

#### **ANNUAL REPORT**

TO THE

NUTLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY

SCHOOL YEAR -2005/2006

## NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

	Term Expires
Mr. Sal Olivo, President	2008
Mr. Gerard Del Tufo, Vice President	2008
Mrs. Maria Alamo	2009
Dr. Philip T. Casale	2007
Mr. Vincent Moscaritola	2008
Dr. Gerard M. Parisi	2007
Mr. Kenneth Reilly	2007
Mr. James Viola	2009
Ms. Patricia Williams	2009

#### **ADMINISTRATORS**

Mr. Joseph Zarra Mrs. Mariana Francioso	Superintendent of Schools Assistant Superintendent
Mr. Robert A. Green, Jr.	Secretary/Business Administrator
Mr. Gregory Catrambone	Nutley High School
Mr. John Calicchio	Franklin Middle School
Mrs. Lorraine Restel	Lincoln School
Mrs. Sherrie Tolve	Radcliffe School
Mrs. Rosemary Clerico	Spring Garden School
Mr. Douglas T. Jones	Washington School
Mrs. MaryLou Dowse	Yantacaw School
Mrs. Ann Marie Bruder	Director of Special Services

### NUTLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION Nutley, New Jersey

August 28, 2006

Members of the Board of Education:

The 2005/2006 school year was a wonderful year for our students, staff, and Board of Education.

Our students realized an exceptional year in special awards:

- Johns Hopkins University Talent Search
- Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars
- National Merit Commended Students
- National Merit Semifinalists
- National Achievement Scholarship Program Outstanding Participant
- 2006 AP Scholars
- State Award Invitation to CTY Awards Ceremony
- Mathcounts Competition
- 2005 Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship
- National Hispanic Recognition
- National Council of Teachers of English
- World Languages Academic Awards for Latin & Italian

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:**

- 2005-06 Girls Bowling Team NNJIL Champions
- 2005-06 Bowling Team Essex County Champions
- 2005-06 Wrestling Team NNJIL Champions
- 2005-06 Softball Team NJSIAA State Sectional Champions

#### Music Awards

 2005 NJ All State Chorus – Diane Aragona Christopher Georgetti

#### **Music Department Group Performances**

- The Marching Band, Concert Band, Orchestra, Jazz Band, and Jazz Lab Combo performed at the California Competition and received excellent ratings
- The Raider Marching Band marched in the Main Street USA Parade at Disneyland
- The Octets and Choralettes gave an outstanding performance while touring Washington, D.C. Choralettes received a superior rating trophy and the Octets received an excellent
- NHS Chamber Music Singers performed at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington
- The Raider Band performed for the Martha Stewart Show in NYC
- The Concert Choir performed at Carnegie Hall
- NHS Concert Choir performed Handel's Messiah at St. Thomas Church

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 88.2 percent of students will be going on to higher education and that they have been offered a total of \$2,860,599 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:**

- Grades 1&2 Literacy Curriculum Review
- Grade 8 Social Studies Curriculum Review
- Forensic Science Curriculum
- G.A.T.E. Committee
- Mathematics Curriculum Review
- Technology Curriculum Review

#### In-services Occurred in the Following Areas:

- Introduction to Differentiated Instruction
- Wilson Reading in-service

#### Workshops Occurred in the Following Areas:

- Computer Email and Network Basics on PC's
- Email Workshop
- EZ Grade Pro Workshop
- Kidspiration
- Professional Development/Mentoring for New Teachers
- Putting it All Together with Technology
- Technology Tidbits
- Technology/Special Services Workshop for New Teachers

#### The Following Initiatives Continue to be Implemented:

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

As we begin the 2006/2007 academic year, our school community can be certain that our excellent staff will continue its commitment to the development of our students.

Joseph Zarra
Superintendent of Schools

## REPORT ON COLLEGE ADMISSIONS

## **CLASS OF 2006**

ENROLLMENT		332
TOTAL APPLICANTS PURSUING HIGHER EDUCATION	•••••	293
% OF CLASS OF 2006 GOING ON TO POST-SECONDARY EDUC	ATION	88.2%
Four-Year College/University	. 229	(70%)
Two-Year College	. 55	(17%)
Other Post-Secondary School	9	(2%)
Military	2	(1%)
Full-Time Employment	29	( 8%)
Undecided	8	(2%)

## REPORT ON SCHOLASTIC AWARDS

## NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

## CLASS OF 2006

SCHOLARSHIPS	\$2,860,599	
		\$2,860,599
OFFERS ACCEPTED	\$2,072,199	
OFFERS DECLINED	788,400	
		\$2,860,599

## NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

To:

Members of the Nutley School community

Date: June 2006

From:

The Nutley Board Of Education

Subject: 2005/2006 Student Achievement Test Scores

#### **NATIONAL**

## TERRANOVA TEST 2006

	2000		
National	Percentile	of Mean	NCE

	Grade	1,	<u>2</u>	9	<u>10</u>
Reading		89	84	78	81
Language Arts		92	90	80	83
Mathematics		89	89	79	85
Total		93	91	82	86
Science		80	80	73	72
Social Studies		79	86	68	76

#### Grade 3 NJ ASK Results 2005/2006

	% Part. Prof.		% Prof.		% Adv. Pro		Total %	
	General Ed	ALL	General Ed	ALL	General Ed	ALL	General Ed	ALL
Language Arts	2.9	7.6	95.1	90.7	2.0	1.7	97.1	92.4
Mathematics	1.2	2.7	56.9	56.5	41.9	40.8	98.8	87.8
			Grade 4 NJ	ASK Res	ults 2005/2006	i	•	
	% Part. Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Adv. Pro General Ed	ficient ALL	Total % General Ed	Prof. ALL
Language Arts	9.6	14.6	88.1	83.5	2.2	1.8	90.3	85.3
Mathematics	6.7	8.8	48.1	48.5	45.2	42.7	93.3	92.1
Science	6.7	8.2	58.9	59.1	34.4	32.7	93.3	81.8
			Grade 5 NJ	ASK Res	sults 2005/2006	3		
	% Part. Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Adv. Pro General Ed	ficient ALL	Total % General Ed	Prof. ALL
Language Arts	4.1	7.6	84.7	82.7	11.2	9.7	95.9	92.4
Mathematics	3.4	6.7	60.9	60.9	35.7	32.4	96.6	93.3

#### Grade 6 NJ ASK Results 2005/2006

	% Part. Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Adv. P General E		Total % General Ed	Prof. ALL
Language Arts	3.7	9.2	86.7	82.7	9.5	8.1	96.2	90.8
Mathematics	10.0	13.4	56.0	57.0	34.0	29.6	90.0	86.6
			Grade 7 NJ	ASK Re	esults 2005/200	06		
	% Part. Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Adv. P General E		Total % General Ed	Prof. ALL
Language Arts	3.0	6.3	78.6	78.1	18.4	15.6	97.0	93.7
Mathematics	22.9	29.8	62.0	57.5	15.0	12.7	77.0	70.2
	% Part. Prof. General Ed	ALL	Grade 8 GE % Prof. General Ed		nmary Results % Adv. P General Ed	roficient	6 Total % General Ed	Prof. ALL
Language Arts	8.2	17.0	79.0	72.3	12.8	10.7	91.8	83.0
Mathematics	19.7	28.5	55.4	50.7	24.9	20.8	80.3	71.5
Science	5.6	10.7	64.9	64.4	29.5	24.9	94.4	89.3
	% Part. Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Prof.	ISPA Re	esults (% passi % Adv. P General Ed		Total %	Prof. ALL
Language Arts	2.0	8.3	66.6	64.6	31.4	27.1	98.0	91.7
Mathematics	7.1	15.6	59.2	54.7	33.7	29.7	92.9	84.4

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## NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL Nutley, New Jersey

## 2005-2006 ANNUAL REPORT

GRADE	STUDENTS ENROLLED
9	315
10	364
11	341
12	_342
	1362
<u>STAFF</u>	
Classroom Teachers	87
Administrators	4
Athletic Director	1
Guidance Personnel	5
Department Coordinators/Chairpersons	9
AV Coordinator	1
Librarian	1
Nurse	1
Special Education	6
Work Experience Coordinator	1
Computer Network Technician	3
Student Assistance Coordinator	1
Permanent Subs	5

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#### ANNUAL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

#### 2005-2006

As the 2005-2006 school year comes to an end, I want to express my sincere thanks to Mr. Joseph Zarra, Superintendent of Schools, for his 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.

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

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. Our administration and teachers 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 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 great working relationship and partnership that exists between the Superintendent, Board of Education, administration, teachers, staff, parents, and the community. They have all contributed and share in the success of our students.

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

As this report outlines, each department in our school continues to develop to meet the changing needs of our students, changing trends in education, 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 own accomplishments in education.

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

Externally, an ordinance redefining the Nutley High School campus, establishing rules of conduct, and providing penalties for violations was adopted by the Township of Nutley. The Nutley High School campus was defined as the interior of Nutley High School, all classrooms, Board of Education property, including: structures, driveways, parking lots, athletic fields, streets, and sidewalks.

The campus was further defined, on all days on which school is in session, between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., and at such other times as special events sanctioned by the Nutley Board of Education may dictate, to include the exterior property of the Nutley Public Library, including all adjacent grounds, lawns, stairways, and sidewalks.

The annexation of the library lawn during school hours was an initiative fostered by the Nutley High School principal, administration, and teachers. The support of the Nutley Township in partnering with the Nutley Board of Education to expedite this initiative was greatly appreciated. The redefined campus will improve the administration's ability to supervise the student body and help to improve the security of the high school and adjacent areas.

New courses for 2005-2006 include yearbook (now an academic) and instrumental lessons.

Many of our students were honored for their academic and athletic accomplishments. Twenty students were named Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars, eleven were named National Merit Commended Scholars, two were named National Merit Finalists, five were named Advanced Placement Scholars, numerous students scored a 3 or better on advanced placement tests earning advanced placement standing and/or college credits at their college or university, and two were named National Hispanic Scholars. Additionally, our partnership with UMDNJ, Seton Hall, and Montclair State continues to offer our students and staff outstanding educational opportunities.

SAT scores continue to be a priority at Nutley High School. We address this goal in all of our academic classes as well as SAT prep courses offered during the summer Princeton Review and the school year. Our SAT scores continue to exceed the state and national averages. The seventy-fifth percentile scored a 580 Verbal and 580 Math and the mean score was 510 in verbal and 525 in Math.

In the area of State mandated testing, Nutley High School students continue to perform well on the HSPA. All graduating seniors in the Class of 2006 successfully fulfilled this obligation. Our high expectations have assured that the Class of 2006 has demonstrated mastery of the proficiency standards. Our TerraNova results show that our sophomores achieved very well in reading, languages arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. In the same disciplines, the freshmen scores illustrate positive indicators of our students' scholastic growth.

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. The football team qualified for state football playoffs. Our boys and girls' soccer teams participated in the Essex County Tournament and the state tournament. The cross-country team ran in the Essex County Tournament.

Our girls' basketball team participated in the Essex County Tournament and the boys' basketball team was given the Sportsmanship Award in the NNJIL. The girls' bowling team won the NNJIL Division A Championship and the bowling team won the Essex County Tournament. The wrestling team participated in the county, districts, and regional tournaments with team

members advancing to the state tournament in Atlantic City. Our gymnast participated in the state finals and won the event.

Our softball team qualified for the Essex County Tournament and won the North II Section III State Sectional Championship. The baseball team qualified for the Greater Newark Tournament and the State Baseball Tournament. The tennis and track teams also qualified for their county and state tournaments. The gymnasium floor is scheduled for a total renovation. In addition, we eagerly await the refurbishing of the Oval.

Our students' educational experiences have included European travel. Students have traveled to England and Italy. Our marching band performed in Disneyland, California and our Concert Choir and Choralettes performed at Carnegie Hall in New York City and the National Cathedral in Washington D.C.

The Class of 2006 has received acceptances from some of the top colleges and universities in our nation. Post high school plans: 70.3% - four year college; 17.9% - two year college/career preparatory; 11.8% - military, employment, other.

A random drug testing program was developed by our administration, SAC, and Board of Education. The Nutley Board of Education convened a Task Force which, in part, conducted a survey, solicited public input from the community and parents and obtained law enforcement data. This Board's Task Force found there was enough information of substance use/abuse by students that a random drug testing program was warranted. The program will be implemented during the 2006-2007 school year.

We continue to stress character education through student activities and student service to our school and community. It is an integral part of our educational program. Our activities program included the following: club and class activities, dances, car washes, academic competitions, senior citizen programs, special young adults programs, and fundraising for world, national, state, and local causes. Our activities foster school spirit, encourage participation and pride, teach tolerance, and develop leadership skills. This is a student body that understands the need and worth in helping others. On June 26th, thirty students and four staff traveled to hurricane Katrina ravaged Bay St. Louis, Mississippi to work on a community service project of general clean-up and light construction. This was the first community service trip of its kind.

Assembly programs and other initiatives continue to address issues of importance for our teenage students. Among the topics selected are smoking, alcohol, drugs, tolerance, self-esteem, melanoma, wellness, and career/job readiness.

Nutley High School is a place where the students are academically involved and accountable, the senior courtyard is inviting, school spirit and pride are everywhere, and the teachers and staff care.

**BUSINESS AND CREATIVE ARTS** 

# BUSINESS and CREATIVE ARTS DEPARTMENT Nutley High School YEARLY REPORT 2005-2006

#### **Accomplishments:**

- 1. Successful integration of Business and Creative Arts Departments.
- 2. The Digital Photography course was new this year and it was very successful. Mr. Kearney and Mrs. McDonnell taught four sections.
- 3. The College Prep Accounting course continues its connection with Fairleigh Dickinson University for college credit in their Middle College program. Students may elect to receive three credits at Fairleigh Dickinson for this course.
- 4. The Consumer Education class participated in the New Jersey Consumer Bowl.
- 5. 150 seniors participated in ETS ICT Literacy Assessment. This is a new comprehensive test of Information and Communication Technology proficiency that uses scenario-based tasks to measure both cognitive and technical skills. Students took the assessment twice and we waiting for our results.
- 6. Interviewed and selected a new business teacher, Mrs. Debra Piacentini.
- 7. Renovated and equipped Culinary Room 221 using Perkins Vocational Funds in addition to local funds. Replaced stoves, sinks, and tables, repainted and repaired cabinets, upgraded lighting, and created new storage space.
- 8. Mr. Huggins has energized the culinary arts program. Students purchased chef's jackets and have catered various events in the school and community including faculty meetings, EAN Meetings, senior citizens breakfasts, Advisory Council lunches, and teacher appreciation events.
- 9. Mr. Huggins ran an Iron Chef competition in his culinary classes. It was very successful.
- 10. Interviewed and selected a new culinary teacher, Mr. John Gulardo.
- 11. Our Advisory Council for Career Education met several times this year. This committee provides input and guidance for our career programs. The Council's award program recognizing the accomplishments of students in the career programs continued.

- 12. This summer we will renovate Room 225, Photography. The dark room is being removed. Photography equipment is being sold or discarded. Room will become a second culinary room.
- 13. Room 227 will receive new computers this summer. This room will be used strictly for Digital Photography and Web Design.
- 14. The electronics lab in the annex, Room A125 will be reconfigured. The Cisco classes will be scheduled there in September.
- 15. All machines in the shop received maintenance over the summer.
- 16. Interviewed and selected a new Industrial Studies teacher, Mr. Michael Tirrito.
- 17. The zero period Computer Applications class continues to run successfully. Next year we are planning to incorporate an online component.
- 18. Mrs. Mullane continues as the district Web Master.
- 19. Interviewed and selected two new art teachers, Mrs. Theresa Loppostato and Ms. Karen VanderHave.
- 20. Four members of the department are retiring.

#### **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.

The Creative Arts Department continues to be concerned about the combining of several levels of courses in one class.

ENGLISH

#### 2005 Annual Report

To: Mr. Gregory Catrambone, 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.

There were 295 General education students who took the HSPA in March 2006. Our passing score was 98 %.

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 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.

#### B. 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.

#### C. 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 2006, 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.

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 4 to 16 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. For the first time, one issue was printed in a full color process.

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 Star Ledger*. 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. Students from all levels attended the Garden State Scholastic Press Association Student Press Day at Rutgers University, the NSJA/JEA conference in Chicago, II., and the Columbia Scholastic Press Association Conference in New York.

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 live game show produced by Cast II and III students. Students were more involved this year video taping programs throughout the school district. Students produced elementary school presentations. The scope of television coverage also broadened to community events such as parades and public health events. Students in the program had the opportunity to see a live taping of the Montel Williams program in NYC. They also gained valuable information through a question and answer period with the stage manager following the show. An asset this year to the growing program was the expanded use of non-linear editing production work.

#### IV Writing Contests

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

#### V. Awards

Miss Gina Rodriguez received the National Council of Teachers of English Writing Award and the Governor's Award in the Arts.

#### VI. Staff Development

Several staff members attended workshops and seminars during the 2005-6 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** attended the Garden State Scholastic Press Association Press Day Annual Spring Advisors' Conference. Mr. Bonadonna is past president of this association and a presenter at this conference. He is also on the executive board of the association. He is also the Northeast Regional Director and Executive Board Member of the Journalism Education Association.

Journalism students attended the JEA/NSPA fall conference in Atlanta GA, Garden State Press Association Student Press Day at Rutgers University, and the Columbia Scholastic Press Association Conference in New York.

Miss Fisher attended a Josten's workshop.

**Miss Knobloch** attended the New Jersey Writing Conference held at Rutgers University in April 2006. This was an interactive session that involved the use of body and voice.

**Mrs. Testa** and Mrs. Testa attended an SRA Holistic Scoring workshop. Mrs. Testa also attended two workshops at the NJEA convention.

#### VII. Enrichment

**Mrs. Hungler** escorted a group of 14 students and 18 adults on a tour of Rome, Italy in January. Sites included the Vatican, the *Angels and Demons* churches, the Pantheon, Pizza Navona, Mouth of Truth, St. Maria Maggiore, Trevi Fountain, a day trip to Pompei and Naples

**Mrs. Hungler and Ms. De Rosa** took their English I Honors students a field trips to the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Newark museum.

**Mr. Sasso's** English IV class attended Shakespeare's *Macbeth* at Castle Shakespeare. His seniors were escorted on a field trip to St. John the Divine and the Cloisters.

**Poetry Month:** Students in Mrs. Hungler's creative writing class selected poems to be posted around the school for their classmate's reading enjoyment.

#### 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

Development of a drama/acting elective.

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

**WORLD LANGUAGES** 

#### NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY WORLD LANGUAGES/ESL DEPARTMENTS

TO:

Mr. Gregory Catrambone, Principal of Nutley High School

FROM:

Mr. Ciro Violante, Coordinator of the World Languages/ESL Departments

SUBJECT:

Annual Report - 2005-06

#### I. Statistical Data and Staff

- 1. Approximately 70% of the student population was enrolled in world language classes. (French, Italian, Latin and Spanish levels 1-5-AP)
- 2. Ten staff members including the coordinator taught 44 sections of 22 course offerings of World Languages (two teachers were itinerant between the High School and Franklin Middle School). Mrs. Ellis taught 3 classes of ESL at the high school, and 2 at the middle school.
- 3. Mr. Violante continues to be also the <u>Coordinator of Project Acceleration</u> with Seton Hall University. During the academic year 2005-06, about 230 students signed up for Project Acceleration credits in the Fall 2005 and Spring 2006 semesters. This year three new courses were approved by Seton Hall for college Project Acceleration credits. They are AP English III, English 4H, and AP Biology. These courses were offered to the students in the fall of 2006.
- In November 2005, Mrs. Papaleo resigned and was replaced with Mr. Joseph Constante a new Spanish teacher.
- 5. The ESL department in November became officially new added duties and responsibilities of Mr. Violante, who will be responsible for the observations and evaluations, of 3 teachers at the high school, middle school and elementary schools. With the new added responsibilities, Mr. Violante attended various workshops and training sessions for the new state mandated English language proficiency test ACCESS for ELLs.

