's drug and alcohol policy following suspicion of being under the influence.
- Presented at FMS' faculty meeting. Topics included:
  - 1) procedures for reporting a student suspected of being under the influence as per NJS 18A: 40A and the Nutley School District substance abuse policy.
  - 2) civil immunity (NJS 18A: 40A-13, -14)
  - 3) signs and symptoms of adolescent substance abuse
- Informed students of the district's substance abuse policy.
  - Pamphlets outlining the district's policy were distributed to seventh and eighth grade students during their lunch study periods on October 22, 2003. Students absent on October 22 received their pamphlets in person throughout the week. Students also were instructed to review the pamphlet with their parents.
- SACs of district provided an educational program, *Not My Kid*, for parents and students on February 12, 2004. Topics included: current drug trends and the effects of these substances, confidentiality, student assistance services, the district's substance abuse policy, and parent tips to prevent substance abuse. Guest speaker, Joan McMullen, presented her personal account of the tragic consequences of her child's drug use. SACs also facilitated a panel discussion among school representatives, the Nutley Police Department and parents.
- Member of Nutley School District's Child Study Team.

- Served as a member of the Nutley School District's Threat Assessment Team to investigate all reports of threats.
- Member of FMS' Intervention and Referral Service Team.
- Club advisor for S.T.A.N.D. (Students Taking a New Direction). Members of S.T.A.N.D. met weekly to coordinate school and community activities focused on drug, alcohol, and violence prevention.
  - Members participated in celebrating School Violence Awareness Week by decorating FMS with posters and assisting in the planning and construction of the *Wall of Unity*.
  - Members assisted in coordinating *National Red Ribbon Week* activities by:
    - 1) decorating Franklin School with red ribbons and a banner.
    - 2) promoting and participating in the *Three Days of Themes: Sock It to Drugs, Put a Cap on Drugs Day, Team Up Against Drugs*.
  - Members of S.T.A.N.D. held a cultural dinner with their parents on June 2, 2004. Students prepared appetizers, entrees and desserts of their culture. Through this event, members strengthened their appreciation for their own culture, as well as, gained an understanding of other cultures.
  - Implemented REBEL2 curriculum into weekly STAND meetings. REBEL2 is New Jersey's statewide youth-led tobacco prevention program for middle school students. Sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, the program is implemented by the Princeton Center for Leadership Training.
    - Attended the January 12, 2004 REBEL2 Summit at the Hyatt Regency in New Brunswick with fourteen members. Students engaged in workshops to increase their knowledge and skills of facilitating interactive presentations at the elementary and middle schools.
    - Members of REBEL2 assisted in organizing the March 31, 2004 Anti-Smoking Health Fair on National Kick Butts Day. Students developed and facilitated exhibits during the fair.
      - \* See below for a more comprehensive description of the day's events\*
- Coordinated the following for the *Great American Smokeout (G.A.S.)* on November 20, 2003 at FMS:
  - Members of S.T.A.N.D developed two anti-tobacco bulletin boards located in the cafeteria and main office.
  - Teachers wore anti-tobacco stickers.
  - Students viewed an eighteen-minute anti-tobacco video entitled *Smoke Free Class of 2000: Too Smart to Start, Too Cool to Smoke* during their study periods.

- Organized the March 31, 2004 Kick Butts Day Health Fair in conjunction with the Nutley Municipal Alliance and the Nutley Department of Public Affairs. During physical education class, students visited different booths set up around the gymnasium. The day's events were featured in *The Nutley Sun*, *The Nutley Journal*, *The Star Ledger*, and *Together: A Newsletter for Rebel 2 Members*. The following events were held:
  - Each student, faculty and staff member received a complimentary *Teens Against Tobacco* t-shirt. Prior to Kick Butts Day, students in Ms. Hill's Eighth Grade Advanced Art class participated in a logo contest. Mullica Zudsiri's artwork was printed on each t-shirt to represent the day's events. She was awarded a \$50.00 bond.
  - Portfolios containing educational material, a pencil and bookmark were distributed to each student on the morning of Kick Butts Day.
  - A three-day fundraiser was held to collect donations for tobacco prevention programs. Students and faculty donated \$0.25 to the American Cancer Society. A Kick Butts Day bulletin board recognizing all donors was located in the cafeteria. A total of \$177.21 was collected. A check was presented to Lori Greene, Director of Special Events, of the American Cancer Society on April 21, 2004.
  - A tobacco ad homeroom contest was held the week prior to Kick Butts Day to expose the deceitful lies of tobacco companies' advertising.
  - The following organizations presented at the fair: Nutley Department of Public Affairs, Nutley Student Assistance Program, Essex County REBEL, Communities Against Tobacco, Nutley D.A.R.E., Eighth Grade Advanced Art Classes, and the Montclair Department of Health's Civics and Government Institute. Members of FMS' REBEL2 facilitated the following exhibits: a product's display, What's in a Cigarette, a casket, Big Nic: Reason's Why I Don't Smoke and an anti-tobacco ad mural.
  - PA announcements on the harmful consequences of smoking were made each period of the day.
  - Students in study hall viewed a video, "I can't breathe. A smoker's story".
  - A culminating assembly was held the last period of the day. Students viewed an anti-tobacco play, *Tobacco on Trial*, performed by the FMS Drama Club. The play was co-written by Mr. Paul Kocum and I. Guest speaker, Dave Biro, also performed his anti-tobacco rap song.
- Arranged presentations by the New Hope Foundation. In each marking period's seventh and eighth grade health classes, teenagers receiving drug and alcohol treatment conducted presentations on the harmful effects of substance abuse. Follow-up interactive sessions on progression of drug use (eighth graders) and factors influencing use (seventh graders) were conducted the subsequent days. The Nutley Municipal Alliance sponsored the New Hope presentations.

- Conducted Power Point presentations on harassment / bullying in each marking period's seventh and eighth grade health classes.
- Coordinated the following activities for School Violence Awareness Week (October 20-24, 2003).
  - Students, teachers, and staff assisted in building a *Wall of Unity* by either writing or drawing their meaning of unity, peace, or non-violence on colored pieces of construction paper representing bricks. Members of S.T.A.N.D. assisted in constructing the *Wall of Unity* located on the first floor.
  - *Violence Prevention Guides* developed by the Student Assistance Program were distributed to students and teachers.
- Organized the September 22, 2003 seventh and eighth grade assemblies by Sandy Queen. The assemblies focused on building character, resolving conflicts, stereotyping and bullying. Sandy Queen and I co-facilitated an after-school student forum on violence prevention too. Twenty students attended the program. Sandy also conducted a parent workshop on tools of successful parenting and stages of child development. These programs were sponsored by the Nutley Municipal Alliance.
- Arranged the October 28, 2003 assembly by NYPD Detective Steve McDonald. Detective McDonald was questioning three youths in Central Park in July of 1986 when he was shot three times. As a result, he was left paralyzed from the neck down and dependent on a tracheotomy. He had been married less than a year, and his wife was two months pregnant with their first child. Detective McDonald has made it a personal commitment to give presentations about his experience and encourage young people to adopt a philosophy of non-violence in their lives and community.
- Participated in the September 20, 2003 Nutley Health Fair to educate the community on support services available within the school district.
- Expanded the Student Assistance Program's referral list by conducting on-site visits.
  - Alternatives, Adolescent Counseling Center, LLC - Livingston, NJ
  - New Life Recovery Center, Inc. – Totowa, NJ
  - Mountainside Hospital's Behavioral Health Services – Montclair, NJ
  - Family Center at Montclair – Verona, NJ
  - High Focus Centers – Paramus, NJ
- Coordinated the Franklin Middle School Toy Drive with eighth grader Gabrielle Pereira. Toys were donated to the St. Barnabas Child Life Program.
- Acted as FMS liaison for the Department of Public Safety's S.O.S. (Shovel Out Seniors) Program. During inclement weather, participating students were

contacted by a Department of Public Safety representative, and asked to shovel the front sidewalk and front door area of a senior's home. Through this program, students were able to fulfill community service project hours.

- Organized a school-based movement to support an eighth grade student with a debilitating medical condition. Seventh and eighth grade students created banners, posters, and cards along with a video.
- Served as a member of the Nutley Municipal Alliance Committee.
- Volunteered to service as a member of the Nutley Juvenile Justice Committee.
- Active member of the *New Jersey Association of Student Assistance Professionals (ASAP-NJ)* and the *National Association of Student Assistance Professionals (NASAP)*.
  - Attended monthly Essex County *ASAP* meetings.
- Assisted in monitoring Central and Saturday detentions.
- Advisor for the FMS Ski Club. Five trips were taken in collaboration with the Nutley Department of Recreation.
  - December 23, 2003 – Shawnee
  - January 10, 2004 – Camelback
  - January 19, 2004 – Elk Mountain
  - February 2, 2004 – Shawnee
  - February 19, 2004 – Elk Mountain
- Attended the following workshops:
  - 1) *Bullying and Harassment in Our Schools* by the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office (October 19, 2003).
  - 2) *Substance Abuse, Schools and The Law* by the New Jersey State Bar Foundation (September 30, 2003).
  - 3) *Conference on Bullying and Harassment* by the NJ School Development Council (December 9, 2003).
  - 4) *Teen Smokers: The Challenge of Helping Students Quit* by NCADD North Jersey Essex County Communities Against Tobacco (February 26, 2004).

**FRANKLIN SCHOOL**

# FRANKLIN SCHOOL

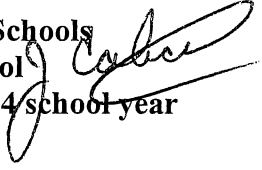
325 FRANKLIN AVENUE  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

MR. JOHN CALICCHIO  
Principal

TELEPHONE  
(973) 661-8871

FAX  
(973) 661-3775

June 17, 2004

To : Dr. Kathleen Serafino, Superintendent of Schools  
From: John Calicchio, Principal of Franklin School   
Re: Principal's Annual Report for the 2003-2004 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 other various activities.

## New Priorities Review

The continued review and implementation of the core curriculum standards is ongoing. The review and the continued implementation of the facilities plan for Franklin School, harassment, intimidation and bullying policy, family life curriculum, social studies, music curriculums continued to be addressed. Curriculum guides were updated to reflect these changes. In-service training continues to be well received by our staff. Lastly, staff reviewed the district's lesson plans to include core curriculum standards. All committees made presentations and recommendations to the Board of Education during the April and May meetings.

## Continuing Priorities Review

The staff at Franklin School continued the implementation of a variety of curriculum related areas. Several other important curriculum related items were addressed. In-service training was offered in Instructional Theory Into Practice (ITIP), I and RS training and 504 accommodations and in language arts/literacy, mathematics, science and social studies. These ongoing advanced training and in-service workshops enhance the instructors professional development. These activities help to foster quality expertise in their fields.

The school district's technology implementation efforts were continually communicated to the Franklin School staff by Mr. Rob Presuto, our district's technology director. Mr. Presuto continues to monitor and upgrade our software, CD Roms, and other various items.

This year new teacher orientation was well received and set a positive tone for the 2003-2004 school year. Mrs. Francioso, Dr. Vivinetto and Mrs. Clerico are to be commended for it's content, presentation and direction.



The instructional staff took advantage of in-service workshops and Saturday curriculum workshops offered the past year.

Various staff members attended various in-service workshops offered by the district. These workshops provided valuable information that could be incorporated into the classroom setting. The staff that attended these workshops shared information at faculty meetings throughout the school year. Franklin School educational program continues to generate an outstanding approach in the education of middle school students focusing upon a sound balance between the academic and non-academic areas. Student success is demonstrated by high academic achievement in all subject areas, the seventh grade Nutley Writing Achievement Test, the Terranova and Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment Test (GEPA). Once again, the results of these standardized tests are above state and national averages in the various testing areas. Furthermore, Franklin School students have achieved commendable results in the various competitions that they attended. Once again, a significant number of seventh and eighth grade students participated in the John Hopkins Talent Search Program and received outstanding scores in both the math and verbal areas of the SAT. This year top score in the mathematics area was a 670 with a top score in the verbal area being a 620.

Student interest in clubs, intramurals, community and school service, music and arts festivals remain high. Franklin School's students have an opportunity to participate in over 30 clubs. These clubs offer the youngsters the opportunity to experience other aspects of the school community. These clubs and other activities remain an integral part of the Franklin School setting. These activities enhance decision making skills and positive social interaction at this crucial age.

In addition to normal teaching responsibilities, Franklin School teaching staff and administrators continue to be actively involved in curriculum work throughout the year and during involvement in the Saturday curriculum committee meetings. The staff's commitment toward a continuance of professional development fosters a broader enlightenment in their curriculum areas that will ultimately benefit the students.

School level objectives for the 2003-2004 school year.

The following detail Franklin School's progress in meeting the school level objectives.

#### OBJECTIVE I

By June of 2004, seventy percent of the students in grade eight social studies classes will earn a three or better on a project-based learning activity concerning the geography of the holocaust. The Rubric will be developed along with various instructional activities during the 2003-2004 school year. This assessment of student proficiency will be administered in May of 2004. These written responses will be holistically scored using the specifically designed Rubric.

Results: During the 2003-2004 school year, monthly meetings were held with eighth grade social studies teachers. The instructors analyzed skill areas. Research and instructional materials were selected and class activities were developed that enabled the students to

develop skills needed to successfully complete the school level objective. Practice activities were utilized throughout the year to reinforce the necessary skills. In late May all eighth grade students were given the project-based activity to complete. Eighty-three percent of all the students scored a three or better on the project-based activity concerning the geography concerning the holocaust.

### **OBJECTIVE II**

By June of 2004, all of the students enrolled in the Algebra I class at Franklin School will take a final exam. The exam will be developed during the 2003-2004 school year. Eighty percent of the students will score a seventy percent or better on the criterion reference test. The exam will be given during the first week of June 2004.

**Results:** During the 2003-2004 school year, monthly meetings were held with the instructors of the Algebra I classes at Franklin School. The instructors analyzed skill areas. Classroom lessons and activities were developed that enable the students to develop skills needed to successfully complete the school level objective. Practice activities were utilized throughout the school year to reinforce those skills. In early June all the students in the Algebra I classes were given the exam. Eighty-five percent of the students scored a seventy-five percent or better.

School level objectives for the 2004-2005 school year.

### **OBJECTIVE I**

By June of 2005, seventy percent of students enrolled in the eighth grade English classes will achieve an average score of three or better on two open-ended questions that will relate to a selected reading text. This assessment of student proficiency in the writing of open-ended questions will be administered in May. These written responses will be scored holistically using the Rubric for scoring an open-ended response for the GEPA.

### **OBJECTIVE II**

By June of 2005, seventy percent of students enrolled in all the eighth grade mathematics classes will relate to a selected mathematics problem. This assessment of student proficiency in the writing of open-ended questions will be administered in May. These written responses will be scored holistically using the Rubric for scoring an open-ended response for the GEPA.

Principal's priorities for the 2003-2004

The results of the Nutley Writing Test (grade 7), the Terranova Test of basic skills (grade 7), the grade eight Proficiency Assessment Test (GEPA) were carefully reviewed. The progress of the students in basic skills and special education were closely monitored. All the youngsters continue to show academic progress in all subject areas. The use of the grade distribution chart in all subject areas is closely reviewed. The building principal attended and participated in the various Saturday curriculum sessions. This information was shared at various faculty and parent meetings. The principal attended the PTO executive board

meetings and the general PTO meeting. At those meetings the school level objectives and other various activities were discussed.

The building principal also attended the CAT program and superintendent's advisory committee and provided input to the various committees with concerns for staff. The information was shared with the faculty.

The 2003-2004 school year was a very productive with many students enjoying the Halloween Dance, the Inaugural Ball, bowling night and the teen canteen. These activities continue to be well received activities. The vocal and instrumental students once again, provided a variety of numbers during the April and May concerts. The concert choir, DeBonaires, chorale, band and orchestra competed in a variety of concerts and competitions throughout the year. All groups represented Franklin School in the finest manner. The concert choir appearance at Bush Gardens and Carneige Hall was the culmination of an excellent school year. The large variety of clubs has enabled many students to become active in a variety of extra curricular settings. The Franklin School Intramural Program continues to offer a variety of activities. The annual awards program recognized the hard work of many students in the areas of scholarship, service, character, and leadership.

Principal's Priorities for the 2004-2005 school year continue to:

Implement the emergency evacuation/secure in place plan if needed.

Review the test scores from the Terranova, GEPA and Nutley Writing test scores.

Assist the staff in the implementation of the core content curriculum standards.

Underscore ITIP/Critical Thinking Methodology at Franklin School with the instructional staff.

Assist new staff with the mentoring procedures and review core content standards the entire staff.

Underscore the importance of the preparation of students in grades 7-8 for the GEPA to all staff.

Implement the Life Center Career Education elective.

Oversee all school level objectives development, implementation and completion.

Implement the use of the student handbook and review the district's drug and alcohol policy.

Encourage all staff to implement the use of the computer to enhance all classroom lessons.

Implement the use of the internet as a valuable instructional and in all classroom lessons.

Encourage the use of the computer lab and implement various means of research and telecommunications.

Encourage staff to participate in the various in-service programs.

Encourage staff to be a part of various Saturday curriculum revision committees.

Encourage staff to keep abreast of the profession through graduate courses, workshops, communication with staff, administration and first hand experiences.

Encourage staff to be the advisor to the various club and intramurals at Franklin School.

Encourage the students to actively participate in the variety of clubs offered at Franklin School.

New for 2004-2005

Develop an eighth grade public speaking class for the 2005-2006 school year.

Review and update the Algebra I Exam. Also, the pre-algebra exam for grade 6 students.

Review/revise the seventh and eighth grade elective programs.

Review and offer suggestions for the Franklin School capital improvement plan.

Begin to develop the teaming approach to be incorporated upon the completion of the Franklin School expansion program.

## **MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT**

### **I. Staff**

- A. Departmental statistics indicate that 8 regular teachers taught a total of 36 mathematics classes with an average class size of 21. This includes three sections of Algebra I and three sections of Computer Applications. In a state mandated supplemental program, Denise Cleary and Sarah Misner taught four Basic Skills mathematics classes with an average class size of 15. This year we continued to group the classes by grade level. Ms. Cleary taught the 8<sup>th</sup> grade level basic skills classes while Mrs. Misner taught the 7<sup>th</sup> grade level.

### **II. TESTING**

- A. On March 9, 2004 all students in grade 8 took the math portion of the Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment. Results of this assessment will not be known until the summer and will be used to determine whether a student should be placed in a basic skills class in 9<sup>th</sup> grade.
- B. The TerraNova test was given to all 7<sup>th</sup> graders in April. Results from this test will be used to help determine whether a student should be placed in a basic skills class for the next school year.

- C. John Hopkins Talent Search results for the 2003-2004 school year indicate that 28 seventh grade students participated. The mean SAT score in mathematics was 475 up from 444 the previous year. The following students received distinction and/or state awards from John Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth: Kate Andrews, Emily Hazzard, James Lamperiello, Christine Liu, Matthew Marano and Daniel Oh. Matthew Marano who scored a 670 on the math section received Honors Recognition for High Student Performance.

Eight grade students who participated and received awards are: Areeba Hasan, Alex Joseph, Alexandra Kozyra, Michael Melillo, Aaron Petronico, Christopher Thomson and Kelly Towelly, Christopher Thomson who scored a 660 on the math section received Honors Recognition for High Student Performance.

### III. INSTRUCTION

- A. To insure that students were adequately prepared for the Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment, supplementary classroom materials were used to reinforce the curriculum. Consumable commercially published workbooks were issued to each student. These workbooks were specifically designed to provide practice in preparation for state testing. At the seventh grade level the booklet used is entitled, "GEPA Success, Level G". At the eighth grade level "The GEPA Coach" provided necessary reinforcement.
- B. In September, a letter concerning the GEPA was sent to all parents of eighth grade students. This letter informed parents of the impact of this assessment and how it would affect their son's/daughter's schedule next year if they did not achieve a passing score. The letter encouraged parents to seek assistance for their child where necessary by making arrangements with their child's teacher for extra help. Most letters were signed and returned to the child's teacher.
- C. In February a comprehensive test was given to all 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes as a pre-test refresher for the Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment administered in 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, 100 TI-3411 scientific calculators were purchased for use in both the seventh and eighth grades. Calculators were issued to all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in order to enhance daily lessons and to properly prepare them for the GEPA.
- E. This year at the middle school we piloted a program in Algebra I for 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. The class had an enrollment of 17 students. Eleven of these students will be taking Accelerated Geometry at the High School next year while the six remaining students will repeat Algebra I in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade so that they may remain at the accelerated level in mathematics. This program proved successful and will continued next year.

### IV. MATHEMATICS CLUBS, CONTESTS

- A. Vector students in the seventh and eighth grade participated in the annual New Jersey Math League competition and the Continental Math League competition. Contests were held during regular vector classes. This was under the direction of Deborah Pinto with the assistance of Gina Masino, Nancy Foglio and Jennifer Ambrose.
  - B. The Math Club, sponsored by Nancy Foglio and Bethany Turro, met once a week to prepare for contests and discuss problem-solving strategies. In February they participated in MathCounts, a national math competition.
  - C. Five students under the supervision of Nancy Foglio and Jennifer Ambrose competed in the Essex County Math League contest on May 19<sup>th</sup> in Algebra I.
  - D. Members of the math club participated in the St. Jude's Children's Hospital Math-a-thon under the supervision of Anne Bever. The purpose of this contest is to raise money for children's cancer research. Each participant received a problem book consisting of over 200 critical thinking problems. Their sponsors agreed to pay a pre-determined amount for each problem they did correctly. The club this year raised an incredible \$2,800.00. Mrs. Bever and the FMS math department should be congratulated for a job well done.
- V. On October 24, 2003 Nancy Foglio and Denise Cleary attended the AMTNJ conference held in Somerset.

Nancy Foglio attended a workshop at NJIT on "How to Design a Virtual Bridge."

Jennifer Ambrose, Gina Masino, Nancy Foglio and Bethany Turro attended graduate school so that they may keep up to date with current trends in education.

Nancy Foglio assisted two students from Montclair State University who were doing their junior field service.

#### VI. DEPARTMENTAL GOALS FOR 2004-2005

- A. Continue to monitor the progress of those students in the Basic Skills classes.
- B. Continue to review the middle school curriculum with regard to updating course content and textbooks to more closely align them with the NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards.
- C. Continue to incorporate the open-ended question into our regular classroom activities and to include these types of questions on classroom tests.
- D. Continue to encourage the use of technology in the classroom. Continue to train teachers in the use of computers and the internet as tools for enhancing lessons.

- E. Continue to monitor and evaluate the seventh grade Algebra I program. Also monitor those students who have now moved on to Accelerated Geometry and evaluate their progress.

## **ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**

### **I. Testing**

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

- A. Eighth grade students were given reading and writing samples beginning in September that reinforce skills tested on the GEPA. Essays were graded using the holistic scoring method use 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 assignments following the guidelines of the GEPA.
- C. Seventh grade mini-lessons that reinforce the skills tested on the writing section of the GEPA were also incorporated into the curriculum from January through March.

### **II. Curriculum**

- A. The journalism class was inaugurated this year. Mrs. Crowe did a fine job of developing and implementing this curriculum. We are very proud of the FMS newsletter.
- B. The Basic Skills curriculum was revised last year and implemented this year. This curriculum is in alignment with the core content standards.

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

**Summer reading lists are given to both the seventh and eighth grade students. Eighth grade students receive the high school reading list and will be asked to discuss their reading with their ninth grade teachers in the fall. Seventh graders will also be asked to write about the books they have read during the summer vacation.**

### **IV. Instruction**

**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 the computer as a source for some of the research.

### **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 of their abilities. Students are encouraged to explore writing for a variety of purposes and to write for a variety of audiences. An important element of this course is student conferencing. This allows each writer to discuss his/her writing with a peer and to share ideas on revision and editing for a final copy.

Among the many projects completed with 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 regular basis on 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.

Ms. Douglas's students wrote letters to their future selves and had the option of placing the letters in self-addressed, stamped envelopes to be mailed to them when they are seniors in high school.

Students in Mrs. Hardin's Vector English classes researched African American authors for Black History month. Students presented their information before the class discussing the writer's major works and his/her important contributions to American literature and culture.

### **Awards-New Jersey Council of English Writing Contest**

Ariana Lombardi 7-9 Prose Fiction Honorable Mention "This Doesn't Need Thought: It's Just Right."

### **Basic Skills Program:**

The basic skills curriculum was revised last year in order to provide a stronger coordination between the middle school and high school programs.

## **V. Enrichment and staff development**



Mr. Kocum's students viewed a Broadway production and participated in a workshop.

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

#### **VIII. Bookroom**

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

#### **IX. Concerns for the future:**

Continued teacher training and involvement in the use of the computer as a tool for writing and research.

Continued participation of staff in professional organizations and attendance at workshops and conferences that relate to the course of study.

Consideration of a double English period so that students will have ninety minutes of Language Arts study.

#### **SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

The Franklin Middle School science department experienced a dynamic year of both progress and change. The addition of Mr. Frank Francia, the new staff member who took over for Mr. Baumann in January due to his retirement, has worked out extremely well. Both Mr. Francia and Mr. Calicchio are pleased with our present situation, as both parties would like to see this arrangement continue in the future. Mentorship responsibilities for Mr. Francia were handled admirably by Mr. Joseph Bertuzzi, master teacher with decades of classroom teaching experience.

I would like to thank Mr. Donald Baumann, to whom we say good-bye and best wishes for a happy and health retirement! His commitment to the students, faculty and staff of the Nutley School District will not soon be forgotten-thanks, Don!

Please find in the pages that follow the statistics, activities, accomplishments, accolades, concerns and recommendations that are being submitted for your review and consideration.

##### **I. The Science Staff**

Departmental statistics for the 2003-2004 school year indicate that 7 diverse and dynamic teachers taught our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in the inclusion, IC (intensified curriculum), regular and vector levels of science. Our Middle School curriculum emphasizes the following is a section by section look at the department documenting the class, number of sections and instructor.

**Teacher: Mr. Donald Baumann**

**Mr. Baumann taught five sections of seventh grade science. Three sections were “regular” and two “vector.”**

**Teacher: Mr. Joseph Bertuzzi**

**Mr. Bertuzzi taught five sections of eighth grade science. One section “regular,” two sections were “IC” or Intensified Curriculum classes, and two section were “vector.”**

**Teacher: Mr. Frank Francia**

**Mr. Francia proved to be a welcomed addition to the Middle School science staff. He took the reigns from Mr. Baumann and navigated a smooth transition to complete the year. Mr. Francia taught five sections: three “regular” and two “vector.”**

**Teacher: Mr. Frank Libert**

**Mr. Libert taught two sections of “regular” eighth grade science, two section of “inclusion” and one “vector” class.**

**Teacher: Ms. Laura Love**

**Ms. Love taught five sections of “regular” level eighth grade science this year.**

**Teacher: Ms. Jeanne Neilley**

**Ms. Neilley taught five sections of “regular” level seventh grade science this year.**

**Teacher: Ms. Alison Yacullo**

**Ms. Yacullo taught two “inclusion” sections of seventh grade science as well as two “IC” sections and “vector” class.**

## **II. Staff Development**

**Several staff members in the science department sought and participated in professional development opportunities ranging from workshops to lecture series to field trips. I commend all participants on a “job well done.”**

## **III. Extracurricular Activities**

**The following is a list of extracurricular activities participated in by members of the science department:**

**Animal Groomer’s Club-Mr. Bertuzzi and Ms. Yacullo**

**David Perez Animal Center-Mr. Bertuzzi**

**Science projects reinforcing the curriculum were displayed throughout the school.**

## **IV. Concerns for the Future**

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

Within the next year or so, consideration should be given to upgrading the existing textbooks in use at the Middle School. While our current system of textbook rotation has worked out well, finding a single book that offers a healthy balance of life, physical, earth and environmental sciences would be an appropriate consideration.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT**

The Social 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 thirty sections, which included vector and regular levels of instruction, as well as inclusion classes. A staff of six faculty members addressed the needs of 323 seventh grade students and 349 eighth grade students.

### **I. Curriculum**

The department continued to implement a recently developed curriculum that was designed in accordance with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards and the requirements for the Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment. In preparation for the aforementioned test, the curriculum focused upon the development of the American nation. Special emphasis was placed in the seventh grade upon the study of American government, and in the eighth grade upon world geography and the role of the United States as a world power. 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. This past academic year also witnessed a greater infusion of technology into classroom instruction, as the department utilized a new laptop computer and wireless networking capabilities. Greater use of software such as Inspiration! and Microsoft Publisher was also realized.

### **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, as well as 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. This year, this included a school level objective for the eighth grade concerning the geography of the Holocaust. 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. Graduate courses at Marygrove College, distance learning program.
2. Graduate courses at Rutgers University – Newark
3. New Jersey Network for Educational Renewal
4. In-service workshops on ITIP methodology and the use of computers
5. Workshops on Substance Abuse
6. Essex County Teachers' Association "Overnight Express" Workshop
7. The New Jersey Council for the Social Studies and New Jersey Geographic Alliance joint annual convention.

### **IV. Enrichment**

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

- A. Mock Elections, including the National Student – Parent Mock Election
- B. History Club
- C. Law and Justice Club
- D. Poster Projects
- E. Bulletin Boards and School Displays
  1. Black History Month
  2. Women's History Month
  3. American Presidents
  4. The Constitution
  5. The Holocaust
  6. Campaign Posters for Past Presidential Elections
- F. Oral History Project Interviews-Survivors of the Great Depression
- G. Internet-Based Projects Concerning the Constitution and the Bill of Rights

**H. Analysis and Creation of Political Cartoons****I. Oral and Written Research Projects****J. Current Event Magazines and Projects****K. Viewing of Movies and Videos****L. National Geographic Geography Bee. The school champion advanced to state finals.****M. Creation of colonial newspapers, using Microsoft Publisher****N. Multimedia student projects and presentations on the American Revolution****O. Biographies****P. PowerPoint presentations****V. Textbook Management****A. Textbook age, condition and inventory are continually monitored****B. Copyright dates of the two texts being used:****1. Grade Seven****Why We Remember, combined volume, 1998****2. Grade Eight****Why We Remember, volume two, 1998****VI. Concerns**

As in past years, the department would like to continue to enhance its capability to access primary sources and present computer – generated materials to the class. Although substantial progress has been achieved incrementally given budgetary constraints, more can be done to facilitate easy and seamless integration into the curriculum. To this end, it would like to investigate the procurement, through grant or purchase, of additional laptop computers and additional LCD projectors and smartboards. In addition, the department would like to increase the number of age – appropriate supplemental readings available for the students. The department is much encouraged by the ongoing support of Mr. Calicchio and the administration towards the realization of these goals.

**WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT****I. Statistical Data****1. Approximately 47%, seventh graders were enrolled in Latin, Spanish, Italian and French**

1A. Approximately 48% eighth graders were enrolled in Latin IB, Italian IB, Spanish IB, and French 1B.

2. Four staff members of who two itinerant taught 15 sections of 2 course offerings of Italian, French, Spanish, and Latin, levels 1A and 1B.

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

1. Seventh grade Latin students in Mrs. Stepansky's classes made models of "wonders" of the Roman world including aqueducts, Colosseum, Circus Maximums.
2. Mrs. Schiavone's Italian classes attended performances of Operas "La Boheme," "Madame Butterfly," and "Nabucco" at the Metropolitan Opera, Lincoln center, New York City.
3. All Italian classes participated in the "Italian Heritage Day" in March. The students presented a skit and Italian songs. In October, the students also participated in the "Benedetto Croce Society Essay Contest."
4. Mrs. Schiavone's and Miss Muniz's, Sponsors of the Italian and Spanish clubs, took a group of students after school to authentic Spanish and Italian restaurants to taste traditional regional cuisine.
5. A French IA student participated in the National French Contest. She received a gold certificate-Certificat de Reussite.

### **IV. Departmental Recommendations**

1. The State Department of Education states that every student K-8 has to be enrolled in a foreign language class. In order to be in compliance with the State Department of Education, the world languages department strongly recommends that every middle school pupil be given the opportunity to choose to study a second language, including Special Education and those who are being remediated in English or Math. The study of a second language has been proven to benefit those latter students more and do better in other subjects. Every student from third to sixth grade are studying a second language, why not the middle school students?

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Mr. Christopher Chern, Mr. Thomas Grant, Ms. Luanne Zullo and Ms. Jennifer Citarella currently staff the Health and Physical Education Department.

- . Mr. Christopher Chern teaches two 8<sup>th</sup> grade health classes, two 8<sup>th</sup> grade physical education classes and two seventh grade physical education classes. He also acts as the department representative; duties include organizing the budget for the department and designing teacher schedules. Mr. Chern continues to be the assistant varsity wrestling coach and freshman football coach for Nutley High School. Mr. Chern sponsors 2 clubs; Spike (volleyball) and The Wrestling/Football club. Mr. Chern had a student teacher for

the first half of the school year. Mr. Chern also chaperones many extra-curricular activities at the middle school and assisted with central detention program.