#### II. Curriculum

1. In September of 2005, two new courses were introduced at the high school. They were: 1) AP Italian Language. 2) Spanish for Heritage Speakers 1. Spanish for Heritage Speakers 2-Honors will be offered in the fall of 2006, it will be the continuation of level one.

- 2. Mr. Cicchino and Mr. Violante shared a student teacher in Italian from Seton Hall University during the spring semester 2006.
- 3. Mrs. Rucinski and Mrs. Rhein mentored two students from Montclair State University doing their senior and junior practicum in Spanish.
- 4. Mr. Violante conducted an all day training session in January for all district ESL teachers. In order for the staff to administer the new ACCESS test for ELLs, everyone has to be test administrator certified including the supervisor.
- This school year was the first time that the new State English Language Proficiency Testing was administered to all K-12 ESL students in the district. Mr. Violante coordinated the testing schedule in the district. The test has to follow the same security protocol as any other state mandated testing program. The results of the test will be sent to the district in August. A new state report must then be filed in the fall.

#### 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. Mrs. Camarda's French classes attended a performance of the following Opera: "Carmen", "Cyrano de Bergerac" and "Samson Et Dalila", at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City.
- 2. The High School, specifically the Italian classes have established sister town relationship with Contrada, and Forino, two towns in the province of Avellino in Italy. In October of 2005, a group of students, parents and dignitaries (mayors and council members) from Italy visited the township of Nutley and Nutley High School for 10 days. Nutley families hosted the Italian students with children at the high school. The township of Nutley in Hotels nearby hosted the dignitaries.
- 3. Once again Mr. Cicchino and Mr. Violante chaperoned a group of 41 students and 5 parents on a trip to Italy during the spring vacations. During the tour of Sicily, Sorrento, Capri, Pompeii, and Rome, the group also stopped for a day in the two sister towns of Contrada and Forino in the province of Avellino. The group met up with the Italian exchange students, mayors and other dignitaries of the two towns who visited Nutley High School.

- 4. The annual National World Languages Honor Society induction took place on May3, 2006. 107 students were inducted into the National Italian, French, Spanish and Latin Honor Society.
- 5. The Italian club and classes under the supervision of Mr. Cicchino and Mr. Violante, sponsored an "Italian Night" with Italian food, music and skits prepared and performed by the students in the school cafeteria. About 200 parents, students, administrators and board members attended the evening.
- 6. 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. Four Nutley High School students won first price, and were awarded \$150.00 each. The students were: Gianna Stefanelli grade 9, Megan Newton grade10, Colleen Banks grade 11, and Christine Conte grade 12.
- Mr. Cicchino's Italian classes attended a performance of the Opera "Aida" on October 11, 2005, "La Traviata", by Giuseppe Verdi, on February 1, 2006, at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City.
- 8. Mrs. Stepansky's Latin 3, 4H, and 5AP classes participated in the National Latin Exam. Many of the students received recognition (Gold and silver medals and certificates of merit). In Level 3, Kenny Delgato and David Falcone received a Silver Medal and Maxima Cum Laude. Soo Ho Kim, Jon Chrostopher and Ariana Lombardi received "Magna Cum Laude". Robert Kennedy received "Cum Laude". In Level 4-H Justine Ocampo received silver medal and "maxima cum laude". Chelsea Woods received "magna cum laude". In Level 5 AP, Gina Rodriguez and Sharon Kim received Gold Medal and "Summa Cum Laude". Aleksandra Radyuk received Silver Medal and "Maxima Cum Laude. Participants were from the following countries: The United States, Australia, Switzerland, Canada, England, Poland, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, China, and Zimbabwe. The students have been Nationally recognized by the National Latin Exam Committee and the Junior Classical League for their fine achievement.
- 9. Mr. Violante's, Mr. Cicchino's, Mrs. D'Urso's and Mrs. Camarda's Italian students participated in the Italian National High School Exam. Freshman, Jillian Costa won first place nationally. She was also awarded \$150.00. Angelo Russoniello, level 4, and Kate Andrews, level 2, received Honorable Mention.

#### IV. Workshops - Professional Conferences

- 1. Mr. Violante attended several Professional Development Workshop Series for ESL snd World Language Educators sponsored by the State Department of Education. He also attended the bymonthly Roundtable of New Jersey State World Language Supervisors in Monroe Township. Some of the Conferences/workshops were:.
  - a. World Languages Supervisor's Professional Development Institute, in Monroe Township.

- b. Using the Modes of Communication to Develop Curriculum and Assessment for the Revised Standards.
- c. New Jersey Supervisors of World Languages "Bi-Monthly Round-Table" in Monroe Township.
- d. Seton Hall University Annual Project Acceleration Conference
- e. Training session for phase II "Italian Heritage Curriculum" in Trenton
- f. Facilitator training session for new state ESL language proficiency testing "Access for ELLs".
- 2. Mrs. Camarda attended the following workshops/conferences at the Metropolitan Opera:
  - a. Carmen, Aida and Lucia di Lammermoor
  - b. Cyrano de Bergerac and Samson et Dalila.

#### V. Departmental Goals/Recommendations:

- To insure continuity, all teachers in the department need to continue 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.
- The World Language staff continues to feel very strongly that the school should 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 that 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 of World Language/ESL June 2, 2006 GUIDANCE

## ANNUAL REPORT 2005-2006 GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT Anne Starace, Vice Principal Adademic and Guidance Services

#### 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. Is concerned with the total needs of the pupil (educational, vocational, personal, and social) and encourages the maximum growth and development of each counselee.
- 2. Informs the counselee of the purpose, goals, techniques, and rules of procedure under which he/she may receive counseling assistance.
- 3. Refrains from consciously encouraging the counselee's acceptance of values, lifestyles, plans, decisions, and beliefs that represent only the counselor's personal orientation.

- 4. Is responsible for keeping abreast of laws relating to pupils and ensures that the rights of pupils are adequately provided and protected.
- 5. Makes appropriate referrals when professional assistance can no longer be adequately provided to the counselee. Appropriate referral necessitates knowledge about available resources.
- 6. 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.
- 7. Protects the confidentiality of information received in the counseling process as specified by law and ethical standards.
- 8. 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.
- 9. Provides explanations of the nature, purposes, and results of tests in language that is understandable to the student and family.

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 solve 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 overcome challenges 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 school courses and activities.
- 3. Develop interpersonal relationships.
- 4. Develop self-understanding and identities.

#### B. Assist teachers to:

- 1. Understand and work effectively with students and parents.
- 2. Participate in helping students attain their guidance objectives.

#### C. Assist parents to:

- 1. Understand their children's educational progress.
- 2. Work effectively with their children's teachers.
- 3. Understand the opportunities available to their children.
- 4. Participate in helping their children attain guidance objectives.
- 5. 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 presentation 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 2005-06 school year:

#### **Conferences/Workshops/Field Trips**

- Workshop Gang Awareness
- Workshop NCAA Athletics Recruiting
- Workshop UMDNJ Dental School Admission
- NJ Higher Education Student Assistant Authority's Financial Aid Workshop, Bergen Community College
- Workshop Montclair State University
- Workshop Kean University
- Workshop Ruggs' Recommendations on College Admission
- Essex County School Counselors' Association Meetings
- Workshop Essex County College College Admission and EOF Program
- Workshop Strategies and Techniques for Counseling Difficult Adolescents
- Workshop Issues of Family and Addiction
- Workshop Suicide and Self-Mutilation

#### College Visits/Tour

- College visitations/evening programs: Fordham, Berkeley College, Gibbs College, Drew University, Fairleigh Dickinson University, College, Culinary Institute of America
- New Hampshire colleges

#### Other

- Graduate study
- Faculty Senate Meetings at NHS
- School-to-Careers Committee
- Junior/Senior Parents' Meeting
- College/Career Fair
- Freshman Parents' Meeting
- Financial Aid Seminar (FAFSA), Dir. of Financial Aid, Bergen Community College
- Standardized testing
- ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)
- Freshman Orientation, Class of 2010
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents' Scheduling Meeting
- Board of Education Academic Awards Presentations
- Senior Scholastic Awards Program and reception
- Guidance Website Development and Maintenance
- Planning Your Future Power Point Presentation, college admission process
- Newsletter five issues



TO: Mr. Gregory Catrambone

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 2006, the average class size was 21.6 in the regular classes, which represents an increase of .4 students from last year's average class size of 21.2, and there was an average of 13 students in the basic skills classes.

- B. This year we have two staff members retiring. Rosemary Vivinetto is retiring after 34 years in the classroom and Elinor Alboum is retiring after 26 years of teaching; 18 of those in Nutley. These two individuals were outstanding teachers and were excellent role models for their students. They are hard working and dedicated individuals who will be hard to replace.
- C. In September 2005 Mr. Mark Picard and Ms. Heather Syme joined the math staff here at Nutley High School. They replaced Vincent Turturiello and Carol Rizzo who retired last year. Mr. Picard taught two sections of Plane Geometry, two sections of Basic Algebra II and one section of Math Analysis. Ms. Syme taught two sections of Algebra I, two sections of Pre-Algebra and one section of Basic Algebra I. Both teachers are dedicated teaching professionals that have created positive learning environments in their classrooms. Their willingness to work with their colleagues and the time both spend before and after school helping and assisting students shows their dedication to their profession. Ms. Syme and Mr. Picard are definitely an asset to the overall mathematical environment here at the high school.

#### II. TESTING

A. The math portion of the High School Proficiency Assessment was administered on March 7th. 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 were used to supplement the curriculum. This year an extra effort was made to reach those juniors who were in freshman and sophomore math classes. We will know the results of this year's assessment in early June.

- B. This year the TerraNova was administered to all ninth and tenth graders from March 6th to March 10<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.
- C. This year we ran two remedial classes during the zero period for those seniors who failed the HSPA in March 2005. Ms. Martin and Mr. Sorensen were its instructors and did an excellent job in preparing our students to retake the state assessment. The class had an enrollment of 22 seniors, nine of these students entered Nutley High School during their senior year. When we received the results of the October 5<sup>th</sup> retest, it indicated that 11 of the 22 seniors tested were successful. The remaining seniors had to continue attending the zero period remediation class until they completed the SRA process. All but one of the remaining students completed the SRA process. All SRA's that were submitted to the Essex County division of the state department of education were approved. Therefore these students will now be allowed to graduate with their class on June 23rd. The individual who did not attend the zero period and therefore did not complete the SRA process was unsuccessful on the retest given on March 7<sup>th</sup> and will not be allowed to graduate with her class.
- D. In May the advanced placement test was administered to students in the AP Calculus and AP Statistics classes. Student results for this exam are normally reported in July and those students who scored 3 or higher may receive credits towards their college degree

#### III. INSTRUCTION

- A. The resource center continues to function as an important part of the mathematics program. Each period the center is manned by a math teacher who provides individualized instruction for those students who need help in mathematics.
- B. The mathematics computer room was utilized on a regular basis by three Selected Topics classes and one A.P. Statistics class. In addition, the computer room was used periodically by geometry and basic skills classes and by individual students in need of completing computer assignments and other projects.
  - 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. Graphing calculators were issued to all students in our AP Calculus, PreCalculus, Advanced Math 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 more than 60 students planning to take either 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 257 students, 84% of the class of 2005, showed a mean mathematics score of 525. This score compares to 517 for the class of 2004, 522 for the class of 2003, 517 for the class of 2002 and 534 for the class of 2001. The state average for this test is 514. Approximately 89 percent of the graduating class took the SAT with the top 10% of the class scoring an average of 654. This compares to 617 for the state and 602 for the nation.

- D. In October 2005, the HSPA was administered to 22 twelfth graders. Eleven of these students were successful on the retest and the remaining students were subsequently entered into the Student Review Assessment (SRA) process. This state requirement for graduation was accomplished by all but one student.
- E. This year we had one student teacher. Both Mrs. Alboum and Mr. Mischel acting as her cooperating teachers mentored Aneta Kruk, a student from Montclair State University. Ms. Kruk successfully completed her student teaching and will be certified by the state of New Jersey to teach mathematics.

#### IV. FIELD TRIPS

On December 11<sup>th</sup>, Mr. D'Ambola took his Calculus Honors class to NJIT for its annual "Engineering Career Day". This program is designed to give high school students, especially juniors and seniors, an opportunity to explore options in six diverse engineering fields. Students met with faculty and currently enrolled engineering students. The students who attended this program felt it was productive and informing.

On March 27<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

The Math Club, sponsored by Darren Mischel 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.

Six teams of students participated in the Essex County Math League Contest held at Caldwell College on May 24<sup>th</sup>.

This year the mathematics department celebrated Pi day on March 14. 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 21 of our graduating seniors. In addition, 55 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:

Toby D'Ambola attended four math supervisor round tables.

Paula Cofone attended the workshops: "Showcasing Student's Success" given by Montclair State University on November 29, 2005 and December 6, 2005.

Susan Gesumaria and Toby D'Ambola attended the workshop: Practical Mathematical Strategies" given by Holt, Rinehart and Winston.

Toby D'Ambola and Darren Mischel attend the workshop: "The calculator and its use in the Classroom" given by Casio on February 15, 2006.

Susan Gesumaria, Donald Manfria, Paula Cofone and Toby D'Ambola attend the workshop: "Student Engagement – Teaching Strategies of Mathematics" given by McDougal Littell on Mach 21, 2006.

#### VIII. DEPARTMENTAL GOALS FOR 2006 - 2007

- 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. Continue to group students according to grade level in basic skills 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. Continue to monitor the "Math Analysis" course to make sure it provides our students with a strong background in mathematics.
- E. Continue to incorporate open-ended questions into our regular classroom activities and to include these types of questions on class tests and final exams.
- F. Continue to monitor those juniors who take either Basic Geometry or Basic Algebra II and offer remediation to those students who we feel may be in jeopardy of failing the H.S.P.A.

MUSIC

#### **MEMORANDUM**

To: Mr. Gregory Catrambone, Principal of Nutley High School

From: John Vitkovsky, Coordinator of Music

Re: Principal's Report for the 2005 - 2006 School Year

The following are activities of the 2005 - 2006 school year, present concerns, and recommendations that are being submitted for your review and consideration.

#### **ACTIVITIES**

- 1. This year enrollment in Concert Band, Concert Choir, Choralettes, Octets, Orchestra, Jazz Lab, and Fundamentals of Music I and II remained the same.
- 2. In the Fall, the Raider Band participated in five competitions, the NJMEA Marching Band Competition, the Herald-News Band Festival, all home and away football games, and at the three town parades: Columbus Day, St. Patrick's and Memorial Day. In addition to this, the Raider Band performed for the Martha Stewart Show in New York City. The videotape of this show was broadcast on nation-wide television. The highlight of the year for the Marching Band, Concert Band, Orchestra, Jazz Band, and Jazz Lab Combo was the trip to California. This was the first time any Nutley High music group had ever performed in California. The Concert Band, Orchestra, Jazz Lab Combo, and Jazz Band received excellent ratings. The Raider Marching Band received the honor to march in the Main Street USA Parade at Disneyland.
- 3. This was a rebuilding year for the Orchestra with many new students added to the string and woodwind sections. The Orchestra students worked very hard all year long and their efforts were rewarded with excellent performances at the NHS Yuletide Concert, the Spring Music Festival, and at the California Competition. Continuing a tradition that began eleven 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 North Jersey Region I Choral Festival, the December concert at St. Thomas Church, and the Spring Choral Music Festival. Seven Octets and Concert Choir students were selected (by audition) to the 2006 N.J.All State Chorus. This is the largest amount of Nutley High students ever selected to the N.J.All State Chorus. During the Spring Break the Octets and Choralettes gave outstanding performances while touring Washington, D.C. The Choralettes came home with a superior rating trophy and the Octets with an excellent

- 5. The Jazz Lab Combo performed at the NHS Open House, the Yuletide Concert, the Mayor's Toys for Tots Program, Café Night, and at the Scholastic Awards Program. The group received a good rating at the California Competition.
- 6. The Concert Choir remained at 112 members. This group gave superior performances at the NJMEA Choral Festival hosted by the NHS Music Department, the Mayor's Tree Lighting, the Yuletide Concert, the NHS Choral Music Tour of Washington, D.C., Spring Choral Music Festival, and the NHS Graduation. On December 21, 2005 the NHS Concert Choir gave a superlative performance of Handel's *Messiah* at St. Thomas Church. Most college music groups would be hard pressed to perform this most challenging work. On January 17, 2006 the Concert Choir was invited to perform at Carnegie Hall, NYC. It was the seventh time a Nutley choir has been invited to perform at that prestigious hall.
- 7. The NHS Chamber Music Singers had a wonderful third year. They performed at the Nutley 9/11 Observance, and in December performed a one-act opera, *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. During the Washington, D.C. Choir Tour the Chamber Singers received a superior rating trophy and performed at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception (the largest church in the Western Hemisphere).
- 8. Professional Days: Mr. Vitkovsky and Mr. Maiello attended the three day (during February Break) New Jersey Music Educators Convention/Workshop in New Brunswick.
- 9. Spring Musical: A large group of students from the Choralettes, Octets, Concert Choir, Orchestra, and the Band participated in the superb Spring Musical, "The Wiz."
- 10. Music Boosters Café Night: Fourteen 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: Again, this group lost several key students due to graduation. Even though their scores in the M.A.I.N. circuit were not high, Ms. Aurilla Card and her students are to be commended for never giving up and working very hard all season long.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

# **NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL**

Angelo Frannicola Director

300 FRANKLIN AVENUE **NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110** 

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

#### **ATHLETICS**

To:

Mr. Gregory Catrambone

Re:

Annual Report 2005-2006

Date: June 16, 2006

The health and physical education staff continue to use rooms 105 and 109 for the health classes.

The same activities took place for the school year as in previous years. The annual volleyball tournament and the physical fitness tests provide a sound basis for the physical education classes.

We are losing the students in health during the fourth marking period, since they believe they can fail and still pass if they have passing grades during the first three marking periods. (behavior, non-attentive, disruptive, etc.)

Driver Education is being supervised and monitored by an assigned teacher.

#### Revisions needed:

- In order to give the physical education classes some relief with overcrowded classes, a 0(zero) period should be put in place.
- Health classes need a new curriculum update.
- Health should be listed as a separate grade on the report card. What marking period, what teacher, what grade, what year, etc.
- Physical Education Curriculum needs to be revised to coincide with the NJ Core Curriculum standards.
- 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 completed, 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 2005-2006

To: Mr. Gregory Catrambone From: Mr. Michael Fetherman

Re: Principal's Report for the 2005-2006 Academic Year

Date: June 2, 2006

The Nutley High School science department experienced another dynamic year of both progress and change. Dr. Anthony Surmatis, the newest addition to our staff, has been a welcomed contributor to our highly qualified workforce, as his wealth of content knowledge has proven to be a plus point for our team. I am pleased to report that the students of Nutley High have responded warmly and favorably to his competent pedagogy.

In the meantime, the coaching and supporting of our young group continues, as veterans of our craft routinely lead by example and advise when prudent. Several staff members anticipate their third and most critical year evolving into a lengthy, tenure-tracked career here in Nutley, as every effort is being made to improve and enhance the delivery of science instruction. I look forward to working closely with all of them to ensure our district's children receive the highest quality instruction available. So once again thank you to one and all – with common goals and the best interest of our young learners in mind, Nutley's future is in good hands!

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

#### I. The Department

Departmental statistics for the 2005-2006 school year indicate that 14 dynamic teachers taught 16 different course selections. It is important to note that Nutley High maintains a healthy balance of entry-level, academically complex and advanced placement coursework to meet the needs of our diverse student population. Learners of all abilities have the opportunity to select courses germane to their interests that prepare them appropriately for the next chapter in their young adult lives.

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.

This year we offered two sections of AP Environmental Science each of which met six periods a week.

#### AP Biology - Teacher: Mr. Lawrence Jinks.

This year Mr. Jinks taught two sections of this highly regarded and popular AP course offering, which also met six periods a week.

#### AP Chemistry - Teacher: Ms. Christine Polk.

Ms. Polk took over the reigns of Nutley High School's advanced placement Chemistry course and has met the challenges and demands of this comprehensive, college preparatory curriculum. Two sections of this course were offered this year, which met six periods each week.

#### AP Physics - Mr. Crispulo Isiminger.

With the necessary prerequisites having been met, Nutley High School's student body earned access to this advanced placement course not offered last year. *AP Physics'* triumphant return this past Fall, with Mr. Isiminger steering the way, renewed our commitment to the highest level of the physical sciences.

#### Accelerated Biology - Teachers: Mr. Lawrence Jinks and Mr. Kent Bania.

There were four sections of *Biology IX Honors*, each with its own laboratory period. Mr. Jinks and Mr. Bania each taught two sections.

#### Chemistry Honors - Teacher: Dr. Peter Smith.

Dr. Smith continued to do an effective job with our *Honors Chemistry* selection, as he challenged our students enrolled in all three sections. This course meets six periods per week.

#### Physics Honors - Teacher: Mr. Crispulo Isiminger.

There were two sections of *Physics Honors* offered this year, both of which ran successfully. Nutley High looks ahead to another year with multiple sections of this course offering, as our students continue to enjoy the enrichment made to our physical science offerings.

#### Human Physiology Honors - Teacher: Mr. Kent Bania.

There were two sections of *Human Physiology Honors* that met six periods 'per week. Changes made to this popular course offering this year provided students with an additional lab period that met once each week.

#### Human Physiology - Teachers: Ms. Katie Gratz and Dr. Peter Smith.

This year we offered three sections of *Human Physiology* that met five periods per week. Ms. Gratz covered two sections and Dr. Smith picked up the third section of this challenging yet popular course.

#### Microbiology - Teacher: Mrs. Paula Kasner.

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

<u>College Biology</u> – Teachers: Ms. Kasner, Ms. Gratz, Mrs. Stark-Houck and Mr. Simko. There were a total of nine sections of College Biology taught by four different teachers. All incoming ninth graders are required to study biology, and we offer three different levels of instruction.

#### Biology for Living - Teacher: Mr. Joseph Simko.

Biology for Living offers the students of Nutley High School an entry-level science option for the technical school/career oriented student. Mr. Simko taught all three sections, assisted one period by Mr. Harbison in the inclusion setting.

# <u>College Chemistry</u> – Teachers: Dr. Peter Smith, Mr. Joseph Tagliareni, Dr. Michael Naumoff and Dr. Anthony Surmatis.

There were eleven sections of *College Chemistry* offered this year, each with its own lab period. Dr. Naumoff and Dr. Surmatis each taught four sections, and Mr. Tagliareni taught the remaining three sections.

#### College Physics - Teacher: Ms. Christine Polk and Mr. Crispulo Isiminger.

Three sections of *College Physics* ran this year, two taught by Ms. Christine Polk, while Mr. Isiminger delivered instruction in the third.

#### Earth/Space Science - Teacher: Ms. Megan Hardie.

There were five sections of *Earth/Space Science* taught this year, all of which were lead by Ms. Hardie's instruction.

#### Environmental Science - Teachers: Mrs. Stark-Houck.

We again offered three sections of Environmental Science, all of which were taught by Mrs. Stark-Houck.

#### II. Advanced Placement Testing

Advanced Placement testing was offered this year in four courses: *AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Environmental Science and AP Physics.* Student totals that sat for each of these exams is as follows:

Advanced Placement Biology: 27 Advanced Placement Chemistry: 10

Advanced Placement Environmental Science: 8

Advanced Placement Physics: 1

#### 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 on the following page:

Bausch & Lomb Science Award – William Mac Phee
Dominick Di Cioccio Memorial Award – Jason Lombardi
Rensselaer Award – Alexandria Cooper
Nutley Elks Gerald Danchak Memorial Science Award – Jason Lombardi

#### IV. Staff Development

Several staff members in the science department sought and participated in additional professional development opportunities ranging from workshops to lecture series to field trips to graduate school. 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
NJ Audubon - Seminar on the Environment
Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering Workshop
NJ Marine Sciences Consortium - Teach at the Beach Workshop
Rutgers University Seminar, Food Science: A Great Career Option
Physics Day - Six Flags Great Adventure
New Jersey Teachers for Biodiversity workshop
Graduate studies - Montclair State, William Paterson, Jersey City State
The Faculty Senate
Seton Hall Science Career Day

AP Seminar – Environmental Science

In-service technology workshop, Putting It All Together With Technology

In-service workshop, Strategies for Differentiating Instruction

Roche Genetics Education Program

CPR training

Student Ambassador Teacher Leader

New Jersey City University Seminar - Classroom Management with Dr. Harry Wong

New Generations Chemistry Workshop

ChemTAG Teacher Exchange Program
ChemTAG AP Chemistry Teacher Exchange

Princeton University Seminar – Bridging the Gap Between Science and the Public

Teacher Advisory Group

#### V. Curriculum Development

As a means to continually meet the challenges of our dynamic secondary school learners, selection of new textbooks for *Advanced Placement Chemistry* and the addition of a new course offering for seniors, *Forensic Science*, address concerns and reflect our desire to keep reaching forward, as we hope to maximize the effectiveness of learning experiences as well as meet the needs of our changing curricula and state standards.

The NHS Science Curriculum Committee last convened during the Fall of 2003. Revisions to our science curricula and subsequent alignment with the NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards have been in place for a few years, and consideration is now being made to implement calendar-based curriculum mapping for grades 9-12. Documentation of our students' learning experiences would allow teachers to design lessons that capitalize on our learners' strengths and fortify their weaknesses.

In essence, curriculum mapping creates easy-to-follow sequences of what teachers are actually doing in their classrooms, and would help us navigate through our offerings and identify unnecessary gaps and repetitions and ensure compliance with state standards. In addition, opportunities to promote dialogue between our diverse high school educators (amongst the math and science staff, for instance) can be reasonably presupposed to benefit the learning experiences of our youngsters.

#### VI. UMDNJ Partnership

The students of NHS continued their participation 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. As of this past Fall, students benefited from the recent approval of Mr. Jinks' advanced placement biology course into the Project Acceleration family. Additionally, Mr. Kent Bania played an instrumental role in securing acceptance of college credits earned through Seton Hall University with successful completion of his Human Physiology course.

#### VIII. Extracurricular Activities

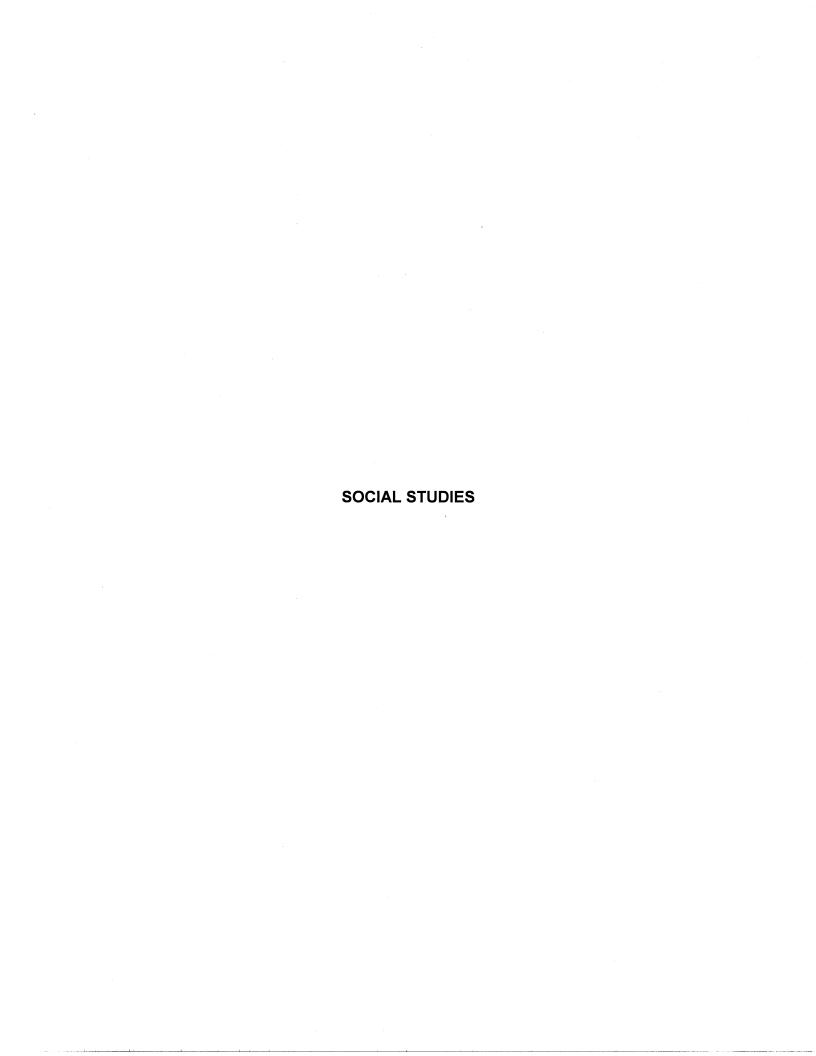
The following is a list of extracurricular activities participated in by members of the science department:

Lacrosse coach – Mr. Bania
Assistant Football Coach – Dr. Smith
Outdoor Adventure Club – Mr. Bania
Biology Club – Mr. Jinks and Mr. Bania
Chess Team Coach – Dr. Naumoff
Weight Room Supervisor – Mr. Bania and Dr. Smith
C.A.T. Program – Mr. Joseph Simko
Girls' Varsity Volleyball Coach – Mr. Fetherman
Anime Club – Mr. Isiminger
Class Advisors – Ms. Gratz, Mr. Simko and Ms. Hardie
C.L.A.W. Advisor – Mr. Joe Tagliareni

#### IX. Concerns for the Future

The science department here at Nutley High School continues its commitment to the students of our district and their achievement throughout their tenure here. The staff's lessons reflect careful planning and execution with constant focus on curricular objectives and state standards.

In an effort to enhance the vertical alignment of our Middle School and ninth grade curricula, it is now necessary that we take on the challenges and reap the rewards that calendar-based curriculum mapping can provide. Any time we promote dialogue between our middle and secondary school educators one can reasonably presuppose that the learning experiences of our youngsters can profit.



#### **Nutley High School**

To: Mr. Gregory Catrambone, Principal

Date: June 1, 2006

From: Mr. Robert O'Dell

Social Studies Coordinator

Subject: Principal's Report for 2005 - 2006 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 that includes four honors courses and three advanced placement courses. Thirteen teachers and the coordinator cover fifty-eight sections, as well as one section of the interdisciplinary Humanities course. Total enrollment for all courses is currently 1300 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 recently revised World History 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 recently acquired LCD projectors on a regular basis.

#### 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 evaluate, enhance, and update the curriculum and instructional strategies, and to locate and develop new materials for the various courses.
- C. 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.
- D. In light of the emphasis placed by the Department of Education on teaching tolerance, Nutley continues to utilize several state and privately generated materials concerning discrimination and prejudice. This material was infused into appropriate units of the United States History curriculum, and a faculty generated test was administered to the students in many of these classes. The faculty also addressed additional issues pertaining to bullying
- E. 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 2005 2006 academic year. Members of the faculty evaluated current texts, and continued the search for other suitable works. These included books and primary sources that helped students realize other social studies skills and objectives.

F. The ongoing upgrade of the department's web site continues. Additional student resources were added to the "Resources" section, including the initial study guides for the new World History course. Additional guides will be created and posted as time allows. In addition, voter registration resources were added to the page.

#### II. Staff Development Activities

- A. The Social Studies faculty took part in the following workshops and seminars:
  - 1. Substance Abuse Workshop
  - 2. Student Voices civic education program
  - 3. New Jersey Council for the Social Studies / New Jersey Annual Convention
  - 4. New Jersey Department of Education workshop on the forthcoming Amistad Mandate and Curriculum
  - 5. Three HSPA Workshops
  - 6. A workshop on the Lincoln-Douglas Debates
  - 7. In service workshops on Instructional Theory In Practice (ITIP), Critical Thinking, and Computer Skills.
  - 8. A statewide session with the New Jersey Center for Law Related Education (NJCLRE), state politicians, officials, and community organizations to investigate methods by which civic participation and literacy could be enhanced among New Jersey students. This was consistent with the department's own initiative with the League of Women Voters.
  - 9. NJASSP Student Activities Conference
- A. Faculty members completed graduate courses through Kean University, Montclair State University, and additional content-based courses through the County College of Morris

#### III. Enrichment

- A. The following activities were conducted by the Social Studies faculty:
  - 1. A presentation by a counter-terrorism official from the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
  - 2. A speaker and advocate from the death penalty case covered in *Time* and *Newsweek*.
  - 3. New Jersey Canals project from the department's website.
  - 4. Debates regarding the bombing of Hiroshima, affirmative action, federal funding of education, and the social movements of the 1960's
  - 5. Debates concerning the nature of the American Revolution, slavery, the inevitability of the Civil War", and Reconstruction
  - 6. "Create a Civilization"
  - 7. Mock trials
  - 8. Reenactments and role playing
  - 9. Forbear Project
  - 10. Political Personality Profiles and Voting Analyses
  - 11. Guest Speakers

- a. Carl Ohlson, Vietnam veteran
- b. Civil War reenactor
- c. Social workers, Nutley Family Services
- 12. Internet Access Projects
- 13. Student and faculty generated PowerPoint presentations
- 14. Seminars: Famous Americans of the Nineteenth Century, decades of twentieth century American history, the Progressives, Affirmative Action
  - a. Creation of travel brochures and virtual tours of the countries
  - b. Mock Elections
  - c. Neighborhood Analysis (Sociology)
  - d. Use of library and classroom computers
  - e. Political cartoon projects
  - f. Poster projects
  - g. Black History Month projects
  - h. Women's History Month projects
- 15. The posting of appropriate bulletin boards in the Annex hallway.
- 16. Re enactment of the Convention of 1860
- 17. Mock Senate hearings
- 18. Field Trips
  - a. Veterans' Home
  - b. Humanities five field trips
  - c. New Jersey Association of Student Councils Convention

#### IV. Textbook Management

- A. Textbook age, condition, and inventory are continually monitored.
- B. Money was budgeted for a supplemental text for the Archaeology course.
- C. It is recommended that the department soon seek an alternative to the current economics text, as these books go out of print rapidly. The current text is no longer available in a new format.

#### V. Social Studies Awards

#### Awards to graduating seniors:

- 1. Brian McGinley Award for Outstanding History Student Gina Rodriguez
- 2. Daughters of the American Revolution Medal in History, Yantacaw Chapter – Kimberly Teller
- 3. League of Women Voters of Nutley William MacPhee
- 4. Nutley Post # 70, American Legion Auxiliary John Papa and Jasmina Dizdarevic
- 5. The Carmen A. Orechio Civic Association Award Marissa Ryder

#### VI. Items New to the Social Studies Department for 2005 - 2006

- A. Mrs. Rebecca Miller served as a maternity replacement for Mrs. Nicole David, and provided instruction in World History and United States History II.
- B. An initiative with the local chapter of the League of Women Voters was implemented, with the aim of fostering active participation in civic and community affairs by Nutley High School students. Among the first activities, students served as timers for the Board of Education debates.
- C. One overhead projector and cart were added to the department, and received heavy usage.
- D. One new LCD projector was added to the department, and received heavy usage.
- E. The newly revised World History and World History Honors courses were implemented for the first time, along with the primary source binders *World History Unfolding*.
- F. The continuation of faculty discussions to enhance reading and geographic literacy in the social studies.

#### VII. Department Concerns and Recommendations

- A. The number of supplemental readings available for the reading initiative should continue to be increased. The department is grateful for the ongoing support of the administration in this endeavor.
- B. The department would like to continue to investigate new strategies for teaching geography in order to enhance student understanding and retention of key geographic concepts and content.
- C. The course Archaeology of the Ancient World is now three years old. The instructor, Mr. Rosati, has been teaching without benefit of a student text, as agreed. It would be helpful if additional student materials could be provided. Money was initially budgeted for this, and the department is grateful for the support of the administration and Board of Education.
- D. In order to enhance the effective use of computer applications and resources, the department would like to investigate the procurement, through grant or purchase, of additional laptop computers and LCD projectors. Those currently in the department are in heavy demand, and some lessons must await availability of technology. The Apple PowerBooks have received rave reviews, and the department is grateful to the Board and Administration for their support.
- E. In-service courses that are content-based and designed to enhance current instruction would be a welcome addition to the professional development program.

**LIBRARY** 

#### Nutley High School Library Memorandum

To:

Mr. Catrambone

**Date:** June 13, 2006

Mrs. Starace

From:

Susan Bresnan

RE:

Library Annual Report 2005-2006

I thought you might be interested in the Library's statistics and projects.

The statistics as of June 13, 2006:

Number of books checked out:

3,034

Numbers of classes in Library:

289

Number of books added to collection:

455

The number of classes scheduled in the Library increased steadily with an average of almost three classes per day. Average number of classes for December through March 5.5 classes per day. Although the majority of classes were from the English and Social Studies departments, we have also had classes from World Languages, Science, Mathematics, Culinary Arts, and Physical Education.

I arranged for access to the subscription databases available at Nutley Public Library. It is now possible to search Public Library databases from the computers in the High School Library.

Students are made use of the Library before school and during lunch periods. As many as 30 students signed into the Library for their lunch period on a daily basis. There are an average of 10 students per day before school.

Completed Projects in the Library include:

- Shifting of books to create more shelf space. Space in the fiction section is still particularly tight.
- Re-Classification of books.
- Revision of Library Web Page. Added links to card catalog, subscription databases, search engines, Turn it in, encyclopedias, pathfinders.
- Weeding of books, particularly paperback fiction.

Projects for 2006-2007 include:

- Reorganization of Fiction Collection.
- Continued revision of Library Web Page.
- Weeding of books, particularly the Reference Collection.

Please let me know if you have any questions or suggestions.

Thank you.

Susen Frem

# MEDIA DEPARTMENT YEAR END REPORT 2005-2006

#### 2005-2006 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 and DVDs in all subject areas are continually added to our video/DVD library.
- 4. The Media Club attended a guest lecture with Hugh Sneddon, WNBC Field Producer. Students learned how to transmit a live signal throughout the New York City area. They received hands-on experience in news 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 Kean University, the Nutley Police Department, and the Nutley Red Cross.
- 6. The Media Department provided video coverage for the Yantacaw Talent Show and the Nutley High School graduation program. They also provided video production at Spring Garden School for students and faculty.
- 7. The Media Department taped and broadcasted Board of Education meetings on Cablevision (our cable television provider.)
- 8. The Media Department served 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 was recorded by the Media Department.
- 10. Our audio-visual student assistants videotaped elementary school community segments for the Referendum production in September.
- 11. The Television Studio, channel 77, is now housed in the audio-visual department. Cast classes utilize the studio equipment for video production work. Students also produced live call-in shows and athletic college highlight videos.
- 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 2005-2006

Film and videos used from outside sources were: 21

Postage money for film and video returns (UPS): \$222.20

Rental fees for AV software 300.00

TOTAL \$522.20

#### II. Audio Visual Hardware Requests

Daily requests 379
Long term requests 88

TOTAL 467

#### 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 districtwide needs.

#### IV. Media Room Use

House Television Studio (Channel 77) Program 24/7 Bulletin Boards 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 2006-2007 School Year

Postage	\$ 200.00
Rentals	300.00
Software Purchases	1,500.00
Hardware Purchases	6,000.00

TOTAL \$8,000.00

# Missing Software 2005-2006

None

# Missing Hardware 2005-2006

None

## Summer Loans 2006

Chris Oseja

Utilizing a TV/VCR in Math Resource Room for Summer Program

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. Gregory Catrambone

FROM:

Mr. Bill Farkas

**SUBJECT:** 

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

DATE:

June 30, 2006

#### FACT SHEET

1. CIE Regular Program.

2. Began with 26 students and finished with 20 students.

3. The 20 Students break down as follows:

Seven (7) will perform the same work they were trained for on the CIE program either on a full time or part time basis.