- Mr. Thomas Grant teaches two 8<sup>th</sup> grade physical education classes, two 7<sup>th</sup> grade health class and two 7<sup>th</sup> grade physical education classes. Mr. Grant had a student teacher during the first half of the school year. Mr. Grant served as the freshman girl's basketball coach and varsity golf coach at Nutley High School this past year. Mr. Grant also coached a team for the Third Half Club Basketball Tournament and sponsored the golf club at the middle school.
- Ms. Luanne Zullo teaches two 8<sup>th</sup> grade physical education classes two 7<sup>th</sup> grade physical education classes and two 8<sup>th</sup> grade health classes. She also is the JV girl's basketball and head softball coach at Nutley High School. Ms. Zullo organized and ran a softball clinic during the fall for the students of Franklin Middle School. Ms. Zullo also chaperones many extra-curricular activities at the middle school. Ms. Zullo also helped supervise the Central Detention program at the middle school. Ms. Zullo was a part of the health education curriculum committee that helped update our content and finally obtained textbooks for the middle school.
- Mrs. Jennifer Citerella teaches two 8<sup>th</sup> grade physical education classes, two 7<sup>th</sup> grade physical education classes and two 7<sup>th</sup> grade health classes. She was also the JV softball coach at Nutley High School. Mrs. Citerella was a part of the health education curriculum committee that helped update our content and finally obtained textbooks for the middle school.

The physical education curriculum was implemented by offering the students a choice in team-sport based actives or lifetime-based actives depending on the marking period and the weather (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 was administered to each student in the fall and spring.

Physical education classes were able to use the oval (weather permitting) this past year and will continue to do so in the future. The blacktop has been converted to a parking area. The physical education teacher on the oval will have the walkie-talkie during the class so contact with building will be available.

Activities for the past year included: flag football, mini soccer, indoor soccer, basketball, volleyball, floor hockey, softball, ultimate frisbee, hacky sack, lacrosse, fitness education (such as circuit classes), racquet sports, golf and many other lead-up activities.

Pedometers were used as a part of our cardio fitness unit for the first time. They did improve student interest and effort. Pedometers will become a valuable piece of equipment for the physical education program in the future. In addition to the pedometers, Mr. Chern used a spreadsheet program and maps so the students could chart their progress every day during the cardio unit.

Attendance and appropriate warm-up preceded all activities. Upon completion of the warm-up period all classes were informed as to what the day's activity, skill or lesson was. At this time all safety rules were reviewed, as were their 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 day's class.

The department continued the optional use of sweats. It allowed 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 students who do not feel comfortable in shorts to wear sweats without being penalized for not being prepared for class. This year there was no official physical education 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). Grade 7 health continued to use Project Alert for their substance abuse unit.

The use of graphic notes, guest speakers (New Hope, The American Cancer Society, as well as: experts in hepatitis, anti-violence and several programs lead by our SAC Mr. Joe Capello) 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 used 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).

### Recommendation

- Discuss health going for 2 marking periods instead of 1.
- Now that we are using the oval for physical education a better or quicker way of getting to the oval would help improve our use of the time allowed for physical education.
- For the boys and girls locker rooms: some type of floor covering for the locker room (rubber matting) and the ventilation system needs to be improved. The cement in both locker rooms get extremely slick.
- Discuss going to a pass/fail grade system for Health and Physical Education.
- Using other areas for parts of our cardio fitness unit.



**LINCOLN SCHOOL**

# NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

LINCOLN SCHOOL  
301 HARRISON STREET  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

CYNTHIA HEALY  
Principal

Tel. 973-661-8883  
Fax: 973-661-4392

**TO:** Dr. Kathleen C. Serafino

**DATE:** June 25, 2004

**FROM:** Cynthia Anne Healy, Principal, Lincoln School

**SUBJECT:** Principal's Annual Report-School Year 2003-2004

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

## District Curriculum Priorities

The Nutley School System, in accordance with New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards, continues to provide its students with a quality education.

### The following priorities have been implemented this year:

- Technology Plan
- Safe Schools Comprehensive District Emergency Management Plan
- ESL Curriculum K-12
- Language Arts Literacy Program K-3
- Art Curriculum K-8
- Character Education Program K-12
- Two State Mandated School Objectives

### Continued In-service was provided in the following areas:

- Instructional Theory into Practice K-12
- Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS) and 504
- Technology Integration Plan K-12
- Cultural Diversity Education K-12
- Character Education K-12
- Language Arts Literacy K-12
- Elementary Assessment –New Jersey ASK 3/4
- Mathematics K-12
- Differentiated Instruction 1-4
- Mentoring Program
- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Prevention
- Affirmative Action Policies

### **Curriculum Development occurred in these areas:**

- Music
- Mathematics
- Social Studies
- World Language K-12
- Family Life/Chemical Health K-12
- Choral/Instrumental Music Curriculum K-6

## **Testing**

The results of the Nutley Writing Achievement Test, the 2004 ASK, and the Terra Nova Test were carefully reviewed. Plans for improvement were designed and implemented. These included several school-wide initiatives, which focused on strengthening our students' problem solving strategies, improving writing skills, and increasing reading comprehension. The staff will continue to address the academic needs of our population and search for innovative methods to engage our learners.

## **Results of School Level Objectives 2003-2004**

By June 2004, students in grades kindergarten through second demonstrated proficiency in language arts literacy, which included vocabulary, comprehension, listening, writing and speaking. This was accomplished by reading each day for enjoyment, keeping a reading log, word wall and a vocabulary journal. More than 90% of the students have achieved a score of 80% on a teacher-constructed assessment, which included multiple choice and open-ended questions. Lincoln School accomplished this first school level objective.

Our second objective stated required 70% of our fourth grade students to be in the proficient or advanced proficient range on the mathematic portion of the New Jersey ASK. We met this school level objective with an ASK score for the total population of 70.7%. The math total population ASK scores have increased by 27% in the last two years.

## **School Level Objectives 2004-2005**

By June 2005, students in grades kindergarten through fourth will demonstrate proficiency in mathematical concepts as demonstrated in solving open-ended questions. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-constructed assessment. A rubric will be used to score the open-ended questions.

By June 2005, students in grades five and six will demonstrate proficiency in social studies, targeting Holocaust Education. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assignment, which may include literature-based reports, presentations and projects.

## Staff Development

Lincoln School Staff attended various professional workshops, conferences and graduate courses both in and out of district.

**The following is a list of additional professional education the Lincoln School Staff participated in throughout the year.**

- Affirmative Action Workshop
- AMTNJ ASK Review
- Bullying Prevention Program
- Cognitive Curriculum
- Converging Paths to Literacy
- CPR Re-certification
- Differentiating Instruction
- Early Childhood Education Conference
- Family Math Training
- I&RS Training
- In-service Classes/Workshops
- Character Education
- Language Arts Literacy/Guided Reading
- Learning and Metacognition Strategies
- Multi-Task ASK –Connect Manipulatives, Literature and Writing to Essential Questions
- Project Approach for the Very Young
- New Teacher Orientation
- No Child Left Behind in Math
- Star Lab Training
- Strategies in Mentoring
- Technology Infusion for the K-2 Classroom
- Teacher's Sources for Balanced Literacy
- Understanding Attention Deficit
- Virtual/Visual Literacy
- Wilson Language Training

Monthly Faculty Meetings continually highlighted the district and school priorities. Agendas included: School Level Objectives, the District Emergency Plan, Superintendent's Advisory Committee Reports and many other items that needed to be addressed.

Grade Level Meetings provided the opportunity to review curricular concerns and focus on student issues in order to provide consistent, quality instruction.

## Special Programs

### Education Week

Lincoln School welcomed parents to an afternoon of special programs during Nutley Education Week. Each classroom teacher planned and implemented lessons that gave parents the opportunity to observe the intricate balance between skill acquisition and comprehension. This special glimpse into our school was very well attended and all feedback was positive.

### Family Math and Science

Fourth grade parents were given the opportunity to attend the popular math and science workshops with their children. Mrs. Carol Gurney and Mrs. Kim Algieri planned hands on experiments for their group, which supported the scientific process. Mrs. Dolores Contreras and Mrs. Lorraine Rubinstein promoted problem solving with various manipulative activities. These sessions correlated with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards and fostered the home and school connection.

### Monthly Math Challenge

Each month the Basic Skills Team at Lincoln School developed a theme based on a mathematical concept such as geometry. The BSIP teachers visited each math class and taught an inclusion lesson, which explored the theme using manipulatives. They also would leave materials for the classroom teacher to use in future lessons. A math challenge question was developed for each grade level and distributed for homework. The children put their answers into a special box and winners were drawn. The correct answers and questions were displayed on a bulletin board outside the main office. This program will continue into next year.

### Author Visit –Peter Maloney and Felicia Zekauskas

Authors Peter Maloney and Felicia Zekauskas visited Lincoln School in December. They used a slide presentation of one of their most popular books, Redbird at Rockefeller Center, to begin a discussion about the writing and illustrating process. The children enthusiastically responded to the lessons and the teacher followed up in the classrooms. Each child also received an autographed bookmark and coloring sheet as a remembrance.

### Fifty Nifty States

Lincoln School's teachers and students used Dr. Seuss' birthday as the beginning of a month long project entitled "The Fifty Nifty States". Using the NEA's theme: *Read Across America*, each faculty member was assigned a state and a door to decorate throughout the building. The adults worked with the children to research facts about their particular state and develop a creative idea for their door. Many teachers assigned additional projects and reports that complemented the theme as well as fulfilled curriculum requirements. The displays covered not only fifty doors but spilled over onto the walls. On March 31<sup>st</sup>, parents were invited to school to participate in a State Scavenger Hunt. Each family was given a ten-question survey to complete using information found throughout the building. Over 200 hundred people attended and all enjoyed the event. Each classroom also received a Collectible Quarter display to encourage additional reading about our country.

### **Governor's Book Club**

Lincoln School participated in the Governor's Book Club. Teachers in grades K-3 received a different book every month to read aloud with their class and then circulate amongst the students for their individual enjoyment. The monthly book selections were displayed on our main bulletin board to promote interest. Our librarian also received copies of the books for the library and reviewed the Governor's website with her classes. This year we also added upper grade selections to our program using selections from the Governor's program.

### **Musicales**

Mrs. Carol Bender continued to provide the students of Lincoln School with the opportunity to participate in wonderful productions. She guided the children through the three musicales, the pre-kindergarten, kindergarten and sixth grade promotions, as well as several town-wide commitments. Mr. Baron Raymonde continues to be a wonderful addition to our school. Interest in our instrumental program has increased. We have had very positive reviews from all audiences.

### **Academically Speaking Team**

A team of sixth grade students participated in the district wide competition. Mrs. Niki Vlasakakis served as faculty advisor and the students demonstrated positive sportsmanship and trivia knowledge.

### **Jump for Heart**

Mr. Thomas Gargiulo supervised Lincoln School's first Jump for Heart Program. Each grade level participated in an hour-long event which had them traveling through seven different jumping activities. Parent and teachers monitored each station and all children had a wonderful time. The school raised over \$4,000 for The American Heart Association.

### **Community Information**

Many Lincoln School activities were featured in The Nutley Sun and on our website. The faculty made a concerted effort to submit photographs in order to promote community awareness of the quality education the students in Nutley receive.

### **Author Visit –Peter Catalonotto**

Peter Catalanotto visited, in the late winter, as part of our writing initiative. He spoke to the children about his style of illustrating and writing. He focused on the positive aspects of his school experiences and how his dysgraphia has influenced his abilities as an author and illustrator. Mr. Catalanotto discussed the need for confidence, enthusiasm and perseverance when pursuing any career. Through this presentation the children were exposed to a talented and extremely successful role model who over came academic challenges. Both staff and students found his presentation interesting and inspiring.

### **A Starry Starry Night**

*A Starry Starry Night* was held at Lincoln School. Over 350 parents, students and staff came together to participate in 10 different activities based around the district's Star Lab. Guests not only visited the planetarium but also created family stars, completed a computer scavenger hunt and experimented with safe liquid reactions.

### **Women's History Panel**

Lincoln School welcomed several women from the Nutley community to speak to the fifth and sixth grade classes in honor of Women's History Month. The panelists discussed their career experiences and answered many thoughtful questions from the students. The assembly was well received and we feel the students benefited from the perspective each woman brought to the panel.

### **Literacy Challenge**

The Resource Room Teachers developed a school wide program, which had the children reading various genres such as folktales and fairytales. Each month the teachers highlighted different story elements and asked the children to complete grade specific assignment based on their knowledge of that month's books. The classroom teachers were provided with ancillary enrichment writing activities. Each month the class with the highest participation was announced over the loudspeaker and rewarded.

### **Grants**

Several members of our staff received grants from the Nutley Business People for the Advancement of Technology in Education. Mrs. Vlasakakis also received a grant from Polaroid.

### **Health and Safety**

Several programs were conducted in order to promote healthy choices and lifestyles. Mrs. Nancy Thunell, our student assistance coordinator, covered topics such as peer pressure, conflict resolution and drug/tobacco prevention in both classroom and individual settings.

Mrs. Thunell, Mrs. Donna Cocco along with our school psychologist, Ms. Sarah Fredricks continued their social skills group with students from the primary classes.

Officer Neri conducted the D.A.R.E program and explored healthy choices and the repercussions that occur when adolescents do not make positive decisions. DARE held its district-wide field day for all sixth grade students who completed the program.

Mrs. Maria Considine conducted scoliosis screening for students in grades five and six and vision/hearing screening for all children.

### **The following is a list of the various health and safety programs:**

Red Ribbon Week Activities

Violence Prevention Week Project: Take Steps to Stop Violence

Bullying Prevention Discussion/Classroom Activities

Internet Safety Assembly

"Tug of War" Grades K-6

"Students Taking a New Direction" Grade 4

Lions Club Vision Screening -Grade 3

Annual Fire Prevention Drill and Demonstration K-6

## **Class Trips**

**The following is a list of the curriculum related field trips our students took this year:**

- Pre-Kindergarten-Nutley Public Library
- Kindergarten- Liberty Science Center, Paper Mill Playhouse, Van Saun Park
- Grade 1-Heaven Hills Farm, Broadway Bound, Morris Museum
- Grade 2-Montclair State Theatre, Newark Museum, Museum of Early Crafts and the Nutley Library
- Grade 3- Paper Mill Playhouse
- Grade 4- Museum of Natural History and Hayden Planetarium
- Grade 6-Fairview Camp
- \*SLD Mrs. Marchese-Wightman's Farm, Paper Mill Playhouse
- \*SLD Mrs. Magin-Paper Mill Playhouse, Van Saun Park
- \*SLD Mrs. Cocco- Paper Mill Playhouse, Van Saun Park

\* Students from the SLD classes were also included in the trips that were planned by their "buddy class".

## **Lincoln Clubs**

**The following are a list of the various offerings this year:**

### **Art Club-Ms. Mary Pagana**

The Art Club provided students with advanced art experiences in a variety of media. Students created a sixth grade portfolio, which could be submitted for the advanced art classes at Franklin Middle School.

### **The Animal Club-Mrs. Valerie Martin/Miss Florence Meyers**

The purpose of this club was to create an awareness of the abuse and neglect animals often suffer and their proper treatment and care. Computers and literature were incorporated into the club to explore the importance of animals in our everyday lives. A Seeing Eye dog visited the club and the participants also assisted with the care of our eggs and chicks. Club members raised funds to help a variety of animal groups.

### **The Baton Twirlers Club-Mrs. Theresa Strus**

The second grade students were exposed to beginner and intermediate baton twirling maneuvers. They learned various routines choreographed to popular songs. The group was featured at the Columbus Day Parade, Christmas Musicale, St. Patrick's Day Parade and our Spring Musicale. The club frequently and all enjoyed their enthusiasm.

### **Color A Smile Club-Mrs. Nancy Thunell**

Students in Grade 1-3 drew and colored pictures for the service organization "Color A Smile". The cards were then distributed throughout the nation to nursing homes, hospitals and individuals in need of a smile. The children enjoyed sharing their talents with vulnerable members of our society while modeling caring and responsibility for others.



**Creative Talents Club-Ms. Mary Pagana**

Students used their creative talents and artistic skills to enhance the décor and atmosphere of the school. Their many projects included a mural on the wall of the Art Room, decorations for all school musicales and school wide projects such as The Fifty Nifty States.

**Humanitarian Club-Miss Patricia Griffin**

Students from the fifth grade participated in this effort at St. John's Homeless Center in Newark, New Jersey. The members made peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, collected clothing and backpacks in order to assist the homeless population. The staff at St. John's appreciated the students' efforts and the maturity they demonstrated during their monthly early morning visits. The club activities encouraged compassion for the less fortunate.

**Lincolnaires-Mrs. Carol Bender**

The Lincolnaires, a singing group composed of boys and girls, worked together in order to learn how to sing in two and three part harmonies. The Lincolnaires performed at various school and district functions.

**Safety Patrols-Mrs. Niki Vlasakakis**

Our Safety Patrols helped maintain a safe and calm school environment through various duties. Participation in the club fostered responsibility, tolerance and a feeling of community amongst the members.

**Student Council-Miss Lynn Sorrentino**

The function of the Lincoln School Student Council was to offer various services to the school, the township, and the other associations. The students held school-wide spirit activities, and drives for worthwhile causes. The Council collected food for the needy and also sent several care packages to the service men and women who are currently in Iraq. The students also raised funds to purchase playground equipment such as balls and hula-hoops.

**The Business Club-Mrs. Kimberly Algieri**

The students involved in this club ran the Lincoln School Store while learning aspects of running a business. They were accountable for the purchasing of items, budgeting and maintaining accurate records.

**The Hyperstudio Project-Ms. Chris Osieja**

The students in The Hyperstudio Club created a multimedia project using the program: Hyperstudio and the digital camera. Their finished projects were presented to their parents at a PTO meeting.

**The CyberFair Club-Ms. Christine Osieja**

The students in this club participated in an international competition through which they had to learn about local government. The Lincoln School members interviewed Mayor Scarpelli and created a project based on the information they gained. This project can be viewed on the Nutley Schools Website.

**Student Service Club-Mr. Kenneth Ferriol**

The entire sixth grade class participated in this club, which performed various service projects for our school. This club maintained the book rooms, provided messenger service for the building, created the monthly window decorations, and distributed all fund raising materials for the PTO.

### **Battle of the Books Club-Mrs. Grayce Berk /Mrs. Debra Parigi**

The fifth grade class participated in the National Battle of the Books Program. The students worked in teams and read fifteen different novels. The teams then “battled” by answering question based on the understanding of the various books. The program was extremely successful and encouraged comprehension skills and cooperative learning.

## **Lincoln School’s Parent Teacher Organization**

I would like to thank the Lincoln School PTO for its dedication to our school. The members’ unending enthusiasm and commitment has provided our students with many exciting programs and materials. Their willingness to form a partnership with the teaching staff in order to enhance our educational program is to be commended. I would like to extend a special thank you to President Barbara McGarty and the entire Board for their tireless efforts on behalf of our school for the last two years. I look forward to working with the new officers.

**The following are a few of the many PTO sponsored events:**

- New Parents Night
- Pumpkin Patch
- Tricky Tray
- Holiday Boutique
- Fall and Spring Scholastic Book Fairs
- Lincoln School Spirit Day Ice Cream Treats
- Staff Appreciation Luncheon and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Appreciation Luncheon
- Olympic Pizza Lunch
- Jeopardy Assembly
- Author Assembly
- Star Lab refreshments and additional materials
- Sixth Grade Activities and Dance
- Movie Nights
- Talent Show
- Mother’s Day Plant Sale

## **Concerns**

Lincoln School will continue to need additional attention due to its age and the ever-increasing population. The Administration and Board of Education have developed a plan to address the building façade and basement floors. The staff will continue to monitor the needs of the facility and cooperate in all efforts to improve the situation in order to provide the best possible learning environment for our students.

## Conclusion

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the staff of Lincoln School for their support and enthusiasm through out the year. I would also like to thank the parent community for allowing me the privilege of working with their children and the students for their enthusiasm and willingness to do their best. I look forward to another fulfilling year.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Mrs. Donna Bolcato, our school secretary and recognize her warm, caring manner and astounding work ethic. She provided, along with our dedicated aides, a pleasant and effective office environment for staff, students and parents.

I appreciate the efforts of Mr. James Mallen, our Business Administrator for his assistance with school finance matters and wish him health and happiness as he retires. I would also like to recognize Mr. Philip Nicolette, Manager of Buildings and Grounds, for his attention to the many maintenance projects at Lincoln School.

I would also like to thank Miss Barbara Hirsch, Director of Special Services, and the Child Study Team for their guidance and assistance in supporting our at risk students, under their care these students continue to flourish and grow both academically and socially.

Thank you to the members of the Board of Education for their support of Lincoln School and their dedication to the children of Nutley. I truly appreciate the efforts Mr. Alan Genitempo, our Lincoln School Board of Education Representative, has made on behalf of our school and the insight he brought to our PTO meetings and events.

A special thank you to my administrative colleagues who continue to answer my many questions with patience and humor. They have helped to make this year, not only effective, but also enjoyable.

I would like to thank Dr. James Vivinetto, Assistant Superintendent of Schools for his encouragement and expertise as we search for techniques to continue to foster academic and social growth at Lincoln School.

I offer my heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Kathleen Serafino, Superintendent of Schools, for her continued support, guidance and commitment to providing all children with quality education. Her confidence in both the students and me has strengthened the fabric of Lincoln School. I have found this year to be both rewarding and challenging and look forward to our continued efforts next year.

Respectfully submitted,



Cynthia Anne Healy  
Principal, Lincoln School

**RADCLIFFE SCHOOL**

NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
RADCLIFFE SCHOOL  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Kathleen C. Serafino June 18, 2004

FROM: Mariana C. Francioso, Principal, Radcliffe School

RE: **Principal's Annual Report - School Year 2003/2004**

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

**District Curriculum Priorities**

The Nutley School System, in accordance with New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards, continues to provide its students with a quality education. The following priorities have been implemented:

- Technology Plan
- Safe Schools Comprehensive District Emergency Management Plan
- Choral/Instrumental Music Curriculum K-6
- ESL Curriculum K-12
- Language Arts Literacy Program K-3
- Art Curriculum K-8
- Character Education Program K-12
- Two State Mandated School Objectives

Continued In-Service was provided in the following areas:

- Instructional Theory into Practice K-12
- Intervention & Referral Services (I&RS) and 504
- Technology Integration Plan K-12
- Cultural Diversity Education K-12
- Character Education K-12
- Language Arts Literacy K-12
- Elementary Assessment –New Jersey ASK 3/4
- Mathematics K-12
- Differentiated Instruction 1-4
- Mentoring Program
- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Prevention
- Affirmative Action Policies

## Radcliffe School Annual Report

Curriculum Development occurred in the following areas:

- Choral/Instrumental Music K-6
- Mathematics
- Social Studies
- World Language K-12
- Family Life/Chemical Health K-12

Mrs. Christine Oseija, Elementary Technology Facilitator Teacher, continues to assist classroom teachers with lessons to aid in infusing technology throughout the curriculum. We continue to monitor and upgrade our software, CD Roms, and other computer-related items.

### **Results of School Level Objectives – 2002-2003 School Year**

By June 2004, students in grades kindergarten through two (K-2) demonstrated proficiency in language arts literacy, which included, vocabulary, comprehension, listening, writing and speaking. This was accomplished by reading each day for enjoyment, keeping a reading log, a word wall, and a vocabulary journal. A minimum of 97% of the students have achieved a score of 80% or higher on a teacher-constructed assessment that included multiple choice and open-ended questions. A rubric was used to score open-ended questions.

By June 2004, students in grades three through six (3-6) demonstrated proficiency in the content area of geometry. More than 85% of the students achieved a score of 80% on a teacher-constructed response and open-ended questions. Open-ended questions were scored by a rubric.

### **School-Based Planning Team**

The School-Based Planning Team, which was comprised of teachers, parents, and administrators, met frequently to discuss the school level objectives. The members of the team proposed the following school level objectives for the 2004-2005 school year:

By June 2005, students in grades kindergarten through four (K-4) will demonstrate proficiency in mathematical concepts, as demonstrated in solving open-ended questions. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-constructed assessment. A rubric will be used to score open-ended questions.

By June 2005, students in grades five through six (5-6) will demonstrate proficiency in the social studies, targeting the Holocaust. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assessment, which may include literature-based reports, presentations and projects.

## Radcliffe School Annual Report

### School Activities

#### ***PTO Open House – Tuesday, September 16, 2003***

Our annual open house was September 16, 2003. The teachers were in attendance, along with Mr. Al Restaino, our board representative.

#### ***Annual Family Picnic – October 5, 2003***

The annual Radcliffe School PTO Family Picnic was held on Saturday, October 5, 2003. This event continues to be a favorite of the new families and the families that are presently attending Radcliffe.

#### ***Fire Prevention Week – October 6 – 10, 2003***

Radcliffe School conducted Fire Prevention Week, with a visit from the Nutley Fire Department for a Drill & Demo, as well as the annual assembly conducted by Mr. Fred Scalera.

#### ***Hearing Screening Week – October 20 – 24, 2003***

Mrs. Virginia Reilly, School Nurse, conducted our annual hearing screening for the entire school.

#### ***Red Ribbon Week***

Red Ribbon Week began on Wednesday, October 22, 2003, and went through the following week, ending on Halloween, October 31, 2003. Red ribbons were handed out to all of the students and staff to support "Just Say No to Drugs."

#### ***Parent Visitation Days – Tuesday, November 18 & Thursday, November 20, 2003***

Parent Visitation Days were Tuesday, November 18, 2003 for Kindergarten through Third Grades and Thursday, November 20, 2003 for Fourth through Sixth Grades for the American Education Week festivities.

#### ***The Study Buddies Program***

The Study Buddies Program entered its fifth year under the supervision of Mrs. Joyce Wood, Elementary School Guidance Counselor, and Mrs. Lisa Casilli, SAC Coordinator. It continues to be a very excellent program for peer tutoring between the elementary school students and the high school students. Thanks to Mrs. Wood and Mrs. Casilli for its success.

#### ***Character Education Initiative***

Character Education has been ongoing and is in its fourth year at Radcliffe School. The program was successfully shared with the other elementary schools. Under the guidance of Mrs. Joyce Wood, during the first half of this school year, each school prepared posters, signs, etc. to promote caring, non-violence, conflict resolution, etc. A state grant of approximately \$11,000.00 enabled us to train teachers and provide a parent workshop in coordination with the training from UMDNJ. An assembly entitled, "Children Practicing Respect" (CPR) was held on March 4, 2004 and was extremely well received by the students.

## Radcliffe School Annual Report

### ***American Education Week***

American Education Week was celebrated the week of November 11, 2002, with Parent Visitation Days on Tuesday, November 18 and Thursday, November 20. Parent conferences on were held on Tuesday, November 11 and Thursday, November 13.

### ***Holiday Music Program***

Our holiday music program was held on Wednesday, December 10, 2003, at 7:30 P.M. in the gymnasium and was conducted by Miss Rachel Klem for our choral program and Mr. Baron Raymonde for our instrumental program. The musicale included performances from Kindergarten, First and Second Grades. This was well received again this year.

### ***Sixth Grade Spelling Bee and Mathematical Olympiads***

This year's Sixth Grade Spelling Bee, Geography Bee, and Math Olympiads were sponsored by Miss Cullari, Miss Rossi and Mrs. Szura. .

### ***Read Across America – March 1 – 5, 2004***

The week of March 1, 2004, Radcliffe School participated, once again, in the national program, "Read Across America". 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. Again this year, Mrs. Michele Cristantiello, coordinated the program, along with Miss Carla Cullari, sixth grade teacher and Mrs. Donna Hutcheson, Resource Teacher. Many new and innovative activities were introduced and it was truly a success again this year, thanks to these three teachers.

### ***Kindergarten Registration***

Registration for our kindergarten students for the year 2004/05 was the week of March 1, 2004. Kindergarten orientation was held the night of the Board of Elections, Tuesday, April 20, at 7:30 P.M. in the kindergarten classroom, with Miss Holly Moscaritola, Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Virginia Reilly, Mrs. Julie Viola, PTO President, and myself.

### ***Third Half Club Basketball***

Fifth and Sixth Grade students participated again this year in the Third Half Club Basketball, under the coaching of Mrs. Sarah Clark Misner.



## Radcliffe School Annual Report

### ***Spring Musicale - grades 3 - 4***

The annual musicale for the grades three and four was held on Wednesday, March 31, 2004, under the direction of the choral director, Miss Rachel Klem, including fourth grade string instruments, under the direction of Mr. Baron Raymond. It was an entertaining and enjoyable evening.

### ***Spring Musicale – grades 5 - 6***

On Tuesday, May 4, 2004, Miss Rachel Klem and Mr. Baron Raymond led the 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> graders in their Spring Musicale. The Chorale performed under the direction of Miss Klem and the orchestra and band performed under the direction of Mr. Raymonde. This musicale was a complete success.

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

This year Officer Kenneth Neri conducted the DARE program with grades one through four. The sixth grade DARE Program was conducted by Officer Ken Neri, as Director of DARE. The DARE program held its annual picnic on Thursday, June 3, 2004, at Owens Field, under the direction Officer Neri.

### ***Clubs***

Jeopardy Club – Mrs. Maria Strumolo, Sponsor

Weaving Club – Miss Robyn Burns, Sponsor

Chess Club – Mr. Michael Pace, Sponsor

Color-A-Smile – Miss Jessica Jernick

Cyperfair – Ms. Christina Osieja

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

Quilting – Ms. Suzanne Hagert, Sponsor

Animal Club – Mrs. Gail Kahn, Sponsor

Wildlife Club – Mrs. Linda Moscara, Sponsor

Magic Tree House – Mrs. Donna Hutcheson, Sponsor

Human Relations Club – Miss Carla Cullari/Mrs. Joyce Wood, Sponsors

Study Buddies – Mrs. Joyce Wood/Mrs. Lisa Casilli, Sponsors

## Radcliffe School Annual Report

### 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 – H.Moscaritola – Language Arts Literacy Workshop,  
Math Workshop – Joyce Glatzer

Kindergarten – M. Salvetta – Language Arts Literacy Workshop,  
Math Workshop – Joyce Glatzer

First Grade – S.Neri – Language Arts Literacy Workshop  
Math Workshop – Joyce Glatzer  
Holistic Scoring - NWAT

First Grade – B. Kirk - Rutgers Reading & Writing Conference,  
Literacy Workshop

Second Grade - M. Cristantiello – “Read Across America” for the entire  
district, I & RS Team, Literacy Workshop,  
Math Workshop, Holistic Scoring - NWAT

Second Grade - G. Kahn – Affirmative Action, Holistic Scoring - NWAT  
Literacy Workshop, Math Workshop – Joyce Glatzer

Second Grade - L. Moscaritola – Holistic Scoring - NWAT  
Literacy Workshop, Math Workshop-Joyce Glatzer

Third Grade - S. Hagert – Gift & Talented

Third Grade – K.Koribanick –Language Arts Literacy Workshop, Holistic Scoring,  
Math Workshop – Joyce Glatzer

Fourth Grade - C. Perrone- Holistic Scoring - NWAT

Fifth Grade - J. Gambaro – Family Math & Family Science Nights

Fifth Grade - E. Napoli – Family Math & Family Science Nights,  
Holistic Scoring - NWAT

Fifth Grade – M. Strumolo – Battle of the Books

Sixth Grade – C. Cullari – Read Across America, St. John's Church,

Sixth Grade – A. Rossi – Holistic Scoring - NWAT

Sixth Grade - N. Szura – Holistic Scoring - NWAT

## Radcliffe School Annual Report

### Teacher Achievements (Continued)

Physical Education - J. Alessio – Physical Education workshops

Basic Skills – Dana DiGiacomo – Literacy Workshop,  
Math Workshop – Joyce Glatzer

Basic Skills – Jessica Jernick – Literacy Workshop  
Math Workshop – Joyce Glatzer

### Special Programs

Kindergarten	The Kindergarten Promotion was held on Friday, June 18, 2004. The students presented a Brazilian theme for the promotion program.
Grades K - 2	Holiday Musicale - held on December 10, 2003 and was conducted by Miss Klem and Mr. Raymonde.
Grades 3 - 4	Spring Musicale - held on March 31, 2004 and was conducted by Miss Rachel Klem and Mr. Baron Raymonde.
Grades 5 – 6	Spring Musicale – held on May 4, 2004, and was conducted by Miss Klem and Mr. Raymonde.
Grade 5	“Battle of the Books” – under the direction of Mrs. Maria Strumolo
Grade 5	Star Lab – conducted by Miss Jainine Gambaro & Mrs. Ellen Napoli for all the students of Radcliffe School
Grade 6	D.A.R.E. - The DARE program this year was conducted under the direction of DARE Officer Neri. The DARE picnic was held at Owens Field on June 3, 2004.