Three (3) will go to vocational school, two years or less.

Six (6) will go to the county college.

Four (4) will go into apprenticeship programs.

- 4. Total earnings of these students during the 2005-2006 school year amounted to \$81,380.00.
- 5. Several of our CIE students participated in a scholarship program offered by the New Jersey State Coordinators Association.

One Nutley student, Nick Messina received a \$6,200.00 scholarship to Retz School in Nutley.

6. We had five (5) students participate in the Ironworkers Apprenticeship Program.

- 7. We had four (4) students this year with Local 108 Youth Transition To Work Automotive Technician apprenticeship program in cooperation with Strauss Discount Auto Stores.
- 8. We have four (4) students working in apprenticeship programs starting July 1<sup>st</sup>: Mike Migliorati plumbing; Matt Rasczyk electrician; Ed Melendez masons; and Jonathan Venable elevator operators.
- 9. 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.
- 10. I had over 30 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.
- 11. Finally, the Career Club I started seven years ago took eight 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,

well tal

William Farkas CIE Coordinator

WF/md



# 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 26, 2006

TO:

Mr. G. Catrambone

FROM:

A. Frannicola

RE:

Annual Report - Athletics 2005-2006

I am pleased to report that the 2005-2006 school year at Nutley High School was very successful. This year over 728 athletes competed on 22 varsity and 17 subvarsity teams. There were over 524 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, 57 Coaches, 12 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, our football team qualified for the State Football Play-Offs. Our boys' and girls' soccer teams participated in the Essex County Tournament and the State Tournament. The Cross Country Team also participated in the Essex County Tournament.

During the winter season, our girls' basketball team participated in the Essex County Tournament and our boys' basketball was given the Sportsmanship Award in the NNJIL. The girls' bowling team won the NNJIL Division A Championship and the bowling team won the Essex County Tournament. Both teams also participated in the State Tournaments. The wrestling team participated in the County, Districts, and Regional Tournaments with team members advancing to the State Tournament. Finally, our gymnast participated in the State Finals and won the event.

In the spring, our softball team qualified for the Essex County Tournament and won the North II Section III State Sectional Championship, the baseball team qualified for the Greater Newark Tournament and the State Baseball Tournament. The tennis and track teams also qualified for the county and state tournaments. In all of these spring sports, our athletes received recognition in the NNIL, were selected to the All County and All State Teams.

AF:sp

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

# STUDENT ASSISTANCE COUNSELOR ANNUAL REPORT 2005 - 2006

Joseph Cappello Student Assistance Coordinator June 7, 2006

#### SAC Summary 2005-2006 School Year

As the Student Assistance Coordinator of the Nutley Public Schools, my primary responsibility is to provide support services to students of Franklin Middle School. As of this date, 227 students were provided services throughout the course of the 2005-2006 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 received from students, administrators, teachers, guidance, Child Study Team, parents, self, the Juvenile Conference Committee and the Nutley Police Department.

The following list includes duties and activities throughout the 2005-2006 school year:

- Assisted administrators in implementing Nutley School District's Drug and Alcohol Policy.
  - Nine Nutley High School students and one FMS student were subjected to the requirements of the district's drug and alcohol policy based on suspicion of being under the influence.
- Provided student assistance services at Nutley High School during the maternity leave of Mrs. Lisa Cassilli.
- Member of Nutley School District's Child Study Team.
- Member of the Nutley School District's Threat Assessment Team to investigate all reported threats.
- Member of FMS' Intervention and Referral Service Team.
- Member of Franklin Middle School's Character Education Committee.
  - Organized Character Under Construction, a school-wide character education activity conducted during School Violence Awareness Week (October 17 21, 2005). Students and staff were encouraged to write a word or phrase on paper construction hats which identified a quality (ies) of good character. Members of S.T.A.N.D. decorated FMS with the construction hats to show our commitment to developing better character.
- Conducted a seventh and eighth grade orientation on September 12, 2005 in each lunch study to introduce self as well as services offered by the Student Assistance Program.
- Informed seventh grade students of the district's substance abuse policy.

The abridged version of the district's policy was distributed to eighth grade students during their lunch study periods on September 19, 2005. Students absent on September 19 received their pamphlets in person throughout the week. Students also were instructed to review the pamphlet with their parents.

- Presented at FMS' faculty meetings. 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.
  - 4) current drug trends.
- Presented at NHS 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.
- Assisted Mr. Catrambone research policies and procedures for implementing random drug testing at Nutley High School.
  - Obtained funding from the Nutley Municipal Alliance to sponsor the American Drug and Alcohol Survey.
  - Mr. Catrambone, Mr. Ken Reilly and I met with Christine Steffner, Principal, and Stacy Heller, SAC, of Hackettstown High School to gather information on random drug testing.
  - Contacted several drug-testing companies to inquire about their products.
  - Met with Anita Kopec, RN of the Immedicenter, board physician for suspicionbased drug testing, regarding its role in the Nutley School District's random drug testing program.
- Distributed monthly edition of the Nutley Student Assistance Newsletter: *Helping Hand* to faculty and staff.
- Introduced procedures for reporting a student suspected of being under the influence to new faculty.
- 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 (October 17-21) by drawing anti-violence posters and decorating FMS with them. Members assisted the Character Education Committee with Character Under Construction, a school-wide character education activity. Students created a Character Under Construction banner and numerous banners using

- paper construction hats and *Caution* tape. These banners lined the hallways of FMS. Members also created and hung the six pillars of good character.
- Members assisted in coordinating *National Red Ribbon Week* (October 23-31) activities by decorating Franklin School with red ribbons and a banner.
- 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 February 1, 2006 Third Annual REBEL2 Veteran Summit at the Hyatt Regency New Brunswick with nine members. Students engaged in workshops to increase their knowledge and skills of facilitating interactive presentations at the elementary and middle schools.
  - Received a \$375 Veteran School Honorarium to fund tobacco prevention programs.
- Members wore "non-smoker" t-shirts on Kick Butts Day, Wednesday, April 5, 2006.
- Members were trained on the different aspects of bullying. Bullying awareness presentations were conducted during the week of May 8, 2006 at each elementary school. Fifth grade students learned the following:
  - 1) different forms of bullying.
  - 2) the players involved in bullying.
  - 3) consequences of bullying.
  - 4) ways to deal with bullies.
  - 5) the difference between ratting and reporting.
- Attended the *Newark Bears' Drug Awareness Day* on May 18, 2006 at Riverfront Stadium in Newark, New Jersey.
- The following activities were held for School Violence Awareness Week (October 17-21, 2005):
  - Camfel Productions presented their character-building, three-screen program, *Be The Change*, on Monday, October 17, 2005. The goal of the program was to empower students with the ability to recognize responsibility they have within any group to affect positive change and encourage them to be the best they can at all times. The Nutley Municipal Alliance Committee funded the two assemblies.
  - *Violence Prevention: Student and Teacher Guides* were distributed to students, teachers, and staff on Tuesday, October 18, 2005.
  - As a member of Franklin Middle School's Character Education Committee, I assisted in developing and implementing *Character*

- *Under Construction*, a school-wide character education activity. This program was held during homeroom on Wednesday, October 19, 2005.
- Students viewed an eleven-minute anti-bullying video by Hazelden entitled *Bullying 101: Basic Tools to Stop Bullying in Middle School* during their study periods.
- Celebrated Red Ribbon Week (October 23-31, 2005) by distributing *Show Good Character by Being Drug Free! Lanyards* to students, teachers and staff. The lanyards were purchased by the Nutley Municipal Alliance.
  - Conducted drug education programs with *DARE* Officer Ken Neri in each health class during Red Ribbon Week.
- Observed Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids' National Kick Butts Day on Wednesday, April 5, 2006.
  - Members of S.T.A.N.D. wore "non-smoker" t-shirts. Funding for the t-shirts was provided by the Nutley Municipal Alliance.
  - 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.
  - PA announcements informing students and staff of the harmful consequences of tobacco were made at the onset of each period.
- Facilitated Power Point presentations on harassment / bullying in each marking period's seventh grade health classes.
- Presented Power Point presentations on the dangers of tobacco use and the manipulative marketing schemes of big tobacco companies in each marking period's seventh grade health classes.
- Conducted presentations on the progression of adolescent drug use in each eighth grade health class. The Nutley School District Substance Abuse Policy was also reviewed.
- Led discussions in each seventh grade health class on the harmful effects of adolescent drug use. The Nutley School District Substance Abuse Policy was also introduced.
- D.A.R.E. Officer Ken Neri and I introduced The Fatal Vision Goggles to the Physical Education classes during the second marking period. The program demonstrated how alcohol effects perception, coordination and reaction time.
- Organized seventh and eighth grade gambling awareness assemblies on December 19, 2005. The assemblies were conducted by Terry Elman, Education Coordinator for the Council on Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey, Inc.

- Coordinated the presentations by Essex Prevention Resources, Essex County's alcohol, drug and tobacco resource center, on March 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> in each health class. Delma Downey-Miles, Executive Director, and Angela Ahmuty, Assistant Director, conducted the alcohol awareness (seventh graders) and club drug awareness (eighth graders) presentations.
- Served as a member of the Nutley Municipal Alliance Committee.
- Coordinated the Franklin Middle School Toy Drive. Toys were donated to The Isaiah House, a shelter for battered women and their children.
- Acted as FMS liaison for the Department of Public Safety's S.O.S. (Shovel Out Seniors) Program. Participating students were assigned to shovel the front sidewalk and front door area of seniors' homes during inclement weather. Through this program, students were able to fulfill community service project hours.
- Volunteered to serve as a trained member of the Nutley Juvenile Justice Committee. The committee met on a monthly basis to hear cases of first time juvenile offenders.
- Acted as a referral source for the Nutley Police Department's Station House Adjustment Program, an informal intervention for juveniles of Nutley.
- 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 coordinating the Treatment Providers Meeting held at the Nutley Parks and Recreation Building on Friday, September 23, 2005. NJ.
- Conducted on-site visits of the following treatment providers on the *Student Assistance Program Referral List*:
  - Family Based Adolescent Counseling / Tony Emering (Caldwell)
  - High Focus Center (Paramus)
  - Montclair Counseling Center (Upper Montclair)
  - Clear Brook (Wilkes-Barre, PA / Jack Burlick, marketing rep. visited FMS)
  - SERV Centers of New Jersey (Clifton)
  - Creative Interventions (Clifton)
- Attended the Open House of Essex Prevention Resources, Essex County's alcohol, drug and tobacco resource center funded by New Jersey Prevention Network.
- Assisted in monitoring Central and Saturday detentions.

- Provided orientation of the Nutley School District's Student Assistance Program to Montclair State University student.
- Observed *It's Your Life 411 Program* at Memorial Middle School in Totowa to determine appropriateness as a future program at FMS.
- Advisor for the FMS Ski Club. Six trips were taken in collaboration with the Nutley Department of Recreation.
  - December 23, 2004 Shawnee
  - January 7, 2005 Hidden Valley
  - January 16, 2005 Elk Mountain
  - January 28, 2005 Blue Mountain
  - February 20, 2005 Elk Mountain
- Attended the following workshops:
  - Social Decision Making and Problem Solving Training by Erin Bruno of University Behavioral Healthcare, Behavioral Research and Training Institute (July 6 and 7, 2005).
  - *Trauma, Substance Abuse, and Dual Diagnosis* by High Focus Centers (November 17, 2005).
  - Trauma: An Exploration of Common Reaction by Montclair Counseling Center (November 18, 2005).
  - Psychiatric Emergencies in the School Setting by Chancellor Academy (March 3, 2006).

## Annual Report 2005-2006

# Nancy Thunell SAC/ELEMENTARY COUNSELOR March 2006

As the student assistance coordinator, my primary responsibility is to provide support services to students at all five elementary schools in the Nutley District. Students and issues have been handled on a timely and professional manner throughout the year. Duties included follow up with students, phone contact with parents and providers, teachers and administration.

#### Distribution to all teachers:

Character Counts Week Violence Awareness Week Red Ribbon Week

#### Objectives of Elementary Counselor/SAC:

Helping students:
Organizational skills
Interpersonal Relationships
Conflict Resolution
Peer Relationships
Friendship issues
Family issues, death, divorce
Substance Abuse issues/education

#### Issues addressed through:

Individual counseling
Small groups discussions
Classroom presentations
Consultation with administration, teachers, parents and children
Working with community resources for students and families

#### Lessons/Assemblies:

- Bullying Assembly
- •Facilitated with Joe Cappello Providers meeting: This meeting was help and the Parks and Recreation Building in Nutley. Student Assistance Professionals from the surrounding area and treatment providers were invited to network and distribute information on facilities and services offered.

- •Clinical Faculty member Montclair State University: Participated in a lunch study group to enhance communication with teachers and student needs.
- •Member of the Intervention & Referral Service team at Lincoln, Washington and Radcliffe School.
- Worked with student referred by Juvenile Conference Committee.
- •Member of the Juvenile Conference Committee: Appointed by the courts to work in our local community addressing non-violent, first time juvenile offenders and
- •Acted as liaison between parents and administrators.
- Attended monthly Nutley Municipal Alliance meetings.
- •Attended monthly Association of Student Assistance Professionals (ASAP) meetings.
- Facilitate Social Skills group at Lincoln and Yantacaw Schools.
- •Co-facilitated Peer Mediation Club at Spring Garden and Yantacaw School: The Mediation Club is open to students in grades 4-6. Students are trained in dealing with conflict resolution with lower grades. They perform various skits throughout the year to address situations presented via the peer mediation box.
- •Red Ribbon Week promotion and ordering supplies for distribution in district: Supplies for the 2006-07 Red Ribbon Week have already been purchased through the Municipal Alliance this year.

#### Goals for 2006-2007:

- •Continue to work collaboratively with Elementary school Principals, teachers and students
- •To continue to positively reinforce behaviors conducive to social settings
- •Continue to provide staff with assistance in dealing with at risk students
- •Continue to provide support and assistance for families in the school community
- •Continue to serve on various community committees as a liaison with the educational community
- •To implement additional Social Skills groups and purchase a comprehensive curriculum for these groups.



# FRANKLIN SCHOOL

325 FRANKLIN AVENUE NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

MR. JOHN CALICCHIO Principal **TELEPHONE** (973) 661-8871

FAX (973) 661-3775

#### **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

Mr. Joseph Zarra, Superintendent of Schools,

**FROM:** 

John Calicchio, Principal of Franklin School

RE:

Principal's Annual Report for the 2005-2006 School Year

DATE:

6/5/06

This Annual Report represents a composite of the following district and school's priorities, monitoring and encouragement of staff, curriculum development and implementation, staff development and other various activities.

#### **New Priorities Review:**

The continued review and implementation of the Core Content Standards is ongoing. The review and now the implementation of the Facilities Plan for Franklin School continues to be ongoing. Numerous meetings have taken place with the architect, staff and administration. The Franklin School staff has been included in the planning and have been kept informed through memos and information given at the monthly faculty meeting. The Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Policy and an ongoing review of the students' handbook and agenda planner continues to be addressed. As well, the District's Technology Program, Library Media Skills, Gifted and Talented initiative, technology integration Grade Pro program and website development continued to be implemented. Curriculum guides were updated to reflect any changes to curriculum. In-service training continues to be well-received by the Franklin School staff. Lastly, the administration reviewed the lesson plans to insure Core Curriculum Standards were addressed. All committees made presentations and recommendations to the Board of Education.

#### **Continuing Priorities Review:**

The staff at Franklin School continued the implementation of innovations in a variety of curriculum related areas. Several other important related items

were addressed. In-service training was offered in the use of the Grade Pro grading program, CPR certification, ITIP, I and RS and 504 accommodations and computer integration. Also, mentorship was offered for new staff and administration. In addition, in the areas of English, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies current trends were discussed at monthly faculty meetings. Special Education instructors attended curriculum based department meetings so as to enhance their knowledge of current trends and issues, other noncurricular related items including state mandated directives such as Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) were addressed at each faculty and department meeting. The importance of achieving safe harbor was reiterated at each meeting. The entire staff has worked tirelessly to meet that goal. Also, the emergency management plan, use of the district's website, implementation of all board of education policies and procedures and the EAN contract as it relates to the running of Franklin School were implemented and supervised. Lastly, the monitoring and evaluation of the entire Franklin School staff provided opportunities for professional communication. These ongoing activities, along with 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 plan implementation efforts were continually communicated to the staff of Franklin School by Mr. John Schwarz, Mr. Ian Viemeister and Mrs. Nancy Kehayes. The incorporation of the grade book program has streamlined the grading procedures. In addition, the staff is looking forward to doing homeroom attendance via the computer. Mr. Schwarz and Mr. Viemeister continue to monitor and upgrade our software, CD rooms, and other various items.

The new teacher orientation was well-received and set a positive tone for the 2005-2006 school year. Mrs. Francioso, Mrs. Clerico and Mr. Jones are to be commended for its content, presentation and direction.

The Franklin School staff took advantage of in-service workshops throughout the year. Various staff members attended in-service workshops offered by the district. In addition, many attended workshops outside the district to enhance their professional development. These workshops provided valuable information that could be incorporated into the classroom setting. The staff that attended these workshops shared information at faculty and department meetings throughout the school year. The Franklin School educational program continues to generate and outstanding approach in the education of middle school students focusing on a sound balance between the academic and non-academic areas. Student success is demonstrated by high academic achievement in subject areas: the Johns Hopkins Talent Search, the Seventh Nutley Writing Achievement Test, the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJASK) in grade 7, the Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment (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 attend. Once again, a significant number of seventh and eighth grade students participated in the Johns Hopkins Talent Search Program and received outstanding scores in both math and verbal areas of the SAT. This year the top score in the mathematics area was a 590 with a top score in the verbal area of 540.

Student interest in clubs, intramurals, community and school service, music and arts festival 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 critical age.

In addition to the normal teaching responsibilities, Franklin School teaching staff and administrators continue to be actively involved in curriculum work throughout the year. 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 2005-2006 School Year

Our School Level Objectives were implemented during the 2005-2006 school year. The following details Franklin School:

#### **OBJECTIVE I**

By June of 2006, all students, excluding special education students will achieve the Language Arts Literacy benchmark of 66 during the 2006 administration of the GEPA. Special education students will increase their passing rate from 41.7 to 47.5, thus attaining safe harbor.

Results: During the 2005-2006 school year, monthly meetings were held with all English instructors. Those staff members analyzed skill areas. Classroom lessons and activities were developed that enabled the students to develop the skills needed to successfully complete the school level objective. Practice activities were utilized throughout the school year to reinforce those skill areas. In March the GEPA test was administered to all eighth grade students. As of this time, the results have not been returned to the district.