### Class Trips

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

Kindergarten	Holiday Singing, Shop Rite, Nutley Animal Hospital
First Grade	Alstede Farms
Mrs. Neri's First Gr.	Pen Pal (with Washington School) Trip to Yantacaw Park
Second Grade	Nutley Public Library, Paper Mill Playhouse, Meadowlands Environmental Center
Third Grade	Waterloo Village, Nutley Museum / Franklin Reformed Cemetery, Museum of Early Trades and Crafts
Fourth Grade	Crane House, Liberty Science Center
Fifth Grade	Ocean Institute at Sandy Hook, NJ
Sixth Grade	The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, PA
Animal Club	Environmental Center, Meadowlands, Secaucus, NJ

**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 2003/04 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 the day before the Junior Olympics to encourage school spirit and an assembly program were held for both Dr. Seuss Day Birthday.

Elections for the new school year 2004/05 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 16, 2004 for Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Grades. Awards were presented for high honor roll, honor roll, perfect attendance, and good citizenship. Awards were handed out to the lower grades in their classrooms. In addition, awards were given for the winners in mathematics, geography, physical fitness (President's Challenge), poster contests, and for the participants of the clubs and student council. Again, this year the "John Walker Foundation Scholarship" was given to two outstanding sixth grade students: The presentation of the Walker Scholarship was done by Mrs. Nancy Greulich.

**Presidential Achievement Awards**

The awards, presented for Presidential Achievement, were given to sixth grade students at the Awards Assembly Program on June 16, 2004. The criteria for achievement of these awards is to ranked in the top 25% of the class, composite score of 95% or higher on the national percentile on the Terra Nova Test, and honors / high honors for final grade.

**P.T.O.**

Radcliffe School held elections for the new officers of the P.T.O. Thanks to Mrs. Lenore DeLorenzo, who led the organization through two very successful years. The new officers are as follows:

Co-Presidents: Julie Viola & Lisa Chagnon /  
Co-Vice Presidents: ToniAnn Sullivan & Lia Zangari  
Recording Secretary: Ingrid DiPasquale  
Corresponding Secretary: Maria Little  
Treasurer: Jeanine Nichols

## Radcliffe School Annual Report

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

Radcliffe School P.T.O. President, Lenore DeLorenzo, 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***

“Red Bird at Rockefeller Center” – Authors’ Assembly – this unique assembly was set up for the students to order the book ahead of time and to have it personalized by the authors, to be given out during the assembly.

Multi-Cultural Folk Dance Assembly – Italy, Kenya, & Japan were the countries visited at this special assembly.

Children Practicing Respect (CPR) – this assembly was organized through our Character Education program (Mrs. Joyce Wood & Mrs. Francioso)

<b><i>P.T.O.</i></b>	<b><i>Activities / Meetings</i></b>
Sept.	Innisbrook Gift Wrap
Sept.	Open House
Sept.	Picture Perfect Portrait Day
October	Family Picnic
October	Pumpkin Patch
October	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Walk-A-Thon
November	Teachers’ Brunch
December	Holiday Musicale-Kindergarten, First & Second
December	Santa Sale
January	Kid’s Stuff Book Sale
January	Scholastic Book Fair
February	Family Roller Skating Night
March	Gertrude Hawks Candy Sale
April	Tricky Tray
April	Variety Show
March	Spring Musicale – Grades 3 – 4
April	Family Sports Night (Teachers vs. Parents)
May	Junior Olympics
May	Spring Musicale - Grades 5 - 6
May	Plant Sale
May	Teachers’ Appreciation Lunch
May	Spring Picture Perfect Day
June	DARE Picnic
June	Ice Cream Truck Day
June	Promotion Activities

## Radcliffe School Annual Report

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

The 2003/04 school year proved to be another successful P.T.O. year, with numerous meetings and assemblies.

The family welcome picnic was a success again this year.

The Pumpkin Patch was in its sixth year at Radcliffe School and went extremely well.

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 Valley Regency in Clifton, NJ.

The annual Scholastic Book Fair went well again this year.

The Mother's Day Plant Sale was held in the alley and was a success.

A candy sale was held this year, which was very successful.

"Box Tops for Education" run by General Mills, continued this year and proved to be helpful.

"Family Sports Night" was held in the Radcliffe School Gym. This event was well attended by teachers vs. parents.

### **Radcliffe Review**

Under the leadership of Mrs. Boardingham 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. Anita Tedesco, and kept parents/guardians informed on a week-to-week basis.

### **Extended Day Program**

There was continued implementation of the Kindergarten Extended Day and the "before" and "after" care programs conducted in our school, under the direction of the Mrs. Maria Cervasio. This year the school coordinator was Miss Carla Cullari.

### **I & RS Team**

The multi-disciplinary team, for the planning and delivery of intervention and referral services (I & RS), was in its second year. This team was designed to assist students who were experiencing learning, behavior, or health difficulties, and to assist staff who have difficulties in addressing these needs. In its second year, it continues to be very successful.

## Radcliffe School Annual Report

### **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, Dr. James Vivinetto, Assistant Superintendent, members of the Board of Education, Miss Barbara Hirsch, Director of Special Services, Mr. James Mallen, Mr. Dennis Oblack, and Mr. Philip Nicolette, and to my colleagues for their support, advice, and guidance during this year.

I particularly wish to express my gratitude and congratulations to all the extraordinary teachers, staff members, parents, and children who make Radcliffe School the unique 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 highly commended on her continued efforts on behalf of Radcliffe School. She brings a strong 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. Ballester, Mrs. Cappetta, Mrs. Cifalino, Mrs. Pavlisko, and Mrs. Puccio. These staff members continue to do an exemplary 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.

Please see attached list of accomplishments and workshops for this school year.

Respectfully submitted,



Mariana C. Francioso  
Principal

/bc  
Attachment

**SPRING GARDEN SCHOOL**



# SPRING GARDEN SCHOOL

59 SOUTH SPRING GARDEN AVENUE

NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

ROSEMARY CLERICO

Principal

Tel:(973) 661-8983

Fax:(973) 661-5138

TO: Dr. Kathleen Serafino, Superintendent

FROM: Rosemary Clerico, Principal

SUBJECT: Principal's Annual Report - School Year 2003/2004

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 2003/2004 school year, the K-12 curriculum program was successfully implemented which provided the students with core curriculum content standards in scope and sequence. The new health series has been successfully implemented in grade 4. The implementation of both the music and art curricula continues to be progressively implemented according to proficiencies and standards.

The C.A.T. Program continues to be implemented this year. Primary Academic Talent Program (P.A.T.) K-3 program continues to be developed through staff training, and in service programs. Mrs. Claire Menza, 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 and participated in Essex County Tech Day at Montclair State University.

The district inclusion program has been implemented in grade five and six: Two fifth grade students were included in reading and grammar classes. One student was included in sixth grade science, two sixth grade students in social studies, and one student in language arts. The special education students all progressed nicely.

The five-year strategy planning model for technology integration, network infrastructure installation, and staff development have been an ongoing process. All classes and the library have been wired and have Internet access. All staff have Email accounts.

Cyber Patrol is installed on all computers throughout the school. The computer technology teacher, Mrs. Chris Osieja, has assisted classroom teachers with the infusion of technology throughout the curriculum.

The technology infrastructure enables the students and staff to access, important and appropriate web sites, which are included on weekly bulletins, and daily communication was maintained through the utilization of Email.

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 and character education 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 (K-2) demonstrated proficiency in language arts literacy, which included vocabulary, comprehension, listening, writing, and speaking. This was accomplished by reading each day for enjoyment for a minimum of fifteen minutes, by keeping a reading log, a word wall, and a vocabulary journal of new words. Students in grades (3-6) demonstrated proficiency in the content areas of geometry. The students successfully met the school's goal.

During the school year, the School Based Planning Committee, which was comprised of teachers, parents and administrator, met frequently to explore , discuss and devise the school-level objective for the 2003/2004 school year.

### **STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

Various staff members and grade levels represented teacher participation at the Saturday curriculum workshops. Language Arts Literacy, Clinical Health and Social Studies Committees reported any changes, modifications, and recommendations at monthly faculty and grade level meetings.

Each committee member report included the alignment of the Core Curriculum Content Standards in the revision of the choices.

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

**Workshops and In-service Training for K-6 Curriculum Related Events:**

- Social Studies Core Curriculum Content Standards for Elementary School
- Problem Based Learning Through Technology
- HyperStudio
- Part One Training in Social Decision Making and Problem Solving
- Mentoring and Coaching NJNER
- Differentiated Instruction
- Starlab Workshop - Fall In-Service
- Computer Tips and Techniques - Fall In-Service
- Semple Math Workshop - Winter In-Service
- Teaching Solutions For Struggling Readers
- Physical Education Standards Workshop
- Asthma Education and Disease Management

**Study Group: Montclair State University**

This year through Montclair State University NJNER, Spring Garden School received a \$500. grant. A teacher study group was formed to research and explore integration of technology through out the curriculum.

The Geraldine R. Dodge Grant for \$750.00, was completed during the school year. The Inclusion Handbook of Classroom Strategies was shared with Montclair State University junior faculty members, Spring Garden School faculty, members of the Nutley Board of Education, and new teachers entering the Nutley School district.

The Inquiry Project Grant of \$3000. awarded to Spring Garden School has allowed several staff members to research and explore the implications of multiple intelligences through the use of learning centers. This year several meetings were conducted, workshops were attended, and supplies were ordered to help complete the proposal. This project will extend to 2004-2005 school year.

**HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRAMS**

**D.A.R.E.** - Officer Kenneth Neri conducted the D.A.R.E. program to the sixth grade classes on Wednesdays from January 2004 through May 2004. He also completed the D.A.R.E. program for three weeks in October 2003 for grades 1-4. To bring the course to closure, the sixth-grade classes participated in a district-wide field day at Monsignor Owen's Field.

**Fire Prevention Week** - During Fire Safety Week, (October) all grades K-6 including a special education class 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.

### **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. Also an assembly for grades 5 & 6 was organized by Mayor Joan Cocchiola for Women's History Month. A panel discussion was conducted to expose the fifth and sixth graders to various careers held by women.

#### **Read Across America**

On March 2, 2004, students from Franklin Middle School and other visitors read to all the students to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday.

**Veteran's Day**

To commemorate Veteran's Day, the Spring Garden School students attended an assembly honoring several veterans. Mrs. Doreen Holland organized this event with the help of the Military Fan Club.

**Law Day**

The students in grade 5 participated in Law Day. Judge Viola and two Essex County attorneys helped organize and conduct a mock trial. I extend my thanks to Mrs. Nancy Falco and Mrs. Doreen Holland for organizing this event. The theme was Brown vs. The Board of Education.

**Conflict Resolution**

Three teachers participated in a workshop entitled, "Teaching Conflict Resolution and Peer Mediation Skills" sponsored by New Jersey State Bar Foundation. The two day training focused on conflict resolution techniques and how to utilize the curriculum guides provided.

**Family Math and Science**

Family Math and Science were offered at Spring Garden School again this year. Both programs were well attended by the fourth grade families. The Family Math and Family Science programs are designed to address the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards as well as ASK 4 skills. A variety of hands-on activities were used to build confidence for success in mathematics and to demystify science. The programs have created a unique partnership between home and school.

**Bears Around the World**

This project involved third-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.

**CLUBS****Journalism Club**

The newspaper club met every other Monday under the supervision of Miss Antoinette Frannicola. Two outstanding comprehensive issues were prepared by the students. The club afforded the children a successful experience in the areas of communication, editing and computer skills. All issues were distributed to the student body and parents.

**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 5 & 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, bake sales, Earth Day, Career Day, and feeding the homeless at St. John's in Newark and Nutley Senior Citizens.

**Italian Club**

The students in grades 1 and 2 met each Wednesday from 12:00-12:30 PM, under the supervision of Mrs. Rizzuto. The students learned through a conversation technique.

**Chorale Club**

The students in grades 5 and 6 learned the techniques of singing, including breathing, blending and performing. Students met on Wednesday's at 12:00-12:30 PM.

**Spring Garden Chorale Concerts:**

- December Holiday Program      Grade 4 & 6
- Budget Night Music Program      Grade 1 & 2 "It's a Jungle Out There"
- Spring Concert      Grade 3 & 5

**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.

**Library Research**

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. The library was also opened at lunch to enable students time to utilize the technology and research materials and to do independent work.

**Jeopardy Club**

The Jeopardy Club meets every Friday from 11:30-12:00. The club is open to students in grades 5-6. The game tests the students' knowledge of: math, science, history, English, geography, and civics.

**Safety Patrols**

The Spring Garden Safety patrol comprised of 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.

**Co-operative Game Club**

Students played board and computer games as a co-operative group. This club taught them how to reach a goal working as a team, taking risks and respecting each other's abilities.

**Drama Club**

The students of the Drama Club, met on Thursday to learn about the theater. The students were also taught how to make scenery and directing. A culminating activity was to have the students produce a play. This year Ms. Walk and the students produced a play, "A Knight to Remember." The children enjoyed the activities immensely.

**Color A Smile**

Students in grades 1-3 met on Tuesdays during lunch to draw pictures to be mailed to "Color A Smile" foundation. These pictures were mailed to nursing homes, hospitals and individuals living on their own. This club promoted caring/responsibility in conjunction with character education.

**Military Fan Mail Club**

The students became aware of the sacrifices made by members of the U.S. Military and to acknowledge our appreciation of such by making and sending cards to troops stationed around the world. The club took two trips; one was to the Nutley Post Office to mail holiday cards, and the other was to the State House in Trenton. The club was recognized on the Senate floor for their work with the military. This year they have received the honor of being number one Military Fan Club in the state. Mayor Cocchiola recognized this accomplishment on June 1, 2004 with a state resolution.

**Photography Club**

Students in grade 6 participated in the Photography Club. The students were introduced to the world of photography.

**Assembly Programs**

- Sept. 17th "CPR" Assembly (Children Practicing Respect) Gr. K-6
- Oct. 16 Gr. K-6 Nutley Fire Dept. Assembly Program
- Oct. 27 Gr. 5-6 Violence Awareness Assembly
- Dec. 16 Gr. K- 6 Bubblemania
- Jan. 26 Gr. K- 6 "Flags Unfurled"



**Awards Assembly**

The annual awards assembly under the supervision of Ms. Laura Curry 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:**

- Kindergarten . Nutley Shop Rite
  - . Nutley Firehouse
  - . Nutley Public Library
  - . Turtle Back Zoo
  
- Grade 1 . Discovery Museum, Florham Park - "Imagine That"
  
- Grade 2 . Montclair State University "A Christmas Carol"
  - . Newark Museum
  
- Grade 3 . Nutley Police & Fire Dept. and Nutley Town Hall
  
- Grade 4 . Bronx Zoo
  - . Gould School - No. Caldwell
  
- Grade 5 . West Point Academy, New York
  - . Liberty Science Center
  - . FunTime - Fairfield, NJ
  
- 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
  - . Ice Skating - So. Mountain Arena
  - . D.A.R.E. Picnic
  - . Helen Hayes Theater - Nyack NJ
  - . Art Festival - Franklin Middle School

**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.

**Kindergarten:**

K-6 ABC Poetry Contest

K-6 SADD Writing Contest "Write For Your Safety"

**Grade 1:**

ABC History Fair

1st Place - John McCullough

2nd Place - Victoria Kealy

3rd Place - Nicholas Sullivan

**Grade 2:**

ABC History Fair

SADD Writing Contest - Kelly Huegel (winner)

**Grade 3:**

ABC History Fair

1st Place - Zachariah Calluori

2nd Place - Kevin Li

SADD Writing Contest - Hannah Durand (winner)

**Grade 4:**

- American Legion Drawing Contest - "Heros USA"
- Winter Woods Elementary School Writing Contest Gr. 4-6  
1st Place Winner: Gr. 4 Alan Fischer
- Nutley Hoop Shoot Champs - 1st Place - Justin Lordi (Group 1)
- ABC Nutley History Fair - Gr. 4-6
- Benedetto Croce Educational Society Essay Contest Gr. 4-6
- SADD Writing Contest - John Ratta (winner)

Grade 5:

- ABC History Fair - 1st Place - Justine Appel
- Law Day Poster Contest
- American Legion Drawing Contest - "Heros USA."
- Nutley Elks Americanism Essay Contest - "Say No To Drugs"
- Nutley Hoop Shoot Champs - 1st Place Lindsay Mosior (Group 11)  
1st Place Anthony Liaci (Group 11)
- SADD Writing Contest - Kayla Huegel (winner)
- Winter Woods Elementary Writing Contest Gr. 4-6 - 1st Place Paris Metzger Gr. 5
- Scholarship Recipient for Nutley Summer Music Program 2004  
Joshua Budzinski and Nicole Costa
- Benedetto Croce Educational Society Essay Contest

Grade 6

- ABC History Fair
- Nutley Elks Americanism Essay Contest - "What Does Freedom Mean To Me"  
Alexandra Lynch - 3rd Place  
Nutley Hoop Shoot Champs - 1st Place Lindsay Ryder & Bryan McDonald(Group 111)
- Lion's Club of Nutley Peace Poster Contest - "Dreams of Peace"
- Winter Woods Elementary School Writing Contest Gr. 4-6 1st Place - Melissa Halchak
- Benedetto Croce Educational Society Essay Contest

Grade 5 & 6

- Academically speaking - In-district competition
- Third-half Club Basketball Tournament

Johns Hopkins

Three students in grades 5 received the Johns Hopkins Award:

Nicole Costa  
Daniel Del Tufo  
Ryan Fitzmaurice  
Sarah Jo Semper  
Lily Pfaff

**Free Throw Contest:**

**Group I** - Justin Lordi First Place Winner - Sarah Paonessa Second Place Winner

**Group II** - Lindsay Mosior First Place Winner - Anthony Liaci Second Place Winner

**Group III** - Lindsay Ryder First Place Winner

**CHECK LIST**

A bulletin board recognized students who achieved all check marks in the social and personal growth areas of the report card.