#### **OBJECTIVE II**

By June of 2006, all students, excluding special education students, will achieve the math benchmark of 49 during the March 2006 administration of GEPA. Special education students will increase their rate of passing from 36.1 to 42.9, thus attaining safe harbor.

Results: During the 2005-2006 school year, monthly meetings were held with all mathematics instructors. Those staff members analyzed skill areas. Classroom lessons and activities were developed that enabled the students to develop the skills needed to successfully complete the school level objective. Practice activities were utilized throughout the school year to reinforce those skill areas. In March, the GEPA test was administered to all eighth grade students. As of this time, the results have not been returned to the district.

#### School Level Objectives for the 2006-2007 School Year

#### **OBJECTIVE I**

By June of 2007, seventy percent of students enrolled in the seventh grade English classes will achieve an average score of three or better on two openended questions that will related 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 2007, seventy percent of students enrolled in all the seventh grade mathematic classes will achieve an average score of three or better on two open-ended questions that 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 suing the Rubric for scoring an open-ended response for the GEPA.

#### Principal's Priorities for the 2006-2007 School Year

The results of the Nutley Writing Test (grade 7), the NJASK (grade 7), and 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 in-service workshops. This information was shared at various faculty and parent meetings. The principal attended the PTO executive board meeting and the general PTO meetings. At those meetings, the school level objectives and other school based 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 the staff. This information was shared with the faculty.

The 2005-2006 school year was a very productive year with many students enjoying the Halloween Dance, the Inaugural Ball and other PTO and school sponsored activities. These activities continue to be well-received and

attended by most of our students and staff. The vocal and instrumental students, once again, provided a variety of numbers during the Holiday, 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 was the culmination of an excellent school year. The large number of clubs has enabled many students to become active in a variety of extra curricular settings. The Franklin School Annual Awards Program recognized the hard work of many students in the areas of scholarship, service, character and leadership.

#### Principal's Priorities for the 2006-2007 School Year

Monitor all construction activities so that they do not interfere with the educational process at Franklin School.

Monitor the conditions in and around the school so that staff and students may enter a safe environment.

Oversee the project and communicate concerns to the project manager.

Give input to the FMS Improvement Plan so that it meets the staff and students' needs.

Encourage staff through in-service workshops to utilize the Grade Proprogram to its fullest.

Begin to incorporate the use of e-mail to inform staff of day-to-day activities at Franklin School.

Develop an eighth grade public speaking class for the 2007-2008 school year.

Review/revise the seventh and eight grade elective programs to align with the Core Contents Standards.

Review and update the Algebra I exam.

Implement the fire drill/emergency evacuation/secure in place plans and practice each as required.

Review the test scores from the NJASK-7, GEPA and Nutley Writing Test.

Assist the staff in the implementation of the Core Curriculum Content 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 with the entire staff.

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

Develop instructional strategies that will assist the special education staff in increasing test scores so that Franklin School will show adequate yearly progress in the GEPA.

Implement the study skills 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 along with the bullying and harassment policies. 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 tool in al the 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 after school curriculum 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 clubs at Franklin School.

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

To: Mr. John Calicchio, Principal of Franklin Middle School

From: Ms. Dianne DeRosa, Coordinator of Language Arts

Date: June 2006

#### 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 used by the judges of the GEPA.
- B. Writing, editing, and reading samples were also given to seventh grade students. Teachers guided students through a detailed writing 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.
- D. The writing achievement test is given to students in the seventh grade in June.

#### II. 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 to their abilities. Students are encouraged to explore writing for a variety of purposes and to write for a variety of audiences. An important element 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 within the classroom setting are the following:

Eighth grade vector students wrote a research paper on an approved topic. Seventh and eighth grade students wrote in their journals on a 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 completed a consumer report research paper.

Students in Mrs. Hardin's and Mrs. Douglas'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.

Basic Skills Program:

The basic skills curriculum provides a strong coordination between the middle school and high school programs.

#### III. Enrichment and staff development

English teachers attended two in-service GEPA workshops on reading and writing strategies. The focus of these workshops was on teacher development of lessons that will strengthen student reading and writing skills.

Several teachers in the department participated in a Grade Pro Workshop.

Member of the department also received attended workshops on the NJ Ask.

Mr. Kocum attended a workshop and forum on urban education held at Montclair State and a workshop on reading comprehension sponsored by ECEA.

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

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

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

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.

#### V. Bookroom

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

#### VI. 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.

To:

Mr. John Calicchio Toby D'Ambola

Subject:

Annual Report - Mathematics Department, Franklin School

Date:

From:

June 1, 2006

#### I. Staff

- A. Departmental statistics indicate that 8 regular teachers taught a total of 38 Math 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 Connie Inguanti taught our Basic Skills classes. Ms Cleary taught two basic skills at the 8<sup>th</sup> grade level and Ms. Inguanti met with students for 20-minute segments during their lunch period. Both teachers worked on their students test taking skills in answering open-ended questions and reinforced the fundamentals of mathematics. Classes were again grouped by grade level.
- B. In September, Mr. Frank Sasso and Ms. Deanna Fredricks joined our math staff full time. Mr. Sasso replaced Ms. Pinto who retired in June 2005 and Ms. Fredricks replaced Gina Masino who was transferred to Washington School. Mr. Sasso taught three 7-2, one 7-V and one 7-4 classes and Ms. Fredricks taught two 8-2 and three 8-3 classes. Both teachers are dedicated teaching professionals that have created positive learning environments in their classrooms. Their willingness to work with their colleagues and the time they spend both before and after school helping and assisting students shows their dedication to the teaching profession. These dedicated individuals have helped to improve the mathematical environment here at the middle school.
- C. This year one our teachers, Sarah Misner, was out on maternity leave from September 1<sup>st</sup> to March 1<sup>st</sup>. Filling in for her was Nicole Ferraro who did an excellent job in teaching her classes. When Mrs. Misner returned, she took over for Mrs. Bevere who left on a medical leave instead of teaching the classes she had taught prior to leaving. Mrs. Misner has a great work ethic and teaching this new schedule allowed us to keep continuity in the other classes, which is so important in the learning of mathematics.

#### II. TESTING

- A. On March 14, 2006 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 2005- 2006 school year indicates that the mean SAT score in mathematics achieved by our students was 440. The following 7<sup>th</sup> grade students received distinction and/or state awards from John Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth: Philip McGovern, Toby Nicastro, Shoko Okabe and Sarah Jo Semper.

Eighth grade students who participated and received awards are: Philip Lam, Lily E. Pfaff and Julia Sinitsky.

#### 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.
- D. In November, 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 mathematics teacher.
- E. 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.

- F. 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-34II scientific calculators were purchased for use in both the seventh and eighth grades. Calculators are 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.
- G. This year we continued offering Algebra I to our seventh grade students. Only two of these students were switched into a 7-vector class after the first marking period. Those students who successfully completed the course will either be taking Accelerated Geometry or Plane Geometry at the high school next year. This program has met with great success with many parents commenting favorably about the challenge it offers their child.

#### III. 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 Nancy Foglio and Bethany Turro.
- 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 24<sup>th</sup> in Algebra I. This contest is held annually with our students in both the middle school and high school competing against thirteen other school districts in Essex County.
- D. Students in all of our math classes participated in the St. Judes Children's Hospital Math-a-thon under the supervision of Jennifer Ambrose and Ann Bevere. 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 \$2,367.00. Mrs. Bevere, Ms. Ambrose and the FMS math department should be congratulated for a job well done.

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

On October 28, 2005 Nancy Foglio and Denise Cleary attended the AMTNJ conference held in Somerset.

Frank Sasso, and Deanna Fredricks attended graduate school helping them to keep up to date with current trends in education.

Jennifer Ambrose, Denise Cleary, Deanna Fredricks and Frank Sasso attended the workshop on Easy Grade Pro.

On January 14, 2006, Denise Cleary attended a workshop given by NJEA on "Dr. Martin Luther King, Human Rights Celebration".

The entire math department attended two GEPA workshops at the high school on January 9<sup>th</sup> and February 28<sup>th</sup> to improve their skills on test taking techniques.

Denise Cleary and Frank Sasso attended the workshop on NJ Ask Training on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Nancy Foglio attended a four-part workshop on "Putting It All Together With Technology" at NJIT.

#### V. DEPARTMENTAL GOALS FOR 2006 – 2007

- 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.

# Franklin Middle School Science Department Annual Report 2005-2006

To: Mr. John Calicchio

From: Mr. Michael Fetherman

Re: Principal's Report for the 2005-2006 Academic Year

Date: June 1, 2006

The Franklin Middle School science department experienced another great year of both progress and change. Mr. Frank Francia continued his growth and development as our middle school's youngest staff member, and Ms. Alison Yacullo continues to impress as she enjoyed her second full year as tenured member of our team. It should be noted that both Ms. Yacullo and Mr. Francia have made a tremendously positive impact on the students in our Middle School, and are a pleasure to work along side outside of the classroom, as well. Mrs. Lynn Zazzali has proven herself worthy as long-term substitute for one of our veteran staff members, Ms. Neilley, who has progressed steadily towards a return in the Fall. Mrs. Love, Mr. Bertuzzi and Mr. Libert have again lived up to their titles as master teachers, and our students are the better for sharing their learning experiences in their classrooms.

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 2005-2006 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, regular and vector levels of science. Our Middle School curriculum emphasizes four areas of study: life, physical, earth and environmental science, and the following is a section-by-section look at the science department documenting the class, number of sections and instructor.

#### Teacher: Mr. Joseph Bertuzzi

Mr. Bertuzzi taught five sections of eighth grade science, three of which were "regular," the other two sections were "vector."

#### Teacher: Mr. Frank Francia

Mr. Francia taught five sections of seventh/eighth grade science, three of which were seventh grade "regular" science ed., one of which was seventh grade "vector" and the other a "regular" ed. eighth grade course.

Visited the Turtle Back Zoo and Weiss Ecology Centers

Toured the Museum of Natural History

Attended Strategies for Teaching Astronomy in the Classroom seminar at Liberty Science Center Participated in numerous technology (Easy Grade Pro) in-service seminars

Served as Assistant Head Varsity Boys' Soccer Coach (Montclair HS) – Mr. Bertuzzi

Served as Junior Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach (NHS) – Mr. Francia

Served as Head Varsity Baseball Coach (Bergen Tech HS) – Mr. Francia

In addition to the aforementioned extracurricular activities, all of our staff members displayed their students' science projects throughout the school reinforcing the curriculum.

#### IV. Concerns for the Future

The science department continues its commitment to the students of our district and their achievement throughout their middle school years. Their lessons reflect careful planning and execution with constant focus on curricular objectives and state standards.

Staff members have eagerly contributed their efforts to assist in the transition to our new science rooms, as the dramatic renovations planned have commenced and are currently underway. Packaging of materials and the discarding of waste have been performed in advance of our new distribution of science classrooms (on both the second and third floors) as additional material has been ordered in anticipation of this novel format.

To continue to meet the challenges of our dynamic middle school learners, considerations are underway for new textbooks designed to maximize the effectiveness of learning experiences as well as meet the needs of our changing curricula and state standards. While textbooks should not drive curriculum, they can be an integral part of the overall presentation of our students' experiences, and as such should be of the highest quality and user friendliness.

Additionally, in an effort to enhance the vertical alignment of our K-6 and Middle School curricula, it is now more necessary than ever that we take on the challenges and reap the rewards of calendar-based curriculum mapping. Dialogue has begun to promote articulation between our primary and middle school educators, and we can reasonably presuppose that the learning experiences of our youngsters will profit from this worthwhile endeavor.

# Franklin Middle School Principal's Report 2005 - 2006

To: Mr. John Calicchio, Principal

Date: June 7, 2006

From: Mr. Robert O'Dell

Social Studies Coordinator

The Social Studies Department at the Franklin Middle School maintained a strong curriculum that enabled students to meet the goals, objectives, and proficiencies of social studies education. The department offered four courses divided into 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 310 seventh grade students and 357 eighth grade students.

#### I. Curriculum

The department continued to implement a curriculum that was designed in accordance with the then current 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 continued infusion of technology into classroom instruction, as the department utilized laptop computers and wireless networking capabilities. Use of software such as *Inspiration!* and Microsoft Publisher was also realized.

During the past year, the department revised the Grade Eight curriculum to focus upon world history from the origins of civilization to the fifteenth century of the Common Era. This was accomplished with the efforts and expertise of four faculty members and the Social Studies Coordinator. This initiative was in accordance with the revised New Jersey Curriculum Standards and the announced preference by the state Coordinator for Social Studies for an "Essential Questions" curriculum model.

#### 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 in the eighth grade. The

department is currently considering means of evaluating the increased infusion of reading into the curriculum, as well as the retention of geography skills. 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. Curriculum development workshops.
- 2. Graduate courses at Caldwell College
- 3. New Jersey Network for Educational Renewal
- 4. Workshops on Substance Abuse
- 5. Workshop in gangs.
- 6. The New Jersey Council for the Social Studies 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
  - 7. Great Documents display in individual classrooms
- F. Oral History Project Interviews World War II veterans and Vietnam veterans
- 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.
- M. Creation of colonial newspapers, using Microsoft Publisher
- N. Multimedia student projects and presentations on the American Revolution
- M. Biographies
- O. PowerPoint presentations

#### V. Textbook Management

- A. Textbook age, condition and inventory are continually monitored
- B. Copyright dates of the two texts being used:
  - 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, and to have the latter items mounted in each social studies classroom. In addition, the department would like to increase the number of age - appropriate supplemental readings available for the students, as well as current atlases. In addition, in-service workshops to facilitate the implementation of the new Grade Eight curriculum are requested. Mr. O'Dell is willing to instruct such sessions. As always, the department is encouraged by the ongoing support of Mr. Calicchio and the administration towards the realization of these goals.

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

#### **MEMORANDUM**

To: Mr. John Calicchio, Principal of Franklin Middle School

From: John Vitkovsky, Music Coordinator

Subject: Annual Music Report 2005 - 2006

The following are activities of the 2005 - 2006 school year, present concerns, and recommendations that are being submitted for your review and consideration.

#### **ACTIVITIES**

- 1. I am pleased to report that once again, more than half of the Middle School's students are involved in the music program. This year's enrollment remained the same for the Concert Choir, the FMS Debonaires, and the Chorale. Enrollment was down a little for the Band and the Orchestra,
- 2. The Franklin Select Concert Choir had an outstanding year. The concert schedule for the year included: the Northern N.J. Region I Choral Festival, the Mayor's Tree Lighting, the Franklin School Holiday Concert and Assembly, and the Spring Choral Festival at Nutley High. On the weekend of May 19 21 the Concert Choir participated at the Williamsburg Choral Festival and received a first place trophy as well as the best choir of the festival. The Concert Choir will bring its concert season to a close performing at the Franklin Eighth Grade Promotion.
- 3. The Franklin Chorale also had a fine year. Led by their director, Ms. Nicole San Giovanni, this vocal group performed at the Franklin School Holiday Concert and Assembly, and the Spring Choral Festival.
- 4. This year, the Madrigal Singers were enthusiastically received at: the Mayor's Tree Lighting, the Franklin School Holiday Concert and Assembly, and the Spring Choral Festival. The Madrigal Singers also performed at Williamsburg Choral Festival and received a First Place Trophy.

#### Music Dept. Annual Report - Franklin Middle School

- 5. The Debonaires had an excellent year. This all girl chorus performed at the Franklin School Holiday Concert, Holiday Assembly, the Spring Choral Festival, and the Williamsburg Choral Festival.
- 6. The Franklin Band, Jazz Band, and Orchestra gave excellent performances at the Franklin Holiday Concert and Assembly and at the Spring Musicale. In December and March the Franklin Jazz Band performed for the senior citizens at the Parkside Manor. The FMS Jazz Band together with seven FMS instrumental ensembles performed at the Music Boosters Café Night. The FMS Band earned a gold medal at the NJ Region I Concert Band Competition. At the Jackson, New Jersey Music In The Parks Competition both the FMS Concert Band and Jazz Band were awarded first place trophies as well as the Overall Best Concert Band and Overall Best Jazz Band Awards. These outstanding groups scored higher than every Middle School group they faced in competition (as well as a high school). On Friday, May 14th the Franklin School Band participated in the Band Festival at Six Flags Great Adventure and received a superior rating trophy. The Band will once again march in the Nutley Memorial Day Parade.
- 7. Workshops: During the February Mid Winter Vacation Mr. McPartland and Mr. Vitkovsky attended the NJ Music Educators Convention and Workshops.

#### **CONCERNS**

As each year goes by with meager increases in the budget, due to state mandated budget caps, the inventory of instruments at Franklin School gets older. A number of instruments are thirty to forty years old. Even though we send instruments for repair on a regular basis, their age prohibits them from staying in playable condition. We definitely need to replace these old instruments.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

We need to replace the old instruments in our inventory (those that are thirty to forty years old) with new ones.

# FRANKLIN MIDDLE SCHOOL NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY WORLD LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

TO:

Mr. John Calicchio, Principal of Franklin Middle School

FROM:

Mr. Ciro Violante, Coordinator of the World Languages Department

SUBJECT:

Annual Report, 2005-06

#### I. Statistical Data

- 1. Approximately 50%, seventh graders were enrolled in Latin, Spanish, and Italian level 1A. Approximately 48% eighth graders were enrolled in Latin IB, Italian IB, Spanish IB,
- 2. Four staff members of whom two itinerant taught 16 sections of 2 course offerings of Italian, French, Spanish, and Latin, levels 1A and 1B
- 3. With the retirement of Mrs. Gebbie the Latin teacher, Mr. Di Cristo the new Latin teacher has made a big contribution to the Latin program at the middle school. He has taught two classes of Latin IA and two classes of Latin IB. He has also visited Yantacaw School to promote the Latin program to 6<sup>th</sup> graders.
- 4. Mrs. D'Urso the new Spanish and Italian teacher for the middle and high school, as an itinerant has taught two classes of Spanish IA at the middle school and three classes of Italian at the high school. She came as a substitute during the 2004-05 school year to replace Mrs. Schiavone when she went on maternity leave. Mrs. D'Urso was hired as a full time teacher in September 2006. She has been a great addition to the world language department.
- 5. Mrs. Maria Muñiz-Bermo mentored Mr. Di Cristo as a new teacher in the system.

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

1. Mrs. Schiavone's Italian classes attended performances of Operas "Aida" and "La Traviata" by composer Giuseppe Verdi, and "Cosí fan Tutte" by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart at the Metropolitan Opera, Lincoln center, New York City.

2. 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.

#### 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 students 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, they have a propensity to do better in other subjects.

# BUSINESS and CREATIVE ARTS DEPARTMENT Franklin Middle School YEARLY REPORT 2005-2006

## **Accomplishments:**

- 1. Mrs. Hill sponsored 8<sup>th</sup> grade Art League, 7<sup>th</sup> grade Artist Club, and the Animal Planet Club.
- 2. Mrs. Hill supervised continuing exhibits in the main showcase and created lobby displays.
- 3. Mrs. Hill organized the Art Fest exhibition for celebration of the Arts with the assistance of Mrs. Maniscalco.
- 4. Ms. Hill started a 4H Hopefuls Horse Care Club.
- 5. Ms. Hill continued to coordinate the applications process for 7<sup>th</sup> grade Fine Arts and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Advanced Art.
- 6. Ms. Hill assisted in evaluating applications for the new high school art teachers.
- 7. Mrs. Dorfman displayed computer generated work in the main display case.
- 8. Mrs. Dorfman and Ms. Cleary were members of the Technology Curriculum Committee. They updated the curriculum for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade Keyboarding, 7<sup>th</sup> grade Computer Applications, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Applied Computer Technology elective in accordance with the new State Standards for technology.
- 9. Ms. Cleary got a new textbook "Learning with Computers" and has used it to integrate technology with academic subject areas.
- 10. Ms. Dorfman assisted with the Easy Grade Pro workshops.