**P.T.O. ACTIVITIES**

I would like to thank the Spring Garden School P.T.O. for all their help and support throughout the year. A special thanks to Mrs. Karen Durando, P.T.O. President, who 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. Some of our activities included:

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| ♦ October  | Pumpkin Patch<br><br>Sixth Grade Camping Trip - Fairview Camp, Newton, NJ   |
| ♦ November | Annual Tricky Tray  |
| ♦ December | Holiday Boutique<br>Student Pizza Day   |
| ♦ February | Valentine Treats  |
| ♦ May      | Staff Appreciation Week<br>Strawberry Festival  |
| ♦ June     | Students Special Day - Ice Cream/Pizza<br>Sixth-Grade Festivities - Ice Skating<br>Kindergarten Recognition Day<br>Gr. 6 Promotion Activities |

**The Annual Book Fair** - Sponsored by Spring Garden School PTO was held in March.

PTO offered each student a \$5.00 certificate to be applied to the purchase of a book.

### **Parent Volunteers**

A former Spring Garden staff member volunteered her assistance in the primary reading program, Mrs. Rosemarie Baranko. Unfortunately, this March, Mrs. Rosemary Baranko passed away. On behalf of the Spring Garden staff and students I would like to extend my condolences to the Baranko family. She will be sorely missed.

Mr. James Greengrove, a former parent, also volunteered. Other parent sponsored activities; Daisies, Brownies, Cub Scouts, and Girl Scouts were well attended and enjoyed by all.

### **CONCLUSION:**

In closing, I would like to thank Dr. Kathleen Serafino, Superintendent of Schools, Dr. James Vivinetto, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, the support of the Board of Education, especially Mr. Gerard Parisi our representative. A special thanks to Ms. Barbara Hirsch and the Child Study Team who aids us with our special education children and their programs, and Mr. James Mallen who has been instrumental in maintaining the building and to my colleagues who continue to share their experience and expertise with me.

Spring Garden students continue to achieve high scores in the Terra Nova Assessment Test, Nutley Writing Achievement Test and the State mandated tests. These assessment tests are only one indicator of the outstanding ability of the Spring Garden School students.

I particularly want to note the Spring Garden students continued participation in the many art and essay contests. Their outstanding achievements exemplify their desire to compete and succeed.

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.

Thank you.

Rosemary Clerico, Principal

**WASHINGTON SCHOOL**

# Nutley Public Schools

WASHINGTON SCHOOL  
155 WASHINGTON AVENUE  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

**Douglas T. Jones**  
Principal

**Tel.** (973) 661-8888  
**Fax** (973) 661-1369

TO: Dr. Kathleen C. Serafino, Superintendent of Schools  
FROM: Douglas T. Jones, Principal of Washington School  
DATE: June 28, 2004  
SUBJECT: Principal's Annual Report – School Year 2003/2004

This annual report represents a composite of district and school priorities, staff, school, student, and parent activities, and curriculum development and implementation.

## Continuing Priorities

The Nutley School System, in accordance with New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards, continues to provide its students with a quality education. The following priorities have been implemented:

- ◆ Math Curriculum
- ◆ Character Education Program – grades K-12
- ◆ Language Arts Basic Skills Curriculum – grades 1-8
- ◆ Gifted and Talented Program – grades 4-6
- ◆ Health Textbook and Curriculum – grades 5-6
- ◆ Technology Plan
- ◆ Guidance Program - grades K-8
- ◆ Safe Schools Comprehensive Model/ District Emergency Management Plan
- ◆ New Kindergarten/Elementary Report Card
- ◆ Revised Compositional Writing NLAT-1-8

**Continued in-service was provided in the following areas:**

- ◆ Instructional Theory into Practice
- ◆ Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS) and 504
- ◆ Technology integration
- ◆ Cultural Diversity Education K-12
- ◆ Character Education
- ◆ Writing Skills Development
- ◆ NJ ASK
- ◆ Literacy Coaches

**Curriculum development occurred in the following areas:**

- ◆ Ask 3-4
- ◆ Family Life Curriculum
- ◆ Language Arts curriculum
- ◆ Social Studies
- ◆ World Languages
- ◆ Mathematics

Mrs. Christine Osieja, Elementary Technology Facilitator Teacher, has assisted classroom teachers with lessons to aid in infusing technology throughout the curriculum. We continue to upgrade our hardware and software. The purchase of ten I-books and their integration into the classroom has had a tremendous impact on computer implementation. Additional staff development and workshops for the entire faculty have been planned for the following year.

**Results of School Level Objectives – 2003-2004 School Year**

By June 2004, students in grades kindergarten through second (K-2) will demonstrate proficiency in language arts literacy which includes vocabulary, comprehension, listening, writing, and speaking. This will be accomplished by reading each day for enjoyment, keeping a reading log, a word wall, and a vocabulary journal. Students will write each day utilizing various techniques including responding to pictures and keeping a writer's journal. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-constructed assessment, which will include multiple choice and open-ended questions. A rubric will be used to score open-ended questions.

By June 2004, students in grades three through six (3-6) will demonstrate proficiency in the content area of geometry. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-constructed assessment, which will include short constructed response and open-ended questions. A rubric will be used to score open-ended questions.



By June 2004, students in grades kindergarten to two (K-2) demonstrated proficiency in language arts literacy, which included vocabulary, comprehension, listening, writing, and speaking. This was accomplished by reading each day for enjoyment, keeping a reading log, a word wall, and a vocabulary journal. More than 93% of the students have achieved a score of 80% on a teacher-constructed assessment, which included multiple choice, and open-ended questions. Open-ended questions were scored using grade appropriate rubric.

By June 2004, students in grades three to six (3-6) demonstrated proficiency in the content area of geometry. More than 91% of the students achieved a score of 80% on a teacher-constructed assessment, which included multiple choice, and open-ended questions. Open-ended questions were scored using a grade appropriate rubric.

### **School-Based Planning Team**

The School-Based Planning Team, which was comprised of teachers, parents, and administrators, met frequently to discuss the school level objectives. The members of the team proposed the following school level objectives for the 2004-2005 school year:

By June 2005, students in grades kindergarten through fourth (K-4) will demonstrate proficiency in mathematical concepts as demonstrated in solving open-ended questions. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-constructed assessment. A rubric will be used to score the open-ended questions.

By June, Students in grades five and six (5-6) will demonstrate proficiency in social studies, targeting the holocaust. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-constructed assignment, which may include literature-based reports, presentations and projects.

### **Testing**

The results of the Nutley Writing Achievement Test (grades 1-6) and the Terra Nova test (grades 1-3, 5, 6) were carefully reviewed. The NJ ASK was given to all third and fourth graders in the content areas of Language Arts and Mathematics. Test scores are continuously reviewed and plans for improvement were implemented. Washington students continue to achieve high scores on these tests.

### **Staff Development**

Washington School staff attended professional workshops, conferences, graduate courses, computer in-service workshops, and various other workshops both in and out of district. The following is a list of the staffs' attendance:

Instructional Level Spelling

Strategies for Differentiating and Personalizing the Elementary Curriculum

Special Education/Regular Education Partnership  
 Mock Trial Workshop  
 Social Decision Making/Problem Solving  
 Mathematics Series Workshop  
 Writing Project workshop  
 Early Childhood Workshop  
 Multimedia Applications and Device on Your Computer  
 Gifted and Talented  
 Kindergarten/Elementary Report Card Revision  
 Reading Association Conference  
 NJEA Convention Workshops  
 School Law

Monthly faculty meetings continually highlight curriculum committee reports, grade level and cross grade level articulation, school level objectives, Special Education/504 accommodations, Basic Skills, Emergency Response Plan, affirmative action, technology, specials, Superintendent's Advisory Committee, safety, liability, classroom management concerns, field trip procedures, and any other items that needed to be addressed.

### **School Activities**

#### ◆ **Academically Speaking Team**

A group of fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students competed in a district-wide competition in June called Elementary Speaking. Eight students represented Washington School in a jeopardy-style tournament.

#### ◆ **Art Club**

The students in the art club met under the direction of the Art teacher to enhance their abilities and create meaningful projects that enhanced the school and many art shows. They additionally worked to create works that were entered in a variety of competitions.

#### ◆ **Guest Speakers**

During the course of the school year numerous guest speakers, with wide varieties of expertise, visited our school. Many of them were parent volunteers who brought a plethora of outside experiences to our school. The students and staff totally enjoyed these interesting and educational presentations.

#### ◆ **New Parents Night**

All new families were encouraged to attend this meeting that was held in early September. The building principal, Mothers' Club and PTO discussed information pertinent to Washington School. A question and answer period was then followed by a tour of the building.

#### ◆ **Meet the Principal**

Parents were invited to attend a Meet the Principal reception. With the assistance of the PTO, the parents received an introduction to the educational philosophy and vision of the principal.

◆ **Annual Halloween Parade**

This annual parade starts on Washington Avenue and ends on the campus. The entire student body and parent community is invited to participate. Teachers and faculty also participated.

◆ **Poster/Essay Contests**

Students in grades 1-6 participated in poster and essay contests throughout the school year. The Washington staff and parents continually reinforce the importance of participation in these extra activities.

◆ **Artwork Honors**

Students from Washington School participated in the New Jersey State Education Contest.

◆ **The John Walker Memorial Basketball Tournament**

The basketball team was selected after several weeks of try-outs. The team was made up of fifth and sixth graders who competed during the later part of March. The Washington team had a great time participating in this tournament.

◆ **Nutley Sun School Page**

Many Washington School activities were highlighted throughout the school year. The staff contributed many pictures that helped to keep the community informed of activities at our school.

◆ **Extended Day Program**

There was continued implementation of a before and an after care program conducted in our school, under the direction of Mrs. Maria Cervasio.

◆ **Grants**

Washington School received a grant from The Nutley Businessmen's Association for the 2003-2004 school year.

◆ **I&RS Team**

The I&RS team was established to implement a multidisciplinary team for the planning and delivery of intervention and referral services. This is designed to assist students who are experiencing learning, behavior, or health difficulties and to assist staff members in addressing those needs. Miss Hirsch presented the initial training that was followed up by the team attending several workshops conducted by the State Department of Education for further training. Our team met for one period on a weekly basis. Interventions were recommended and were very successful.

◆ **Musicales**

Mr. D'Angelo, our instrumental instructor, and Mrs. Bimbi, our general music teacher, conducted three musicales in December, April, and May. During the December program grades four through six sang a variety of holiday songs. The instrumentalists played many favorite songs. The program created a very festive environment. During the April program grades one and two performed. The May concert highlighted songs by our third grade students and instrumental students and the Bell Choir, playing songs that were learned during the school year. The fourth graders played several selections on the recorder. These concerts highlight the progress of the children in the areas of vocal and instrumental music. Washington School vocalists and instrumentalists also participated in the All-Elementary Music Concert at Nutley High School.

◆ **Affirmative Action**

Throughout the grades, Black History month was celebrated with a variety of Afro-American cultural activities. A selection of famous black Americans, civic leaders, sports figures, artists, and authors were significantly displayed throughout the building. During the month of March activities were planned to honor "Women in History" month. These activities were conducted in grades K-6. The students read books, wrote poetry, and spoke about famous women.

◆ **Assembly Programs**

Fire Safety Assembly  
Passaic Valley Water Commission  
Awards Assembly  
Nutley Parks and Recreation Department  
Freedom Productions  
Teacher Appreciation assembly  
Veteran's Day Assembly  
Franklin Middle School Jazz Band – grades 4-6

◆ **Parent Volunteers**

Washington School had many parent volunteers come in to assist in many areas. The Washington School staff continues to welcome them into our building and greatly appreciate the time and effort they give to our youngsters.

◆ **Art Show**

Mrs. Laudadio hosted an evening art show that portrayed the work that the children have done during the year.

◆ **ABC Science Fair**

Washington students participated in the science fair. All of the projects were wonderful and the children had a wonderful time creating them.

♦ **American Education Week**

American Education Week was celebrated the week of November 12. Parent conferences were held during this week and parents were invited to visit their child's classroom.

♦ **Family Math and Family Science**

Family Math and Science were offered once again. Both programs were well attended by fourth grade families. A variety of hands-on activities were used to build confidence for success in mathematics and science. The programs are designed to address the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards and to help students better prepare for the NJ ASK.

♦ **Read Across America**

In celebration of Dr. Suess' Birthday, students from Franklin Middle School and various other guests came to Washington School to read to our students. The PTO assisted in making the day very enjoyable for all.

♦ **Johns Hopkins Plus Test**

Some Washington School Students took the John Hopkins Plus Test.

### **Health and Safety Programs**

Officer Neri from the Nutley Police Department conducted the DARE program with grades 1-4 and grade 6. DARE held its district-wide field day for all sixth graders on at Owens Field.

Mrs. Roberts, our school nurse, conducted scoliosis screening for all students in grades 5 and 6, vision screening for grades 1 and 5, and hearing screening for all students.

The Lions Club conducted vision screening for grade 3. Mrs. Roberts tested all other grades.

The annual fire prevention drill and demonstration took place during Fire Prevention week.

### **Class Trips**

Kindergarten –

Grade 1 – Turtle Back Zoo

Pen Pals Lunch With Radcliff School Students

Grade 2 – Montclair State University, Memorial Auditorium

NJPAC , Newark, NJ

Grade 3 – Meadowlands Environment Center, Lyndhurst, NJ

Grade 4 – Sandy Hook, NJ  
Williams Center for the Arts, Rutherford, NJ  
Junior Olympics

Grade 5 – Williams Center for the Arts, Rutherford, NJ  
Junior Olympics

Grade 6 – Newark Museum, Newark, NJ  
Dare Picnic  
Fairview Lake YMCA Environmental Camp  
Patrol Picnic

Arts Students - Franklin Middle School  
Human Relations – St. John's

### **WASHINGTON SCHOOL CLUBS**

♦ **PAGE TURNER'S CLUB –Mrs. Andreula**

Mrs. Andreula led a group of motivated students to read during the winter months. Students read for enjoyment and wrote letters following Flat Stanley around.

♦ **CHESS CLUB – Ms. Sorenson**

Students participated in a chess club where students were able to reinforce their own skill and take part in mini-lessons on strategy and play. Students also had an opportunity to play against Mr. Jones.

♦ **PUZZLE CLUB– Mrs. DeLorenzo**

Under the direction of Mrs. DeLorenzo, students participated in a variety of Puzzle projects and games. Students met weekly to try different problem solving games and activities. Students ended the year with a party that reviewed all they had learned and explored.

♦ **CHIMETTES – Mrs. Bimbi**

Students participated in a lunch hour activity to enhance the groups' music ability. Students gave up the lunch hour. The concerts are a direct result of their dedication.

♦ **HYPERSTUDIO – Mrs. Osiejia**

Students under the direction of Mrs. Osiejia created a variety of multi-media projects. The culminating activity was a night expose where parents were invited to attend.

♦ **PEER TUTORING CLUB - Ms. Cerniglia**

The Peer Tutoring Club consisted of a group of sixth graders who were assigned to a first or second grader for tutoring. The students helped the younger children with spelling, reading, and math on a weekly basis.

♦ **WASHINGTON SAFETY PATROL– Mr. Murray**

The Washington Safety Patrols are divided up into three categories, courtesy guides, office, and lunch. All the students are required to attend meetings held during the course of the year to emphasize the importance of their jobs and to solve problems and answer questions that the patrols encounter. Courtesy guides assist the younger students in and out of the building. Office patrols assist Mrs. Dwyer at lunchtime by answering the phone, distributing flyers, and sorting the mail. Lunch patrols assist the lunch aides in the lunchroom and on the playground.