To: Mr. John Calicchio

From: Mr. Christopher Chern

Re: 2005-2006 Annual Report Health and Physical Education Department

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

- Mr. Christopher Chern teaches two 8th 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 had a student teacher for the second half of the school year (health classes only). Mr. Chern also chaperones many extra-curricular activities at the middle school and assisted with the central detention program. Mr. Chern is also the Chairperson for the I & RS team.
- 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 varsity golf coach at Nutley High School this past year. Mr. Grant also 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 8th the grade health classes. She also is the JV girl's basketball and head softball coach at Nutley High School. Ms. Zullo sponsors the softball club. 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.
- Mrs. Jennifer Citerella teaches two 8<sup>th</sup> grade physical education classes, two seventh grade physical education classes and two 7<sup>th</sup> grade health classes. Mrs. Citerella is on leave; Ms. Gina Tucci

substituted for Mrs. Citerella for the past year. Instruction was not affected.

The physical education curriculum was implemented by offering the students a choice in team-sport based actives or lifetime-based activities 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). Each student was fitness tested 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 the building will 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 and cooperative educational activities.

Pedometers were used as a part of our cardio fitness unit. Pedometers will become a valuable piece of equipment for the physical education program in the future.

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 they skill goals. The teachers monitored and adjusted the lesson when appropriate. At the conclusion the class had a brief review of the day and when possible were given a preview of the next days class.

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.

Because of construction normal physical education classes ended the week of May 15th. Students affected by this will receive an excused grade (X) for marking period four. Their overall grade will be based on two marking periods of physical education instead of three.

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

The use of 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 student's 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 addition of textbooks has greatly improved all aspects of our health education classes.

# Recommendations

- 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.
- Involve staff in the transition form our current facility to our new facility.
- Prepare for the possibility that that physical education may be affected during construction for an extended period of time. This may have a profound affect on the rest of the school because of the large number of students in each physical education class.

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:

Mr. Joseph Zarra

DATE:

June 30, 2006

FROM:

Cynthia Anne Healy, Principal, Lincoln School

SUBJECT:

Principal's Annual Report-School Year 2005-2006

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

## **District Curriculum Priorities**

#### **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
- Language Arts Literacy Program K-3
- Implementation of "Family Life"
- Character Education Program K-12
- State Mandated School Level Objectives
- Alternate Instructional Strategies in Math 1-6
- Implementation of District Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Program
- Implementation of Library Media Curriculum K-12

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

- Instructional Theory into Practice K-12
- Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS) and 504
- Technology Tidbits
- Kidspiration-A Graphic Organizer
- Character Education K-12
- Elementary Assessment NJ ASK 3 and 4
- Four Square Writing Method
- Mentoring Program
- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Procedures
- Affirmative Action Policies
- Introduction to Differentiated Instruction: Managing the Differentiated Classroom

# Curriculum development occurred in the following areas:

- Language Arts Literacy K-3
- Mathematics 5&6

# **Testing**

The results of the Nutley Writing Achievement Test, the 2006 A.S.K., and the Terra Nova Test were carefully reviewed. Plans for continued success and improvement have been designed. These include several school-wide initiatives, which focus 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 2005-2006**

During the 2005-2006 school year, students in grades kindergarten through fourth (K-4) demonstrated proficiency in the area of physical science. 95% of the students scored 80% or better on a grade-specific, teacher constructed assessments.

Students in grades five and six demonstrated proficiency in mathematical concepts as demonstrated in solving open-ended questions. 99% of the students received a score of 80% or better on the grade-specific assessments.

The students of Lincoln School successfully met the 2005-2006 school level objectives.

# **School Level Objectives 2006-2007**

By June 2007, students in grades kindergarten and first (K&1) will demonstrate proficiency in writing as demonstrated through a writing assessment. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assessment. A rubric will be used to score the writing assignment.

By June 2007, students in grades two through six (2-6) will demonstrate proficiency in writing as demonstrated through writing assessments given throughout the year (November, February and May). A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve an average score of 80% on all three teacher-developed assessments. A rubric will be used to score each writing assignment.

# **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 during the 2005-2006 year.

4 Square Writing Workshop

**Access Abilities** 

**ADHD Seminar** 

**Affirmative Action** 

Art & Cultural Workshop

**ASK Preparation Workshop** 

Basic Skills Development Management

Centering in Math: Ideas for Creating & Implementing Math Centers K-2

Conducted Family Math Program

**Curriculum Mapping** 

Differentiated Instruction Workshop

**Family Science** 

History of Special Education. And the Law

Joyce Glatzer Workshop

Kean University IEL 5607

Kidspiration

Language Literature Curriculum Revision

Math Committee

Math-Language Arts-Music

Math-Literacy Centers

Math-Reading Workshop

Mentoring Interns

MSU Integrating Critical Thinking into Curriculum

MSU Study Group

Multi-tasking for Math NJ ASK

Non-Fiction Reading in Elementary Classrooms

One Step Web Page

**Priorities Report** 

**SAC Meetings** 

Sagebrush Training

Simple Machines

Special Ed. Teacher as Collaborator

Spring 2006 NJ ASK Training

**Teacher Study Group** 

Teachers Exchange

Theories of teaching, learning, reading for students with needs

Underglazing Techniques Workshop

Wilson Workshop In Service

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**

Through out the year the children and staff have participated in many different projects and programs. Here are some of the highlights:

# **Author Program**

We were very lucky to have several authors/illustrators visit our school this year. One of the school's goals is to increase our students writing skills and what better way to do this then to see and hear how published authors follow the writing process. In the fall, Mr. Dan Gutman was our highlighted author. His extensive booklist includes many favorites such as <u>Jackie and Me</u> and <u>Mrs. Roopy is Loopy</u>. Mr. Herman Parrish brought Amelia Bedelia to Lincoln in the winter. This lovable character created by his aunt Peggy Parrish continues to be a childhood favorite as Mr. Parrish continues the series. Our last author and illustrator was Robert Goetzel who explored the world of non-fiction for our older children.

# **Team Up Against Drugs**

As part of the district's drug and violence prevention initiative our students viewed a program – Code of Conduct. The children later created team jerseys and slogans that warned against negative behaviors. The homerooms also created violence free pledges, which were displayed near the school's entrance.

### **Lincoln Newsletter**

Each month teachers and specialists wrote a short article for our Lincoln School Newsletter, which highlighted the activities that occurred in their classrooms or department. The parents enjoyed this up close look at the month's events. The newsletter was also available on the Lincoln School website.

## **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.

# **Lincoln School Olympics**

During the first week of the Olympics, students participated in classroom activities that exposed them to both the history of the Olympics and the 2006 Games in Turin. An academic Olympics also took place throughout the school. The classes were split into three teams, These Red, White and Blue teams competed in various mental challenges such as Bobsled Banter and Turino Trivia. Each morning that day's event was distributed and the scores of each team were calculated by the end of the day. Medals were awarded and placed on the main bulletin board. The gold, silver and bronze medals

were assigned a point value. The children worked as a team and enjoyed observing and calculating the daily count. Extra playtime was awarded to each team based on its ranking.

### **Author-Herman Parrish**

Author and illustrator Herman Parrish visited Lincoln School at the end of February. Mr. Parrish signed books for the students and a full set of his work was purchased for our Library/Media Center.

# Women's History-Clara Barton's Day

Last year Mayor Cocchiola presented Lincoln School with a proclamation stating that April 12 was declared Clara Barton Day in the Township of Nutley. To honor this event the Student Council conducted a food and toiletries drive.

# A Night in the Coral Reef

The students and teachers were asked to research the diversity present in the coral reef. Each classroom teacher integrated this project into their grade level curriculum and created displays for the hallway based on their students' research. As a culminating event, Lincoln School hosted a science night on May 5<sup>th</sup> filled with reef-based activities for the students. Over four hundred people attended the event and enjoyed the various programs such as Aquatic Touch Tanks, a Scuba Demonstration, Coral Reef Web Quests and Squid/Octopus Observation. A donation of \$500.00 was sent to Reef Relief from the sale of fish ring pops and lighted fish keychains.

# 4th Grade Astronomy Program

The fourth grade in conjunction with Raritan Valley Community College participated in an Astronomy Program, which consisted of bi-weekly visits from Bill Gaydos, a certified amateur astronomer. Mr. Gaydos works at ITT in Nutley and volunteered his services for this exciting program. He brought various telescopes and materials to the class and integrated astronomy into the students' science and social studies lessons.

# 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. Danielle Ferraro 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 or measurement. The BSIP teachers visited each math class and taught an inclusion lesson, which explored the theme using manipulatives. They also left 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 is the third year the children have been participating in the program and it will continue next year.

### 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 performances. Mr. Baron Raymonde continues to be a wonderful addition to our school. Interest in our-instrumental program has increased. Our audience reviews have been favorable.

# **Academically Speaking Team**

A team of sixth grade students participated in the district-wide competition. Mrs. Dolores Contreras served as faculty advisor and the students demonstrated positive sportsmanship and a command of trivia facts.

### Canine Unit

The New Jersey Transit Canine Unit visited our primary students in the spring. The children were able to pet one of the *canine* officers, as his partner discussed their role in law enforcement.

# 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. We feel the students benefited from the perspective each woman brought to the panel.

### **Battle of the Books**

The fifth and sixth grade classes 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 questions based on their understanding of the various books. The program was extremely successful and it improved comprehension skills and encouraged cooperative learning. The students and faculty believed the program was a worthwhile experience. The program will be continued next year.

## **Ouails**

To increase their observation, writing and language skills students in the primary grades cared for quail eggs during the early spring. The children were able to see twelve healthy chicks hatch and develop. The older children, though not as involved in the process, also observed during lunch and after school.

#### Grants

Several members of our staff received grants from the Nutley Business People for the Advancement of Technology in Education. We are honored to receive these gifts that will increase technology in the classroom.

# **Programs Supporting our Community**

Approximately every six weeks our school sponsors a drive to help a needy cause. The following are a few examples of the different programs that we have had this past year:

Thanksgiving Food and Clothing Drive - St. John's Homeless Shelter Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade students visited this soup kitchen once a month and helped prepare food for the homeless.

# Toys for Tots /Treasure Chest-Nutley

Mrs. Thunell, in conjunction with Mayor Cocchiola's office, collected unwrapped toys for our most needy families and helped distribute them before Christmas.

### The Elves and the Shoemaker-St. Johns

Each homeroom read the fairytale, <u>The Elves and the Shoemaker</u> as part of our holiday "Generosity" theme this year. Then each child creatively decorated various types of shoes with hopeful messages that were displayed on a school tree. The children placed boots, shoes and slippers in boxes under the tree as donations for the needy.

# **Katrina Relief - Nutley Red Cross**

The Student Council sold "mood" pens and pencils this fall in order to raise money to assist the victims of Hurricane Katrina. We also had a penny drive using large water bottles for each grade level. We raised over \$4,000 for the victims, which was added to the town collection.

# St. Baldrick's Day-Nutley

The Student Council sold shamrock lollipops to raise funds to sponsor Mr. Brendel, a Lincoln parent and Nutley fireman who participation in the town-wide event. The donations will be used to help fight childhood cancer.

#### Coral Reef/Rainforest Preservation-

As part of a school-wide enrichment project, we sold Earth Day t-shirts in order to purchase/protect land in the rainforest and preserve sections of the coral reef.

# **ShopRite Earth Awareness**

The children decorated brown shopping bags with colorful pictures and slogans in order to remind Nutley residents to protect the coral reef and its wildlife.

# Katrina Dog Assistance

The Animal Club conducted a pet supply drive to help a Katrina dog at St. John's Church. Many homeless pets will benefit because the collection was so successful.

# **High School Integrated Work Study**

We were extremely lucky this year to work with Mrs. Romaglia and her students from NHS. Every afternoon a team of caring and responsible students came to our school to serve as helpers in our primary classrooms. They performed many important tasks and were extremely well received by the staff and children. We look forward to another year with this program.

# Health and Safety

Several programs were conducted in order to promote healthy choices and lifestyles.

### **Substance Education**

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.

### **Social Skills**

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

# **Health Screenings**

Mrs. Margaret Brodowski conducted scoliosis screening for students in grades five and six and vision/hearing screening for all children. She participated in the I&RS team and worked individually with children who had health and hygiene concerns.

# Jump for Heart

Mr. Thomas Garguilo conducted our Jump for Heart program this year. For the third year in a row the children participated in seven cardiovascular stations that promoted healthy behaviors and fun! The event raised over \$4,000.00 for the American Heart Association.

# Class Trips

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

- Kindergarten-Felician College Theatre, New York Aquarium, Liberty State Park,
   Paper Mill Playhouse, Nutley Police & Fire Dept.
- Grade 1-The Williams Center, Jenkinson's Pavilion, N.J. PAC, Heaven Hills Farm
- Grade 2-Montclair State University, Madison Museum of Crafts & Trades, Newark Museum
- Grade 3-Jenkinson's Aquarium, Waterloo Village
- Grade 4-Shop-Rite of Bloomfield, Franklin Mineral Mines, Symphony Hall
- Grade 5-Bloomfield College-Westminister Hall
- Grade 6-Fairview Lake YMCA Camp
- \*SLD Classes-Von Thun Farm, Felician College Theatre, Jenkinson's Aquarium

<sup>\*</sup>Students from the SLD classes were also included in the trips that were planned by their "buddy classes".

# **Lincoln Clubs**

The following are a list of the clubs offered this year:

#### Advanced Recorder Ensemble-Mrs. Carol Bender

This club was designed for students who wished to continue playing the soprano recorder. They learned advanced two part music and performed at selected concerts.

### 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. Club members raised funds to help the animal victims of Huricane Katrina.

### 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 decorations for all school musicales and school wide projects such as A Night in the Coral Reef.

#### 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-Mr. Kenneth Ferriol

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 raised funds to purchase playground equipment such as balls, hula-hoops and basketball hoops.

### Old World Crafts -Mrs. Kimberly Algieri

The students learned basic stitches used in the lost art of crocheting. Their fine motor muscles were strengthened as they mastered the various stitches and created crochet squares, which became blankets or scarves. The students have asked that the club continue into next year.

Second Grade Reading Club- Mrs. Kathy Koribanick / Mrs. Noelle Orsini Gunthel Many of our second grade students participated in this exciting book club. The children read the classic Stuart Little during their lunch period and participated in several language based activities.

# **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 our outgoing President Lisa DeFabbi and the entire Board for their tireless efforts on behalf of our school. I look forward to another successful year.

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
- Olympic Pizza Lunch
- Jeopardy Assembly
- Author Assembly
- A Night in the Coral Reef refreshments and additional materials
- Sixth Grade Activities and Dance
- Movie Nights
- Talent Show
- Spring Dance
- Mother's Day Plant Sale
- Jackals Baseball Game
- Author Assemblies
- Coral Reef Touch Tank

The following list contains a few examples of the wonderful gifts The Lincoln PTO has purchased for our school. The entire staff appreciates their efforts and are grateful for the materials they generously have donated to the school.

- Nystrom Maps, Globes,
- Nystrom Atlas Program
- Digital Camera
- Battle of the Books Sets for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>
- Listening Stations
- Trivia Buzzer
- Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten manipulatives
- Defibrillator

## **Concerns**

Lincoln School will continue to need additional attention due to its age and the everincreasing population. Several areas on the playground blacktop need to be resurfaced in order to prevent serious student and staff injuries. 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. I would like to recognize the Lincoln students for their enthusiasm and willingness to do their best.

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. 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. I wish Miss Hirsch health and happiness as she begins her retirement.

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 appreciate the efforts Mrs. Maria Alamo, our Lincoln School Board of Education Representative, has made on behalf of our school and the insight she brought to our PTO meetings and events.

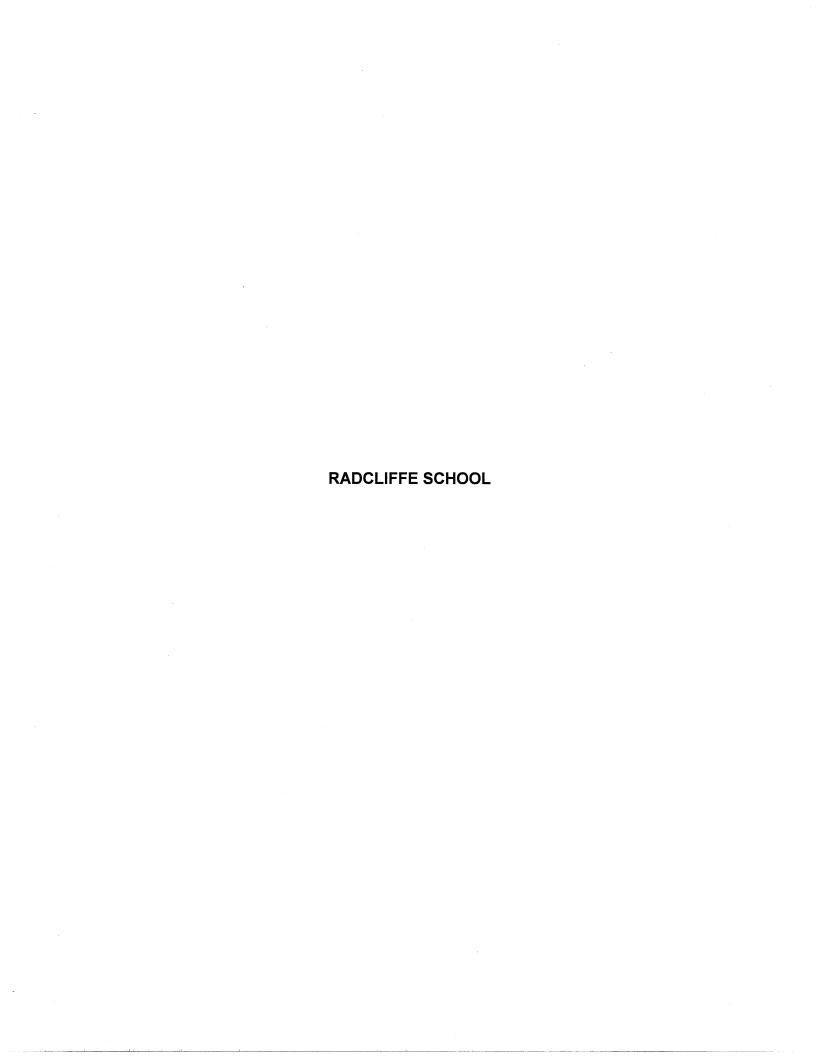
I would especially like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Joseph Zarra, Superintendent of Schools for his professional advice, enthusiasm and leadership. His dedication to Nutley's students, families, and staff is a constant in this time of educational change. I look forward to an exciting and educationally rewarding 2006-2007 school year.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Anne Healy

Principal, Lincoln School

June 30, 2006



# **NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

RADCLIFFE SCHOOL NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

TO:

Mr. Joseph Zarra

DATE: June 30, 2006

FROM:

Mariana C. Francioso, Principal, Radcliffe School

# RE: <u>Principal's Annual Report - School Year 2005/2006</u>

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 Model/District Emergency Management Plan
- Language Arts Literacy Program K 3
- Implementation of "Family Life"
- Character Education Program K-12
- State Mandated School Level Objectives
- Alternate Instructional Strategies in Math 1 6
- Implementation of District harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Program
- Implementation of Library Media Curriculum K-12

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

- Instructional Theory into Practice K-12
- Intervention & Referral Services (I&RS) and 504
- Technology Tidbits
- Kidspiration-A Graphic Organizer
- Character Education K-12
- Elementary Assessment –New Jersey ASK 3 and 4
- Four Square Writing Method
- Mentoring Program
- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Procedures
- Affirmative Action Policies
- Introduction to Differentiated Instruction: Managing the Differentiated Classroom

Curriculum Development occurred in the following areas:

- Language Arts Literacy K 3
- Mathematics 5 6
- Gifted and Talented K 3

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 - 2005-2006 School Year

By June 2006, students in grades kindergarten through four (K-4) demonstrated proficiency in science, targeting the area of Physical Science. A minimum of 80% of the students achieved a score of 88% or better on a teacher-constructed assessment. A rubric was used to score open-ended questions.