♦ **CRITICAL THINKING– Mrs. Tibaldo**

Mrs. Tibaldo assisted a group of learners in developing critical thinking skills and brought to this club a vast dimension of how to work and problem-solve using strategies that could be assimilated by her fourth grade students.

♦ **READER'S CLUB– Mrs. Healy**

Mrs. Healy's fourth graders worked hard all year to read a variety of books. Students discussed characters, setting and plot as they read books during lunchtime.

♦ **STUDENT COUNCIL– Mrs. Isabella**

Students participated in a variety of service projects through out the year. Mrs. Isabella assisted them in raising the level of action for the entire school.

♦ **INTRAMURAL SPORTS – Mr. Murray**

Students participated in a sports based intramural program offered by Mr. Murray. Students learned not only new games but also concentrated on sportsmanship and teamwork. The program was so well received that additional days were added for all the students to enjoy the program.

### **PTO Activities**

I would like to thank the Washington School PTO for everything they did for our children this year. They provided many educational assembly programs and purchased many items to enhance our curriculum. They always offered their support and cooperation. The extra touches they bring to Washington School help maintain its fine tradition. A special thanks to the executive board who handled a difficult year with professionalism and dedication.

**Some of the PTO activities included:**

Meet the Principal  
 Open House  
 Musicales and Art Emporium  
 Tricky Tray  
 Holiday Pizza Party  
 New Parents Night  
 Washington School Family Holiday Social  
 Wrapping Paper Sale  
 Pumpkin Patch  
 School Portraits  
 Halloween Dance  
 Family Game Night  
 Holiday Boutique  
 Plant Sale  
 Holiday Luncheon  
 Scholastic Book Fair  
 Entertainment Book Sale  
 Shop Rite Certificates sale  
 Collected box tops for education  
 Ice Cream Party  
 Staff Appreciation Luncheon

Provided refreshments after Open House, for Read Across America, Dr. Suess' Birthday, many other functions and for our kindergarten and sixth grade promotions  
 Provided pizza luncheon for grades 4-6 and staff members after the Olympics.  
 T-shirts were provided for patrols, Olympic participants, and all fourth, fifth, and sixth graders.  
 Hosted a yearbook signing party  
 Donated pocket folders and planners for the students  
 Hosted a Study Habits Program for parents

### **Conclusion**

In closing, I would like to note that the faculty and Staff of Washington School has continued to work as community of learners. They are a dedicated, thoughtful and hardworking staff who put children first. It is their dedication to the students, fostering high standards and allowing the youngsters to continue to grow both socially and academically that make the difference in our school. Their continuous support and cooperation have helped to move the school toward a futuristic and visionary Washington School. Without their efforts it would not be possible to achieve the high academic and social excellence that is indicative of this school. I would also like to thank my parent community for their support in doing whatever is needed to attain success. A special thanks to all of our students, who constantly strive to be the best they can be. I would also like to thank the custodial staff, whose efforts sometimes go un-noticed, for a job well done. They continue to do an outstanding job maintaining a clean and safe environment for the students. Mr. Phil Nicolette, Director of Buildings and Grounds, has been most



helpful and cooperative and has helped keep our school in excellent condition for our students, parents, staff, and members of the school community. The Maintenance Crew is to be commended for their quick response and care given to maintenance requests at our building.

Miss Barbara Hirsch, Director of Special Services, and the Child Study Team continually assisted the staff, students, parents, and administration with our Special Education children and their programs. I thank them for all that they do on behalf of our Washington Students.

Our Secretary, Mrs. Dwyer, continues to do an excellent job in coordinating the daily school activities and making sure the office plant runs efficiently. Her warm, caring and efficient manner in dealing with parents, children, and staff is to be commended. Mrs. Dwyer continues to oversee the aides in a professional manner. Our lunch aides continue to do a fine job supervising the lunch program. They have been most cooperative in changing some lunch time activities to better meet the needs of the students. They also assist with other duties in the office and classroom. Their efforts are to lauded and noted.

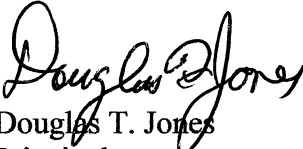
Thanks to the members of the Board of Education for their continued support throughout the year. A special thank you goes to Mr. Jerry Del Tufo, the Washington School Board of Education Representative. I would also like to thank Mr. James Mallen, Secretary/Business Administrator, for his constant assistance and guidance with school finances.

A special thank you to all of the principals on the administration team that have assisted me countless times with answers to even the simplest questions.

I appreciate all the time and discussions from Dr. James Vivinetto, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, whose wisdom on matters of importance and philosophy assisted me this year.

Finally a special thanks to Dr. Serafino, Superintendent of Schools, for your continued support and guidance during this school year. Your counsel and candor is much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas T. Jones  
Principal

**YANTACAW SCHOOL**

**NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
YANTACAW SCHOOL  
20 YANTACAW PLACE  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110**

MARYLOU DOWSE  
Principal

Tel: 973-661-8891

TO: Dr. Kathleen C. Serafino, Superintendent of Schools

FROM: MaryLou Dowse, Principal of Yantacaw School

DATE: June 24, 2004

SUBJECT: Principal's Annual Report – School Year 2003/2004

This annual report represents a composite of district and school priorities, staff, school, student, and parent activities, and curriculum development and implementation.

**Continuing Priorities**

The Nutley School System, in accordance with New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards, continues to provide its students with a quality education. The following priorities have been implemented:

- ◆ Technology Plan
- ◆ Safe Schools Comprehensive Model/ District Emergency Management Plan
- ◆ ESL Curriculum K-12
- ◆ Language Arts Literacy Program K-3
- ◆ Guidance Program - grades K-8
- ◆ Art Curriculum K-8
- ◆ Character Education Program K-12
- ◆ State Mandated School Level Objectives

Continued in-service was provided in the following areas:

- ◆ Instructional Theory into Practice K-12
- ◆ Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS) and 504
- ◆ Technology Integration K-12
- ◆ Cultural Diversity Education K-12
- ◆ Character Education K-12
- ◆ Language Arts Literacy K-12
- ◆ Elementary Assessment – NJ ASK 3/4

- ◆ Mathematics K-12
- ◆ Differentiated Instruction Grades 1-4
- ◆ Mentoring Program
- ◆ Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Procedures
- ◆ Affirmative Action Policies

Curriculum development occurred in the following areas:

- ◆ Choral/Instrumental Music K-6
- ◆ Social Studies – Grade 3
- ◆ Family Life/Chemical Health K-12
- ◆ World Language K-12
- ◆ Mathematics - Grades 2-4

Ms. Christine Oseija, Elementary Technology Facilitator Teacher, has assisted classroom teachers with lessons to aid in infusing technology throughout the curriculum. She has also helped train our teachers in the use of our new mobile lab. This lab, purchased through the generosity of our PTO, comprises of ten laptops that enable teachers to create a lab environment within their classrooms. It is a wonderful tool that has enhanced our fourth, fifth and sixth grade curricula. We also continue to monitor and upgrade our software, CD Roms, and other computer-related items.

### **Results of School Level Objectives – 2003-2004 School Year**

During the 2003-2004 school year, students in grades kindergarten to two demonstrated proficiency in Language Arts Literacy by reading each day for enjoyment and by keeping a reading log, a word wall, and a vocabulary journal of new words. Students in grades three to six demonstrated proficiency in the content area of geometry. The students successfully met the school's goals.

### **School-Based Planning Team**

The School-Based Planning Team, which was comprised of teachers, parents, and administrators, met frequently to discuss the school level objectives. The members of the team proposed the following school level objectives for the 2004-2005 school year:

By June 2005, students in grades kindergarten through fourth (K-4) will demonstrate proficiency in mathematical concepts as demonstrated in solving open-ended questions. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-constructed assessment. A rubric will be used to score the open-ended questions.

By June 2005, students in grades five and six (5-6) will demonstrate proficiency in social studies, targeting the Holocaust. A minimum of 80% of the students will

achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assignment, which may include literature-based reports, presentations and projects

### **Testing**

The results of the Nutley Writing Achievement Test (grades 1-6) and the TerraNova test (grades 1-6) were carefully reviewed. The NJ ASK was given to all third and fourth graders in the content areas of Language Arts and Mathematics. Test scores are continuously reviewed and plans for improvement were implemented. Yantacaw students continue to achieve high scores on these tests.

Yantacaw School was chosen to participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress, also known as the Nation's Report card. NAEP is an ongoing collection of information that provides the nation with an overall picture of how children perform in various academic areas. Students were asked questions about subject matter, school experiences and other factors related to learning. These selected nine-year-olds had the opportunity to represent hundreds of students in our nation, providing an accurate and representative picture of student performance.

### **Staff Development**

Yantacaw School staff attended professional workshops, conferences, graduate courses, computer in-service workshops, and various other workshops both in and out of district. The following is a list of the staff's attendance:

Encouraging and Supporting Reading Development in the K-3 Classroom  
 Social Decision Making/Problem Solving  
 Joyce Glatzer Mathematics Workshop  
 ASK 3/4 Workshop  
 Astronomy Workshop  
 Starlab Workshop  
 Language Arts Literacy Guided Reading Program  
 Loving Discipline  
 Writing Teachers/Teachers Writing  
 Creating a Positive School Community  
 Comprehensive Bullying Prevention Program  
 Technology Infusion  
 Monarch Butterflies in the Classroom  
 Teaching Using Games  
 Gifted and Talented Convention  
 Parent/Teacher Conferences  
 Semple Math  
 Multicultural Awareness  
 Disability Awareness

Introduction to Problem Based Learning  
 Understanding why with the Butterfly Guy  
 Craft Lessons to Improve Students' Writing  
 Squawking Books...Walking Books...Inter-curricular dimensions  
 Computer Tips and Techniques

Monthly faculty meetings continually highlight curriculum committee reports, school level objectives, PAT, Special Education/504 accommodations, Basic Skills, affirmative action, technology, specials, Superintendent's Advisory Committee, safety, liability, classroom management concerns, field trip procedures, and any other items that needed to be addressed.

### **SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

#### ♦ **Academically Speaking Team**

A group of fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students competed in a district-wide competition in June called Elementary Speaking. Eight students represented Yantacaw School in a jeopardy-style tournament. The students, under the leadership of Mrs. Olivo, represented Yantacaw in a very fine fashion.

#### ♦ **Guest Speakers**

During the course of the school year numerous guest speakers, with wide varieties of expertise, visited our school. The students and staff totally enjoyed these interesting and educational presentations.

#### ♦ **Annual Halloween Parade**

This annual parade was revised this year. The entire school assembled on the campus. After singing Halloween songs, each class marched around the campus. The parent community is invited to attend.

#### ♦ **Poster/Essay Contests**

Students in grades 1-6 participated in poster and essay contests throughout the school year. Amanda Maggiano won first place in the Lions Club Peace Poster Contest. Larissa Lohman won first place for grade six in the Nutley Elks Americanism essay contest. Kristen Lawler, a third grader, won first place in the Star-Ledger NIE Month essay contest for grades three through five.

Kathleen Brodowski is the national winner in the Simplot Foods Draw Spuddy Contest. Her drawing is in food magazines throughout the country and is also on a postcard that will be sent to every public and parochial school in the nation. Kathleen won a gift certificate for Toys R Us and Yantacaw School received a \$1000.00 gift certificate to Comp USA!

♦ **Spelling Bee**

Mrs. McKenzie conducted a spelling bee for sixth graders. Brendan Striano was our school champion. Local school champions then compete in Semi-Final Spelling Bees.

♦ **The John Walker Memorial Basketball Tournament**

The basketball team was selected after several weeks of try-outs. The team was made up of fifth and sixth graders who competed during the later part of March. The Yantacaw team had a great time participating in this tournament.

♦ **Nutley Sun School Page**

Many Yantacaw School activities were highlighted throughout the school year. The staff contributed many pictures that helped keep the community informed of activities at our school.

♦ **Extended Day Program**

There was continued implementation of a before and after care program conducted in our school, under the direction of Mrs. Maria Cervasio.

♦ **I&RS Team**

The I&RS team was established to implement a multidisciplinary team for the planning and delivery of intervention and referral services. This is designed to assist students who are experiencing learning, behavior, or health difficulties and to assist staff members in addressing those needs. Our team met for one period on a weekly basis. It was a very successful program.

♦ **Musicales**

Mr. D'Angelo, our instrumental instructor, and Mrs. Carollo, our vocal music teacher, conducted three musicales in December, April, and May. During the December program grades five and six sang a variety of holiday songs. The instrumentalists played many favorite songs. The program created a very festive environment. During the April program grades one and two performed. The evening concluded with the Minnesingers singing a number of songs. The May concert highlighted songs by our third and fourth grade students, instrumental students and the Bell Choir, playing songs that were learned during the school year. The fourth graders also played several selections on the recorder. These concerts highlight the progress of the children in the areas of vocal and instrumental music. Yantacaw instrumentalists also participated in the All-Elementary Music Concert at Nutley High School.

♦ **Faculty Bell Choir**

Faculty members, under the direction of Mrs. Annemarie Carollo, established a Faculty Bell Choir. These staff members practiced at lunchtime and performed in our December and May musicales. Their performances were well received by both students and parents.

◆ **Affirmative Action**

Throughout the grades, Black History month was celebrated with a variety of Afro-American cultural activities. A selection of famous black Americans, civic leaders, sports figures, artists, and authors were significantly displayed throughout the building. During the month of March activities were planned to honor "Women in History" month. These activities were conducted in grades K-6. The students read books, wrote poetry, and spoke about famous women.

Our fifth and sixth grade students participated in a Women in History panel discussion during which women from the Yantacaw community spoke about opportunities for women. A question and answer period followed.

◆ **School Walk for Diabetes**

Yantacaw School students and staff participated in a School Walk for Diabetes. The disease hits close to home for the Yantacaw Community since one of our kindergartners and several parents are diabetics. The Walk was established to promote an awareness of the dangers of diabetes and to promote healthy eating habits and exercise. The students walked through Kingsland Park, stopping at stations along the way where facts about the disease and health tips were posted on large placards. This was followed by a lesson in each health class. The PTO distributed water bottles to the students as they left school and fruit when they returned. Prior to the Walk the children collected pledges for the American Diabetes Association. Due to the generosity of the Yantacaw Community, the students raised \$8168.00 for the Diabetes Association!

◆ **Assembly Programs**

Fire Safety Assembly  
Awards Assembly  
FMS Jazz Band  
Children Practicing Respect  
Thomas Edison  
Violence Prevention  
SADD – tobacco presentation  
Fantastic Physical Phenomena  
Psssaic Valley Outreach Program  
The Raptor Project  
Women in History Panel Discussion  
NJ State Mock Trial

◆ **Parent Volunteers**

Once again, Yantacaw School had many parent volunteers come in to assist in many areas. The Yantacaw staff continues to welcome them into our building and greatly appreciates the time and effort they give to our youngsters.



◆ **P.A.T.**

The K-4 Primary Academic Talented Program continues to be developed through staff training and in-service programs. Mrs. Rebecca Olivo attended the NJAC for the gifted/talented in New Brunswick.

◆ **Law Fair**

Our third and fourth grade students won honorable mention in "Law Fair", a contest sponsored by the NJ Bar Foundation. This means that they placed in the top sixteen of over two hundred elementary submissions. The students wrote their own mock trial and submitted it to the statewide contest. As winners, the children were invited to the Bar Foundation where they performed their trial for an audience of Judges, attorneys, dignitaries and children from other schools.

◆ **ABC Science and History Fairs**

Yantacaw students participated in the science and history fairs. In the Science Fair seven Yantacaw students received first place awards, two received second place awards and five received third place awards. In the History Fair seven students received first place awards, two received second place awards, and five received third place awards. All of the projects were wonderful and the children had a great time creating them.

◆ **American Education Week**

American Education Week was celebrated the week of November 17. Parent conferences were held during this week and parents were invited to visit their child's classroom.

◆ **Family Math and Family Science**

Family Math and Science were offered once again. Both programs were well attended by fourth grade families. A variety of hands-on activities were used to build confidence for success in mathematics and science. The programs are designed to address the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards and to help students better prepare for the NJ ASK.

◆ **Read Across America**

In celebration of Dr. Suess' birthday, students from Franklin Middle School and various other guests came to Yantacaw to read to our students.

◆ **Johns Hopkins Plus Test**

Several students from Yantacaw took the Johns Hopkins Plus Test. Five students achieved state distinction.