By June 2006, students in grades five through six (5-6) demonstrated proficiency in mathematical concepts, as demonstrated in solving open-ended questions. A minimum of 80% of the students achieved a score of 90% or better on a teacher-developed assessment. A rubric was used to score the open-ended questions.

### **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 2006-2007 school year:

By June 2007, students in grades kindergarten through first (K-1) will demonstrate proficiency in writing as demonstrated through a writing assessment. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assessment. A rubric will be used to score the writing assignment.

By June 2007, students in grades two through six (2-6) will demonstrate proficiency in writing as demonstrated through writing assessments given throughout the year (November, February and May.) A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve an average score of 80% on all three teacher-developed assessments. A rubric will be used to score each writing assignment.

## **School Activities**

# PTO Open House - Tuesday, September 20, 2005

Our annual open house was September 20, 2005. The teachers were in attendance, along with Mr. Gerry Del Dufo, our board representative.

# New Parent Meeting - Tuesday, September 20, 2005

The New Parent Meeting was held before the open house.

## Annual Family Picnic - September 10, 2005

The annual Radcliffe School PTO Family Picnic was held on Saturday, September 10, 2005. This event continues to be a favorite of the new families and the families that are presently attending Radcliffe.

## Fire Prevention Week - October 3 - 7, 2005

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 3 – 7, 2005

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

#### Red Ribbon Week

Red Ribbon Week began on Saturday, October 22, 2005, and went through the following week, ending on Halloween, October 31, 2005. Red bracelets were handed out to all of the students and staff to support "Just Say No to Drugs", by our Elementary Guidance Counselor, Mrs. Nancy Thunell.

### Parent Visitation Day – Friday, November 18, 2005

Parent Visitation Day was Friday, November 19, 2004 for Kindergarten through Sixth Grades for the American Education Week festivities.

#### 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. Nancy Thunell.

#### American Education Week

American Education Week was celebrated the week of November 14, 2005, with Parent Visitation Day was held on Friday, November 18. Parent conferences were held on Tuesday, November 15 and Thursday, November 17.

## Holiday Music Program

Our holiday music program was held on Wednesday, December 14, 2005, 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 Mrs. Gennace and Mrs. Szura.

# Read Across America — March 2 — March 10, 2006

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, Thursday, March 2. Again this year, Mrs. Michele Cristantiello, coordinated the program, along with Miss Danine Osetto and Miss Pavlecka, both Basic Skills teachers. 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 2006/07 was the week of March 5 - 10, 2006, in the Radcliffe Library, along with the other elementary schools. Kindergarten orientation was held the night of the Board of Elections, Tuesday, April 18, at 7:30 P.M. in the kindergarten classroom, with Miss Holly Moscaritola, Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Virginia Reilly, Mrs. Toni-Ann Sullivan, 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 Mr. Thomas Grant.

#### Women in History - Assembly

This year's assembly was held on Monday, March 13, 2006, with women dignitaries from the town of Nutley coming to speak to the fifth and sixth graders.

## Spring Musicale – grades 3– 4

The annual musicale for the grades three and four was held on Wednesday, April 5, 2006, under the direction of the choral director. It was an entertaining and enjoyable evening.

### **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 - Wilson Reading, Family Science

Kindergarten - D.DiGiacomo - Wilson Reading

First Grade – S.Neri – Wilson Reading, Mathematics Workshop, Guiding Reading Workshop, Language Arts Workshop

First Grade - M. Cristantiello – "Read Across America" for the entire district, Wilson Reading, Math Test Development,

First Grade - S.Zaros - Wilson Reading, Family Science

Second Grade – G.Kahn – Affirmative Action, Confronting Hatred Workshop, Differentiating Instruction

Second Grade - L. Moscaritola - Wilson Reading, Math Test Development, Science Curriculum

Second Grade - M.Strumolo - Battle of the Books

Third Grade - S. Hagert - Gift & Talented, Four Square Workshop

Third Grade – P. Conry – Math Test Development, Mathematics Curriculum Committee, Wilson Reading

Fourth Grade - C.Jousset - Wilson Reading, Family Math

Fourth Grade - C. Perrone- Math Test Development, LapTop Workshop

Fourth Grade – V.Sautter – Computer Web Page

Fifth Grade – M. Balistsos – Wilson Reading

Fifth Grade - E. Napoli - Family Math & Family Science, Student Council

Fifth Grade - C.Cullari - Family Math

Sixth Grade - A. Gennace - Peer Mediators, LapTop Workshop

Sixth Grade - N. Szura - Law Fair Club w/ Mrs. Julie Viola, PTO President

Library – J.Gambaro – Family Math & Family Science, Student Council

# Spring Musicale - grades 5 - 6

On Thursday, May 18, 2006, Miss Rachel Klem led the fifth and sixth grades in their Spring Musicale. The Chorale performed under the direction of Miss Klem and the fifth and sixth grades orchestra and band performed under the direction of Mr. Raymonde. This musicale was a complete success.

#### Clubs

Animal Kindness Club – Mrs. Gail Kahn, Sponsor
Battle of the Books – Mrs. Maria Strumolo, Sponsor
Chess Club – Mr. Michael Pace, Sponsor
Chorale – Miss Rachel Klem, Sponsor
From the Inside Out Club – Miss Carla Cullari/Miss Holly Moscaritola
Homework Helpers Club – Miss Danine Osetto/Miss Erika Pavlecka
Human Relations Club, Miss Carla Cullari/Miss Holly Moscaritola
Law Fair Club – Mrs. Nancy Szura, Sponsor
Peer Mediators' Club – Mrs. Alisa Gennace
Peer Tutoring Club – Mrs. Gail Kahn/Mrs. Nancy Szura, Sponsors
Recorder Club – Miss Rachel Klem
Safety Patrols – Mrs. Nancy Szura, Sponsor
School Spirit Club – Mrs. Ellen Napoli, Sponsor
Student Council – Miss Jainine Gambaro, Sponsor
Wildlife Club – Mrs. Linda Moscara, Sponsor

# **Teacher Achievements (Continued)**

Physical Education - J. Alessio - Physical Education workshops

Basic Skills – D.Osetto – Wilson Reading, Four Square Workshop Read Across America

Basic Skills – E.Pavlecka – Wilson Reading, Four Square Workshop Read Across America

**Special Programs** 

Kindergarten The Kindergarten Promotion was held on Wednesday,

June 21, 2006.

The students presented a "Stars & Stripes" theme for the

promotion program.

Grades K - 2 Holiday Musicale - held on December 14, 2005 and was

conducted by Miss Klem. The 5th & 6th grade Band students

performed under the directions of Mr. Raymonde.

Grades 3 - 4 Spring Musicale - held on April 5, 2006 and was conducted

by Miss Rachel Klem.

Grades 5 – 6 Spring Musicale – held on May 18, 2006, and was

conducted by Miss Klem and Orchestra and Band performed

under the directions of Mr. Raymonde.

Grade 5 "Battle of the Books" – under the direction of Mrs. Maria Strumolo

Grade 6 Law Fair under the directions of Mrs. Nancy Szura

**Class/ClubTrips** Each grade participated in a curriculum-related field trip.

The following reflects the year-at-a-glance:

Kindergarten

DJ Program & Picnic

First Grade

Pen Pals with Washington School & Outragesss Pets

Second Grade

Lincoln Center & Nutley Public Library

Third Grade

Nutley Museum / Franklin Reformed Cemetery,

Museum of Early Trades and Crafts

Fourth Grade

Franklin Mineral Mines

Fifth Grade

Ocean Institute at Sandy Hook, NJ

Sixth Grade

The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, PA

Animal Club

Lakota Wolf Preserve

Law Fair Club

NJ Law Center, New Brunswick & Nutley Municipal Court

Human Relations

St. John's Church - feed the homeless

### **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 2005/06 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 2006/07 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, 2006 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 Miss Rosanna Tangorra, on Friday, June 16, 2006.

#### **Presidential Achievement Awards**

The awards, presented for Presidential Achievement, were given to sixth grade students at the Awards Assembly Program on June 16, 2006. 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. Chagnon and Mrs. Viola, who led the organization through two very successful years. The new officers are as follows:

President: Toni Ann Sullivan

Co-Vice Presidents: Filomena Contella & Dina Pizzano

Recording Secretary: Ingrid DiPasquale Corresponding Secretary: Lia Zangari

Treasurer: Jodi DeMaio

### P.T.O. Activities

Radcliffe School P.T.O. Presidents, Lisa Chagnon and Julie Viola, led the organization through the following events. Some activities were a first-time event, but the overall concensus was that the organization was very active and successful.

## Assembly Programs

Franklin Science Institute - "Structures"

Mobile Ed. - "Parts is Parts"

Dirtmeister

"Hollyrock" - Game Show

K-9 Unit - NJ Transit Authority

# P.T.O. Activities / Meetings

Sept. Innisbrook Gift Wrap

Sept. Open House

Sept. Picture Perfect Portrait Day

Sept Family Picnic
October Pumpkin Patch

October Sixth Grade Walk-a-thon

November Teachers' Brunch December Holiday Musicale

December Santa Sale

March Gertrude Hawks Candy Sale

March Tricky Tray
April Spring Musicale
May Spring Musicale
Plant Sale

May Teachers' Appreciation Lunch
May Spring Picture Perfect Day

June Junior Olympics
June Family Sports Night
June Ice Cream Truck Day
June Promotion Activities

### P.T.O. Special Activities

The 2005/06 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 seventh year at Radcliffe School and went extremely well.

New this year was the Family Pasta Night and Family Dance Night were both successful.

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 parents and students.

#### 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. Nicole Hutchison, 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 third year, it continues to be very successful.

### 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 Mr. Joseph Zarra, Superintendent of Schools, Dr. James Vivinetto, Assistant Superintendent, members of the Board of Education, Miss Barbara Hirsch, Director of Special Services, Mr. Michael DeVita, Assistant Business Administrator, 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, 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. McGarty, Mrs. Pavlisko, Mrs. Puccio, and this year, Mrs. Boyle in the Board of Education Hallway. 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

**SPRING GARDEN SCHOOL** 

TO:

Mr. Joseph Zarra

FROM:

Rosemary Clerico, Principal

DATE:

June 23, 2006

**SUBJECT:** 

Principal's Annual Report

School Year 2005/2006

## **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 Curriculum
- State mandated school objectives
- District Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Program
- District Emergency Management Plan
- Library Media Curriculum
- Science Calendar Curriculum Mapping
- Differentiated Instruction/Inclusion Instructional Strategies
- Alternate Instructional Strategies in Mathematics, Calendar Math
- One Step Web Page
- Language Arts New Strategies (Wilson Reading, Four Square Writing)
- IRLA Curriculum
- Core Curriculum Content Standards

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

- Instructional Theory into Practice
- Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS) and 504
- Technology Tidbits
- Kidspiration A Graphic Organizer
- Character Education
- Elementary Assessment NJ ASK 3 -6
- Four Square Writing Method
- Mentoring Program
- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Procedures
- Affirmative Action Policies
- Introduction to Differentiated Instruction: Managing the Differentiated Classroom

### Curriculum development occurred in the following areas:

- Language Arts Literacy
- Mathematics
- Gifted and Talented

## Results of School Level Objectives - 2005/06 School Year

During the 2005-2006 school year, students in grades kindergarten through fourth (K-4) demonstrated proficiency in science, targeting the area of Physical Science. Students in grades five and six demonstrated proficiency in mathematical concepts as demonstrated in solving open-ended questions. 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 2006-2007 school year.

## School Level Objectives - 2006/07 School Year

By June 2007, students in grades kindergarten and first grade (K & 1) will demonstrate proficiency in writing as demonstrated through a writing assessment. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assessment. A rubric will be used to score the writing assignment.

By June 2007, students in grades two through six (2-6) will demonstrate proficiency in writing as demonstrated through writing assessments given throughout the year (November, February and May). A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve an average score of 80% on all three teacher-developed assessments. A rubric will be used to score each writing assignment.

### **Programs**

The district mainstream program has been implemented in grades five and six: Two sixth grade students were included in reading and grammar classes, two sixth grade students were included in health and four sixth grade students were included in science, and three sixth grade students were included in social studies. One student was included in fifth grade math. The special education students all progressed nicely.

The C.A.T. Program continues to be implemented this year for grades four-six. Mrs. Becky Olivo, coordinator of the GATE Program, has focused on grades five and six providing lessons which foster critical thinking. Mrs. Claire Menza, continues to serve as representative to the G.A.T.E. Program. In keeping with the challenges, the Spring Garden students participated in a knowledge-based district competition, "Academically Speaking" at Washington School. The students went on to compete on a county level. The students participated in Essex County Tech Day at Montclair State University, and a chess competition district and countywide.

### **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, 2006, students from Franklin Middle School and other visitors read to all the students to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday. Also, a variety of activities took place throughout the school to celebrate the occasion.

### 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 Mail Club.

### Law Day

Sponsored by the American Bar Association, the fifth grade students from Spring Garden Elementary School participated in Lay Day, 2006. This year's theme was *Liberty Under Law: Separate Branches, Equal Powers*. This theme enabled the students to discover that the branches have their separate spheres and separate powers, but work together for the common good. The theme was central to building of the rule of law, which has always been a primary purpose of Law Day. Participating in this event were Judge Vena, attorneys Ms. L. Machtemes and Ms. G. Iosim, and court clerk Jorge Oliveira.

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.

# <u>Study Group: Montclair State University – Dodge Grant</u> Montclair State University Network for Educational Renewal

This year through Montclair State University Network for Educational Renewal, Spring Garden School was awarded a \$1500 Geraldine Dodge Grant, entitled *Enhancing the Language Arts Curriculum Through Literature*. The Dodge Grant allowed a team of six staff members to research explore and implement literature circles to enhance the reading curriculum.

Also, through the Montclair State University Network for Educational Renewal, the Spring Garden School staff received a Teacher's Study Group grant of \$500. The study group entitled, *Enrichment Clusters*, enabled the staff to develop design and implement Enrichment Clusters.

<u>Fire Prevention Week</u> - During Fire Safety Week, (October) all grades K-6 including a special education class participated in the Fire Prevention assembly and equipment demonstration.

<u>American Dental Week</u> - 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.

### **Enrichment Clusters**

The staff of Spring Garden Elementary School conducted an Enrichment Clusters Program for grades kindergarten through grade six. The idea of enrichment clusters was first started at the University of Connecticut under the leadership of Dr. Joseph Renzuilli. The main purpose for developing an Enrichment Cluster Program was to create a time and a place within the school day when student-driven learning would be the most integral part of student and teacher activity. With the help of the study group and the five hundred dollar grant from Montclair State University Network for Educational Renewal, the staff was able to plan, design, and formulate enrichment clusters for the entire school population. Interest surveys were conducted in all of the grades. The top ten interests of the students were tallied and the teachers were then surveyed as to their interest. A fourweek program was then developed which was conducted on Tuesdays for grades kindergarten through third and on Fridays for grades four through six. The facilitators for the clusters were comprised of staff, parents and community members. Some clusters included sewing, needle point, crocheting, hip hop dance, karate, yoga, constructive crafts, hydroponics, chemistry in art, electricity, scrap booking, marine biology, and many more.

# 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 NJASK 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. 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 Hurricane Katrina Relief Drive, which received \$2,245.00, Thanksgiving food baskets, bake sales, and feeding the homeless at St. John's in Newark and Nutley Senior Citizens.

#### **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	Grades 4 & 6
•	April - Spring Musicale	Grades 1 & 2
•	May - PTO Musicale	Grades 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. Windowsill box planters were cultivated and displayed during promotion exercises.

# Library Research

The library was 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. Some of the members of the club participated in Academically Speaking.

## **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, entitled, "The Return of the Glass Slipper." The children enjoyed the activities immensely.

#### 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. This year Mrs. Holland and the Military Fan Mail Club received the distinct honor from the *Fan Mail for the Troops Campaign* for their Christmas and Valentine Day mailing. Spring Garden School was the number one elementary school in New Jersey for the Christmas mailing and in the top three nationally. They also were number one in New Jersey and number two nationally for the Valentine mailing. Mrs. Holland and the students should be commended on a job well done.

In addition to their mailing the Military Fan Mail Club planned and hosted a reception to welcome home SGT. Scott Alpaugh. Scott, a member of the US Army, who had recently completed a tour of duty in Iraq addressed the students and answered many questions. The students also walked in the Walkerthon this year and marched in the Memorial Day Parade in which the students carried the United States Flag.

#### Intramurals

Intramural activities were provided for grades five and six. Mr. Gabriele led the group in many organized sports including, softball, football and soccer. The students enjoyed these activities and the sessions were well attended.

## **Assembly Programs**

• October Gr. K-6 Nutley Fire Dept. Assembly Program

K-6 "Code of Honor" Character Education

November Gr. 4-6 Nutley High School Marching Band

Gr. K-6 PTO – "The New Kid"

December Gr. K-6 PTO – Laser Light Show

February Gr. K-6 PTO - "Dirtmeister"

• May Gr. K-6 PTO & SGS – "Brain Challenge"

## **Awards Assembly**

The annual awards assembly under the supervision of Mr. Patrick Gabriel and Ms. Debi Parigi 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

Grade 1 . Turtle Back Zoo

Grade 2 . Montclair State University "A Christmas Carol"

. Newark Museum. Wightman's Farm

Grade 3 . Alstede Farms

. Nutley Museum

Grade 4 . Bronx Zoo

. Movie Theater - "Chronicles of Narnia"

. Hayden Planetarium

Grade 5

. West Point Academy, New York

. Movie Theater - "Chronicles of Namia"

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 – Cody Arena, West Orange

### 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 Festival History Fair – Kyle Miskovich – 1<sup>st</sup> Place

#### Grade 1:

History Fair – Stephanie Callouri – 1<sup>st</sup> Place ABC Poetry Festival

### Grade 2:

**ABC Poetry Contest** 

#### Grade 3:

ABC Poetry Festival History Fair – John McCullough – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

#### Grade 4:

 $History\ Fair-2^{nd}\ Place\ Winners\ Morgan\ Gualtieri\ and\ Sarah\ Popkowski$ 

American Red Cross Poster Contest - Sarah Popkowski

#### Grade 5:

**ABC Poetry Festival** 

Law Day Poster Contest

Nutley Lions Club Poster Contest - "Give Peace a Chance"

American Legion Drawing Contest

History Fair – Zachariah Callouri – 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Nutley Elks Americanism Essay Contest - "What I feel When I Look Up at the American

Flag" - Matthew Kabat 2<sup>nd</sup> Place and Jonathan Azzinnari 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Scholarship Recipient for Nutley Summer Music Program 2005 – Christopher Cela

Nutley Veterans Council Poster Contest, "Why Come to the Parade?" Brandon Keena

#### Grade 6:

**ABC Poetry Festival** 

**Nutley Lions Club Poster Contest** 

Nutley Elks Americanism Essay Contest

Free Throw

History Fair – Abigail Pospisil 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

John Cozzarelli and Alexander Vigna 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

### Grade 5 & 6

- Academically speaking In-district competition
- Third-half Club Basketball Tournament SGS 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Jamie Purcell, Nick Gariano (State Finalist), and Marc Senatore

### Johns Hopkins

Eight students in grade 5 and one student in Grade 6 received the Johns Hopkins Award.