◆ **StarLab**

Through the generosity of the Board of Education and a grant from Hoffman La Roche, the Nutley School District was able to purchase StarLab. This portable planetarium is an excellent tool that was used to teach the children about the stars and constellations. The StarLab was also used to reinforce

astronomy lessons that were taught in the classroom. We are looking forward to implementing StarLab in other disciplines as well. Once again the Yantacaw community was invited to attend our Family Science Evening, coordinated by Mrs. Olivo. During this evening families participated in several different science experiments, visited the "Hall of Scientists", and then were able to spend time in the StarLab.

♦ **Great American Bake Sale**

Our fourth graders conducted a bake sale. Funds raised went to local and national efforts to fight childhood hunger by making sure children at risk of hunger have access to healthy meals and that they and their parents have the information they need to make healthy food choices. This project not only provided global awareness for the students but also an opportunity for them to make a difference.

♦ **Field Day**

Our third annual field day was held on June 16. The entire student body competed in "Olympic-style" events. At the end of the competitions the PTO treated everyone to hot dogs, drinks, popcorn and ice cream. A great time was had by all.

♦ **Curiosity Shop – Yantacaw PTO**

The Curiosity Shop was offered to all Yantacaw students. Parent volunteers conducted 31 classes. These classes included Origami, Gardening, Stenciling, Chess, Easy and Fun Crafts, Candy Making, and much more. The children were engaged in many hands-on experiences that were both fun and educational. The Curiosity Shop met after school on Thursdays and Fridays during the month of March.

### **Health and Safety Programs**

Officers Ferrara and Neri conducted the DARE program with grades K-4 and grade 6. DARE held its district-wide field day for all sixth graders on Friday, June 4 at Owens Field.

Mrs. Flannery, our school nurse, conducted scoliosis screening for all students in grades 5 and 6 and hearing screening for all students.

The Lions Club conducted vision screening for grade 4. Mrs. Flannery tested all other grades.

SADD, under the direction of Mr. Bonnadonna, conducted an anti-tobacco program for fifth graders.

Violence Prevention Assembly for grades 5 and 6.

The annual fire prevention drill and demonstration took place during Fire Prevention week.

### **Class Trips**

Kindergarten – Nutley Library  
 Grade 1 – Liberty Science Center  
 Grade 2 – Montclair State University Theatre  
 Grade 3 – Montclair Museum, Nutley Museum and Kingsland Manor  
 Grade 4 – Montclair State University Theatre  
 Grade 5 – Philadelphia Zoo and Essex County Court House  
 Grade 6 – Fairview Lake Camp  
 Student Council – Madame Trussauds Wax Museum

### **YANTACAW CLUBS**

#### **♦ 2-Reilly Literary Club - Mrs. Reilly**

The 2-Reilly Literary Club consisted of Mrs. Reilly's second grade class. The students and teacher met monthly during their lunch hour in room 201. They first ate their lunches and socialized while deciding on a topic for that particular meeting. Students worked individually or in small groups and created poems, short stories, puzzles, riddles, and illustrations. Their creations were shared, read, and discussed. Many were sent to the school newspaper, The Tom Tom.

#### **♦ Student Council – Grade 6 – Ms. Schoem**

The Yantacaw Student Council is a service organization that is committed to helping others while maintaining the highest citizenship standards for its members. Students must participate in activities and demonstrate a positive attitude and proper behavior by maintaining their citizenship checks. The council met many times during the course of the school year. Some of the activities the students participated in were: campus-cleanup, collected money for Children's Wish Foundation, food drive for Thanksgiving, clothing drive for abused family shelter, entertained senior citizens at Nutley Parkside Apartments, decorated bulletin boards, sold lollipops, Read Across America, and ended the year with a Staff Appreciation Breakfast.

#### **♦ Brainteaser Club - Mrs. Olivo**

The Brainteaser Club met every other Tuesday at lunchtime in the library. This club encourages higher level thinking. The students worked with computers and played different mind-challenging games. This club also participated in the Essex County Academically Speaking Competition.

♦ **Kings Club – Mrs. Mitchell**

This club was held for 6th graders on alternate Tuesdays during lunchtime. The students reviewed the fundamentals of playing chess. They researched and employed higher level strategies in untimed and timed play.

♦ **Fifth Grade Student Government - Ms. Freedman**

This club met in the morning and at lunchtime. The students participated in activities that were service oriented. They collected food and clothing for the needy, participated in a campus clean up and went to St. Johns to feed the homeless.

♦ **Tom Tom Newspaper - Mrs. Keating, Mrs. Pontrella**

This club is the school's literary magazine. It exhibits our students' writings and accomplishments. The club has a representative from each homeroom plus student artists. Publications are three times a year.

♦ **Minnesingers - Grades 4 - 6 - Mrs. Carollo**

This club met at lunchtime. The choir learned to read choral sheet music and prepared several selections that were performed at the Yantacaw Winter Concert, PTO Luncheon, and the Spring Vocal Concert.

♦ **Bell Choir - Grade 6 - Mrs. Carollo**

This club met at lunchtime on Wednesdays. Students learned to read music and play chimettes. They performed at the Holiday Concert and the Spring Instrumental Concert.

♦ **Peer Tutoring Club - Mrs. Licameli**

The Peer Tutoring Club consisted of a group of sixth graders who were assigned to a first or second grader for tutoring. The students helped the younger children with spelling, reading, and math on a weekly basis. The peer tutors met twice to organize the club and then met every Monday.

♦ **Yantacaw Safety Patrols - Mrs. Dow**

The Yantacaw Safety Patrols are divided up into four categories, courtesy guides, street, office, and lunch. All the students are required to attend meetings held during the course of the year to emphasize the importance of their jobs and to solve problems and 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. Gariano at lunchtime by answering the phone, distributing flyers, and sorting the mail. Lunch patrols assist the lunch aides in the lunchroom and on the playground.

♦ **Mini-Court – Grade 2 - Ms. Rossi**

This club was designed to introduce elementary students to civil and criminal trial court practices. Students played the role of judge, jury, attorneys,

witnesses, and court personnel. Their trial was performed for our second grade students.

♦ **Law Fair – Grades 3-5 – Mrs. Lupo and Mrs. McGovern**

The students in this club wrote their own mock trials that were submitted to the NJ Bar Foundation's competition. Our fourth and fifth grade students won honorable mention and were invited to the NJ Bar Foundation to present their trials. The trials were also performed for our third, fourth and fifth grade students.

♦ **Math Club – Mrs. Masullo**

The students in this club enhanced their problem solving skills by completing problems that required an understanding of various strategies. They were also exposed to an introduction to pre-algebra. In March they participated in the New Jersey Math League contest.

♦ **Study Buddies – Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Cassilli**

This club paired high school students with selected elementary students. The students helped the younger children organized their homework, enhance their study skills, and build self-esteem.

♦ **Math Strategies – Mrs. Lynch**

This club was open to all fourth graders. Its purpose was to provide fun activities that would help students think critically and aid in preparing them for the NJ ASK.

♦ **CyberFair – Ms. Osieja**

This club was open to all sixth graders. Its purpose was for the children to learn about our local leaders and their departments. The children created a web page and entered an international contest from Global Schoolhouse.

### **PTO Activities**

I would like to thank the Yantacaw School PTO for everything they've done for our children this year. They provided a variety of educational assembly programs and purchased many items to enhance our curriculum. The Academic Committee created several educational activities for our children, such as, Book of the Month Club, Law Fair and other clubs. The extra touches they bring to Yantacaw School help maintain its fine tradition. A special thanks to co-presidents, Mrs. MaryAnn Cresci and Mrs. Kathy Gandolfi who led this wonderful group of parents to an extremely productive year. I truly appreciate the support and cooperation of this wonderful Yantacaw community.

Some of the PTO activities included:

Wrapping Paper Sale

Pumpkin Patch

Welcome Back Dance  
 Tricky Tray  
 Holiday Pizza Party  
 Holiday Boutique  
 Holiday Luncheon  
 Scholastic Book Fair  
 Amateur Night  
 Yantacaw clothing sale  
 Collected box tops for education  
 Plant Sale  
 Funfest  
 Staff Appreciation Luncheon  
 Birthday books – each child received a book on his/her birthday  
 Provided refreshments after Open House, for Read Across America, and for our kindergarten and sixth grade promotions  
 Provided pizza luncheon for grades 4-6 and staff members after the Olympics.  
 T-shirts were provided for patrols, Olympic participants, and all fourth, fifth, and sixth graders.  
 Provided lunch and ice cream at our annual Field Day  
 Hosted a yearbook signing party  
 Donated pocket folders and planners for the students  
 Donated school calendar magnets to every family  
 Created a parent directory

### **Conclusion**

In closure, I wish to express my sincere appreciation and thanks to the Yantacaw teaching staff for all of their efforts in fostering high standards and allowing the youngsters to continue to grow both socially and academically. This truly dedicated and professional staff never ceases to astound me. Their continuous support and cooperation have helped to guide me through my fourth year at Yantacaw. Without their efforts it would not be possible to achieve the high academic excellence that is indicative of this school. I would also like to thank my parent community and all of our students, who constantly strive to achieve more.

I would also like to thank 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 students of Yantacaw School. Mr. Phil Nicolette, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, has been most helpful and cooperative and has helped keep our school in excellent condition for our students, parents, staff, and members of the school community. The Maintenance Crew is to be commended for the quick response and care given to maintenance requests at our building.

Miss Barbara Hirsch, Director of Special Services, and the Child Study Team continually assisted the staff, students, parents, and administration with our

Special Education children and their programs. I thank them for all that they do on behalf of our Yantacaw students.

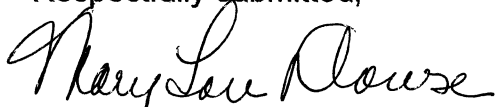
Our Secretary, Mrs. Gariano, has done a superb job in her first year at Yantacaw. She does an excellent job in coordinating the daily school activities and overseeing the six office aides in order to keep the building running smoothly. She manages the office with efficiency and vision. Her support, cooperation, and willingness to take on many new tasks are to be commended. Our lunch aides, Mrs. Linfante, Mrs. Zaccheo, Mrs. Krupka, Mrs. Falconcino, Mrs. DeGennaro, and Mrs. Rafanello continue to do a fine job supervising the ever growing lunch program. They also assist with other duties in the office and classroom.

Thanks to the members of the Board of Education for their continued support throughout the year. A special thank you goes to Dr. Casale, the Yantacaw School Board of Education Representative, for his assistance and guidance. I would also like to thank Mr. James Mallen, Secretary/Business Administrator, for his assistance and guidance with school finances and also with the many maintenance projects at Yantacaw School.

My heartfelt thanks goes to Dr. James Vivinetto, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, and to all my colleagues who so graciously shared their expertise and offered their encouragement and assistance throughout the year.

I would like to end this report with a special thanks to you, Dr. Serafino, for your continued support and guidance during this school year. I am truly blessed to be a part of such a wonderful administrative team.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "MaryLou Dowse".

MaryLou Dowse  
Principal

MLD:ag

## **SPECIAL SERVICES**



**TO:** Dr. Kathleen Serafino

**FROM:** Barbara Hirsch

**RE:** Special Services Annual Report – 2003/2004

**NEW REFERRALS**

	<b><u>2002/2003</u></b>	<b><u>2003/2004</u></b>
Nutley High School	9	8
Franklin	3	6
Yantacaw	14	11
Lincoln	12	19
Radcliffe	6	11
Spring Garden	7	13
Washington	9	13
Preschool Handicapped	22	31
Early Kindergarten Admissions	17	4
Referral Backlog	0	0
Referrals Pending	29	21
Annual Review Pending	10	3
New Referrals plus 3 year eval	138	151

**NEW CLASSIFICATIONS**

Auditorily Handicapped (Deaf)	0	0
Autistic	0	1
Cognitively Impaired	0	0
Communication Impaired	1	0
Emotionally Disturbed	4	5
Multiply Disabled	0	0
Orthopedically Impaired	0	0
Other Health Impaired	4	5
Preschool Disabled	22	26
Social Maladjustment	0	0
Specific Learning Disability	40	41
Traumatic Brain Injury	0	0
Visually Impaired	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	71	77
Students Graduated	44	37
Students Dropped Out	1	3
Students Declassified	1	1

	<u>Classes</u>	<u>TOTALS</u> <u>2003/2004</u>	<u>PROJECTED</u> <u>2004/2005</u>
Nutley High School	6 SLD Classes	78	80
	Inclusion	60	65
	1 Resource Centers	6	6
	Mainstreamed	15	15
	1 SLD Class (self-contained)	13	14
Franklin School	5 SLD Classes	42	50
	2 Resource Centers	12	12
	Inclusion	11	25
	Mainstreamed	10	10
Lincoln School	3 Resource Centers	83	80
	3 Preschool	33	40
	3 SLD Classes	33	37
Spring Garden School	2.5 Resource Centers	66	60
	1 SLD Class	14	14
Radcliffe School	2 Resource Centers	51	55
Yantacaw School	2 Resource Centers	53	45
Washington School	2 Resource Centers	57	60

**PROJECTIONS**

Day Placements	62	60
Residentials	1 (court ordered)	1 (court ordered)
Received from other districts	3	4
Eligible for Speech/Language Services (Public)	68	70
Non-public Classified*	14	12
Vocational (full-time)	1	0
(part-time)	5	6
Home programs	2	1

\*Nutley residents


The following Special Services priorities were addressed in a positive manner during the 2003/2004 school year.

1. A review of the district monitoring report was conducted by the County Supervisor of Child Study and all elements were addressed in a positive manner.
2. Inclusion options at all grade levels was increased.
3. The partnership with Clara Maass Medical Center was solidified and expanded.
4. Nutley High School students were placed in work environments in the community as well as in the school district. (Lincoln School, Nutley High School Cafeteria, CVS, Shop-Rite)
5. Innovative mathematics and reading programs were initiated at all levels.
6. A grant was received from Rutgers University to enhance opportunities for the learning disabled elementary student to utilize the "DANA" computer in the classroom.
7. A grant was received from NBATE to purchase two "Dana" computers.
8. A grant was received from the Bloomfield Health Careers Foundation to facilitate transition services during the summer.
9. A grant was received from the American Contract Bridge Association to establish a teaching model in the CAT program.
10. A grant was received from a local foundation to purchase materials for a blind student in the mainstream at Lincoln School.
11. Parent meetings were conducted relative to substance abuse and health related issues such as breast cancer awareness.
12. Three students returned from out of district placements.
13. Speech and language services were increased.
4. Professional development activities were provided for the teaching staff and paraprofessionals relative to the implementation of the academic program.
15. Training for school bus drivers and aides was conducted prior to the opening of school.
16. All disabled students participated in the state testing program. (NJASK, GEPA, HSPA)
17. All IEP objectives have been aligned with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards.
18. A specialized program was successfully introduced at Nutley High School to provide academic and support services for disaffected students exhibiting behavioral challenges.
19. A Kurzweil Reader was purchased to enable Nutley High School students to access written material in an efficient, independent manner.
20. Social Skills groups were expanded for elementary age special needs students.
21. A therapy dog was introduced to special need's students at Lincoln School on a weekly basis.
22. Thirty-seven special needs students were graduated and 20 will attend post secondary programs.

SPECIAL SERVICES PRIORITIES 2004-2005

1. To expand services and options for the increasing preschool population.
2. To expand transition opportunities in the community.
3. To increase counseling services for elementary students.
4. To continue to explore in-district programs, at all levels, to encourage the return of students currently placed out of district.
5. To continue to provide relevant staff development opportunities.
6. To engage parents in the educational process to a greater degree through the P.A.Ch.E.S. parent support group.
7. To continue to explore grant opportunities.
8. To explore partnership possibilities relative to the need to integrate the preschool population with their non-disabled peers.
9. To review and revise all policies and procedures relative to compliance with the re-authorization of IDEA.
10. To review health policies and procedures to comply with state code adoptions.
11. To provide on-going assistance to school based I&RS Teams to provide necessary accommodations and interventions.
12. To increase resource center services at the elementary level.
13. To continue to review all facets of the homebound instruction program.
14. To provide a social skills group for students at Franklin Middle School..
15. To explore the introduction of an in-school recreation program for elementary students.
16. To explore the development of a primary class for autistic children.
17. To introduce a computer based pre-algebra program for special needs students at Franklin Middle School.
18. To continue to take a proactive approach in providing information to parents and students relative to health related issues.
19. To continue to increase inclusionary experiences at all levels.
20. To enhance services to gifted and talented elementary school students through activities developed in concert with the Gifted and Talented Coach.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Barbara Hirsch  
Director of Special Services