### Free Throw Contest:

## **Nutley Town Champs**

Nicholas Gariano Group II

Jamie Purcell Group III

Marc Senatore Group II

Regional Champion & State Finalist - Nicholas Gariano

# **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 Mr. Richard Spector, 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 Sixth Grade Camping Trip - Fairview Camp, Newton, NJ
• November	Annual Tricky Tray
♦ December	Holiday Boutique Student Pizza Day
• February	Valentine Treats
♦ May	Staff Appreciation Week
♦ June	Students Special Day - Ice Cream/Pizza Strawberry Festival Sixth-Grade Festivities - Ice Skating Kindergarten Recognition Day 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**

Mr. James Greengrove, a former parent, volunteered his assistance in the primary reading program. 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 Mr. Joseph Zarra, Superintendent of Schools, Dr. James Vivinetto, and the Nutley Board of Education, especially Mr. Al Restaino 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. Dennis Oblack and Mr. Michael DeVita who have 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, 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



# **Nutley Public Schools**

## WASHINGTON SCHOOL 155 WASHINGTON AVENUE NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

#### "A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS"

Douglas T. Jones
Principal

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

June 22, 2006

TO:

Mr. Joseph Zarra

FROM:

Douglas T. Jones

RE:

Principal's Annual Report - School Year 2005-2006

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
- Language Arts Literacy Program K-3
- Implementation of "Family Life"
- Character Education Program K-12
- State Mandated School Level Objectives
- Alternate Instructional Strategies in Math 1-6
- Implementation of District Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Program
- Implementation of Library Media Curriculum K-12

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

Instructional Theory into Practice K-12

- Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS) and 504
- Technology Tidbits
- Kidspiration-A Graphic Organizer
- Character Education K-12
- Elementary Assessment NJ ASK 3 and 4
- Four Square Writing Method
- Mentoring Program
- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Procedures
- Affirmative Action Policies
- Introduction to Differentiated Instruction: Managing the Differentiated Classroom

## Curriculum development occurred in the following areas:

- Language Arts Literacy K-3
- Mathematics 5&6
- Gifted and Talented (K-3)

Mrs. Osieja, Elementary Technology Teacher, continued to assist teachers and students in the implementation of school and district directives for the infusion of technology in the classroom.

#### Results of School Level Objectives 2005-2006 School Year

By June 2006, students in grades kindergarten through four (K-4) will demonstrate proficiency in science, targeting the area of Physical Science. 80% of the students will attain a score of 80% or better on a teacher-constructed assessment that encompass the Objective.

By June 2006 students in grades five and six (5-6) 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 2006, students in grades kindergarten through four (K-4) demonstrated proficiency in science, specifically targeting the area of Physical Science. 91% of the students attained a score of 80% or better on a teacher-constructed assessment that encompassed the Objective.

By June 2006 students in grades five and six (5-6) will demonstrate proficiency in mathematical concepts as demonstrated in solving open-ended questions. A score of 89% of the students achieved a score of 80% or better on a teacher-constructed assessment. A rubric was used to score the open-ended questions.

## **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 developed and proposed the following school level objectives for the 2006 – 2007 School year:

By June 2007, students in grades kindergarten and first (K&1) will demonstrate proficiency in writing as demonstrated through a writing assessment. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assessment. A rubric will be used to score the writing assignment.

By June 2007, students in grades two through six (2-6) will demonstrate proficiency in writing as demonstrated through writing assessments given throughout the year (November, February and May). A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assessment. A rubric will be used to score the writing assignment.

#### **Testing**

The results of the Nutley Writing Achievement Test (grades 1-6) the Terra Nova test (grades 1 & 2) were carefully reviewed. The NJ ASK was given to all third, fourth, fifth and sixth graders in the content areas of Language Arts and Mathematics and Science. Test scores are continuously reviewed, evaluated 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 in an effort top improve and grow both personally and professionally. The following is a list of the staffs' attendance:

Instructional Level Spelling
Strategies for Differentiating Instruction in the Elementary Curriculum
Special Education/Regular Education Partnership
Mock Trial Workshop
Social Decision Making/Problem Solving
Classroom Management of the Child with ADHD
New Jersey ASK Training
Sage Brush Media applications Workshop
Technology in the Classroom

Unitedstreaming Interactive Media
PRO-ACTIVE Physical Education Workshop
Four Square Writing Seminar
Math Centers in the Classroom
Lenape Lifeways
Wilson Reading Program overview
Behavior Management
Literacy for All Workshop
United States North-east Literacy Workshop
Multimedia Applications and Device on Your Computer
Gifted and Talented
NJEA Convention Workshops

## **School Activities**

#### PTO New Parents Social ·

Parents and PTO representatives met to welcome new families to Washington School.

## **PTO Open House**

Parents met to hear first hand from the teachers the program proficiencies for each grade level and specific class procedures.

#### **Annual Family Picnic**

The picnic brings together the entire Washington School community. Children and parents find time to relax, play and eat.

#### Fire Prevention Week

Students participated in many activities to enhance their awareness of fire safety that culminated with a visit and presentation from the Essex County Fire Prevention Bureau.

#### **Pumpkin Patch Festival**

Students participated in an outdoor festival where pumpkins, literature and hot apple cider enhanced the season.

#### Halloween Parade

The students, faculty and parents dress for the parade, show their costumes and continue a long tradition at Washington School.

## Jump Rope for Heart

Students Campaigned for the American Heart Association raising money and awareness for healthy living and exercise. Under the direction of the Physical Education Teacher, Washington School raised several thousands of dollars.

#### American Education Week

The parents attended conferences and visitation of classrooms.

#### Passaic Valley Water Commission Assembly

Students are exposed to the needs of the environment and hydrology in Essex County.

## Washington School Family Holiday Social

The entire school community attends an evening at the school of games, movies and festive holiday spirit.

## **Musicale Programs**

Students perform to a full house of parents and friends. Mrs. Bimbi and Ms. Tiri directed the students in both vocal and instrumental selections.

#### Family Math and Science Program

Students and parents return in the evenings to work on high level concepts and explore problem-solving strategies.

### **New Jersey Devils Assembly**

New Jersey Devil Player Rob Scrlac spoke to students about dreams and character. Students received an autographed picture and asked questions of hockey star and Stanley Cup Champion.

#### **PTO Family Game Night**

Parents and students are welcomed back to school in the evening to spend some quality time playing board games.

#### Read Across America

Students participated in a week of literature and reading activities that culminated with the visitation of members from the Nutley Masonic Lodge #25, Target Store representatives and members of the Nutley community. Several visitors donated book grants for classroom libraries.

## Law Day

Students received an insight into our judicial system with a visit from Superior Court Judge Joseph Isabella and attorneys, bailiff and reporter. Students also held a mock trial in the auditorium.

### American Automobile Association Map Program

Grades four and five received instruction on map reading and map usage from the company's representative. Students were given their own map following the program.

#### Literacy Week

Students in all grades prepared for the Literacy week celebration with events that included Heritage Day, Vocabulary Parade, and visit by author Jennifer Jacobson. This school-wide, cross-grade, cross-curricular concept is part of our New Jersey Best Practice application.

#### Third Half Club Basketball Tournament

Washington School Students participated in a district wide tournament..

#### Third Grade Literary Wax Museum

Students prepared speeches from their favorite character. Parents attended as students recited works inviting the viewers to read the book and learn more about the novels.

#### **Freedom Productions Puppetry Workshop**

Second graders learned about puppetry and then created their own puppets. Following the assembly they performed in classes.

#### Washington School Field Day

The students of Washington School participated in what is destine to become an annual event. The sixth grade students operated each event and the underclassmen actively participated. The PTO provided refreshments.

#### Clubs

Students participated in a variety of activities that extend the daily scope of the curricula offered to students. Many of the clubs met during lunch and after school.

#### Chimettes

Gardening Club Knitting Club Patrols Jeopardy Club Reading Club Art Club Student Council Critical Thinking Fiesta Fever Page Turners Club Intramural Sports Writers Workshops Grade 5 Band Grade 6 band Orchestra 4-6

### PTO

The Washington School PTO held elections for new officers for the 2006-2007 school year. The new officers are as follows:

President Nancy Lentini
Vice President Dawn Currie
Vice President Anneris Geraldo
Secretary Donna Minneci
Treasurer Sheryl Pancaro
Class Parent Allison Edert
Event Coordinator Fran Giardelli

## **Concerns**

Due to the increase of student population and the changes in our world I recommend the following for the 2006-2007 school year:

- Continued evaluation of building security and school readiness
- ♦ Close evaluation of facility needs and repairs
- ♦ Continued implementation and Evaluation of the Instructional Level Spelling Program
- Development and implementation of the Media Curriculum and Technology plans specifically identifying grade level objectives for Technology experiences.
- Continued staff development in the areas of curriculum mapping and differentiation with a focus on developing real and meaningful Professional Improvement Plans.

#### Conclusion

In closing I wish to thank Mr. Joseph Zarra, Superintendent of School, for his support and guidance. Dr. Vivinetto, Assistant Superintendent of School, Members of the Board of Education, Miss Barbara Hirsh, Principals of all other schools for their collected assistance and support in making the past year personally rewarding at Washington School.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the faculty of dedicated staff members who make Washington School a place for children and learning. We are about kids and the staff emulates this ideology everyday.

Our School Secretary, Mrs. Geralynn Dwyer, is to be highly commended for her continued efforts on behalf of the Washington School. She brings a strong work ethic, a caring and warmth in all endeavors and to those connected with the Washington School. Her outstanding ability to manage the office with efficiency and vision is greatly appreciated. As part of her responsibilities she oversees the office and building aides; Mrs. Lisa DeFabbi, Mrs. Pat Defrank, Mrs. Carolyn Drago, Mrs. Janet Fenwick, Mrs. Linda Ritacco, and Mrs. Gina Tritto and should be lauded for her efforts.

A special thanks on behalf of the students and faculty to the PTO for their effort and hard work throughout the year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Douglas T. Jones

YANTACAW SCHOOL

# NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS YANTACAW SCHOOL 20 YANTACAW PLACE NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

## MARYLOU DOWSE Principal

Tel: 973-661-8891

TO:

Mr. Joseph Zarra, Superintendent of Schools

FROM:

MaryLou Dowse, Principal of Yantacaw School

DATE

June 23, 2006

SUBJECT: Principal's Annual Report - School Year 2005/2006

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
- Language Arts Literacy Program K-3
- Implementation of Family Life Curriculum
- Character Education Program K-12
- State Mandated School Level Objectives
- Alternate Instructional Strategies in Math 1-6
- Implementation of District Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Program
- Implementation of Library Media Curriculum K-12

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

- Instructional Theory into Practice K-12
- Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS) and 504
- Technology Tidbits
- Kidspiration-A Graphic Organizer
- Character Education K-12

- Elementary Assessment NJ ASK 3, 4, 5 and 6
- Four Square Writing Method
- Mentoring Program
- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Procedures
- Affirmative Action Policies
- Introduction to Differentiated Instruction: Managing the Differentiated Classroom

## Curriculum development occurred in the following areas:

- Language Arts Literacy K-3
- Mathematics 5&6
- Gifted and Talented (K-3)

Ms. Christine Osieja, Elementary Technology Facilitator Teacher, has assisted classroom teachers with lessons to aid in infusing technology throughout the curriculum. She continues to train our teachers in the use of our mobile lab. This lab, purchased through the generosity of our PTO, comprises of twenty laptops that enable teachers to create a lab environment within their classrooms. It is a wonderful tool that has enhanced our curricula. We also continue to monitor and upgrade our software, CD Roms, and other computer-related items.

## Results of School Level Objectives - 2005-2006 School Year

During the 2005-2006 school year, students in grades kindergarten to four demonstrated proficiency in science, targeting the area of Physical Science. Students in grades five and six demonstrated proficiency in mathematical concepts as demonstrated in solving open-ended questions. 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 2006-2007 school year:

By June 2007, students in grades kindergarten and first (K-1) will demonstrate proficiency in writing as demonstrated through a writing assessment. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assessment. A rubric will be used to score the writing assessment.

By June 2007, students in grades two through six (2-6) will demonstrate proficiency in writing as demonstrated through writing assessments given throughout the year (November, February and May). A minimum of 80% of the

students will achieve an average score of 80% on all three teacher-developed assessments. A rubric will be used to score each writing assignment.

## **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, fourth, fifth, and sixth 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 score above the state average.

## **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:

Four Square Writing Wilson Reading Joyce Glatzer Mathematics Workshop ASK 3-6 Workshop Gingerbread Fun Technology Tidbits Language Arts Literacy Differentiated Instruction Super Centers Centering on Math Workshop Montclair Art Museum Educators' Program My Access Writing Program Barnes and Noble Educators' Program Math Curriculum Kidspiration Strategies to Enhance Writing Activities to Build Math Skills Parent/Teacher Conferences Technology Curriculum Computer Software Workshop Sagebrush Library Workshop Mentoring and Coaching Critical Thinking Art Educators Conference Technology Resources for Health and Physical Education G.A.T.E Curriculum

Monthly faculty meetings continually highlight curriculum committee reports, school level objectives, GATE, 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 Competition

A group of fifth and sixth grade students competed in a district-wide competition in February called Elementary Speaking. Six students represented Yantacaw School in a jeopardy-style tournament. The students, under the leadership of Mrs. Daly, represented Yantacaw in a very fine fashion. Three students were chosen to compete in the Essex County Gifted Competition where they were eliminated in the semi-final round.

## 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

Our annual Halloween parade was held on our campus. Each class exited the building and marched around the field. The parent community was invited to attend.

#### Contests

Students in grades 1-6 participated in various contests throughout the school year:

Jennifer Xu won first place in the Lions Club Peace poster contest.

Ann Margaret Conca won first place in the Memorial Day poster contest.

Jade San Martin won first place in the American Red Cross blood drive poster contest.

Taylor Lockwood won first place for grade six in the Nutley Elks Americanism essay contest for her essay on "What I Feel When I Look Up at the American Flag".

Louis Diaz won a World Almanac from the Nutley Public Library for his participation in a library survey.

#### Spelling Bee

Mrs. McKenzie conducted a spelling bee for sixth graders. Nicholas Duva 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 latter part of March. The Yantacaw team had a great time participating in this tournament.

## **♦ 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

Mrs. Tirri, 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 May concert highlighted songs by our third and fourth grade students, instrumental students and the Fifth and Sixth Grade 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.

#### 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.

#### Fundraising

Through the generosity of the Yantacaw community, the children raised over \$6500 for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. This was accomplished through classroom donations and a bake sale.

#### ♦ Chess Tournament

Under the direction of Mrs. Olivo, Yantacaw students participated in a chess tournament. Two of our students came in fifth out of approximately 38 teams.

## ♦ G.A.T.E. Program

Our G.A.T.E. program, under the direction of Mrs. Olivo, provided wonderful opportunities for our children. Our fourth, fifth, and sixth graders enjoyed a pull-out program that included critical thinking exercises, debate, and junior great books. Our sixth graders traveled to the high school to participate in a district-wide program. Whole-school enrichment activities were offered to the remaining grades.

## Assembly Programs

Fire Safety Assembly **Awards Assembly** The Rainforest Chorus Code of Honor Master Tree Steward Program Bullying **FMS Band** Madrigal Choir NHS Concert Band Women in History Panel Discussion NJ State Mock Trial - Law Day Garden State Percussion Trio Law Fair **Red Cross** Melanoma Foundation Passaic Valley Sewage Commission

#### 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.

#### Battle of the Books

Our fifth grade classes participated in the Battle of the Books program. The children were asked to read fifteen books throughout the year. At the end of the school year teams competed in a jeopardy style tournament. The winning team won gift cards, complements of the PTO.

#### ABC History Fair

Yantacaw students participated in the history fair. Five Yantacaw students received first place awards, five received second place awards and seven received third place awards. All of the projects were outstanding and the children had a great time creating them.

#### American Education Week

American Education Week was celebrated the week of November 14. 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. Nine students achieved state distinction.

## ♦ Faculty Bell Choir

Faculty members, under the direction of Annemarie Carollo, participated in a faculty bell choir. Members met at lunchtime, as Mrs. Carollo instructed them on playing chimettes. The faculty then performed at an assembly program for the Yantacaw students. Everyone had a great time!

## ♦ Field Day

Our fifth annual field day was held on June 19. 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. The children truly enjoy this event.

## ♦ Curiosity Shop – Yantacaw PTO

The Curiosity Shop was offered to all Yantacaw students. Parent volunteers conducted 34 classes. These classes included Origami, Gardening, Science, Spanish Culture, Italian, Irish Dancing, Scrapbooking, Fishing, 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.

#### Winter Olympics

In order to help the students gain a better understanding of the Winter Olympics. fourth graders were asked to research a country, make a flag of their country, and then present a fact about their country in an assembly program. Mrs. Alamo was a guest speaker during the program, sharing facts about the Olympics and talking to the children about her involvement over the years.

## ♦ NJ Devils School Program

The New Jersey Devils presented a program emphasizing determination, goal setting, commitment to excellence, and healthy lifestyles. Rob Skrlac, a retired NJ Devil, came to Yantacaw school to speak to our fifth and sixth graders. A question and answer session followed. The children were very excited about his visit to our school.

#### Intramurals

This successful program was under the supervision of the building principal. Ms. Leslie Sciarrillo served as faculty advisor for this fifth and sixth grade after school program.

## **Health and Safety Programs**

Mrs. Flannery, our school nurse, conducted scoliosis screening for all students in grade 5 and hearing screening for all students. She also checked the height and weight of each student.

The Lions Club conducted vision screening for grade 4. Mrs. Flannery tested grades K, 2, and 6.

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

#### Class Trips

Kindergarten – The Pumpkin Farm

Grade 1 - Turtle Back Zoo

Grade 2 - Bronx Zoo

Grade 3 - Nutley Museum, Kingsland Manor

Grade 4 – Morris Museum

Grade 5 – Philadelphia Zoo

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. Daly/Ms. Sciarrillo

The Brainteaser Club met on Thursdays 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.

## Mindgames – Mrs. Mitchell

This club was held for 6th graders on alternate Tuesdays during lunchtime. The students applied critical thinking and mathematical strategies in the games of chess, Mancala, Rummikub, and Equate.

### ♦ 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.

#### 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.

## ◆ Law Fair – Grade 5 – Mrs. Lupo and Mrs. McGovern

The students in this club wrote their own mock trial that was submitted to the NJ Bar Foundation's competition. Our fifth grade students won second place. They placed in the top eight of over two hundred elementary submissions. As winners, they were invited to the Bar Foundation where they performed their trial for an audience of Judges, attorneys, dignitaries and children from other schools. The trial was also performed for our 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. Nicholas Duva was ranked third of all students who participated in the contest and Jared Lin placed thirteenth. The boys also ranked second and fourth, respectively, out of all students in the region. Yantacaw School ranked fourth out of all the schools in the region.

## ♦ 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.

#### ♦ Art Club – Mrs. Goldberg

The Art Club was open to all sixth graders. These students spent time enhancing their art skills, entering various poster contests, and helping make decorations for our school.

#### ♦ Broadcast Club – Mrs. McKenzie

The purpose of the Broadcast Club was to provide morning announcements through the PA system, for Yantacaw students daily. These sixth grade students also led the student body in the flag salute.

#### ♦ Peer Mediation – Mrs. Thunell and Mrs. Licameli

The peer mediators provided a new form of proactive intervention that helped solve conflicts among the student population. These students were trained in various techniques.

## ♦ Stitchery Club – Mrs. McGovern

The purpose of this club is to introduce students to the fine art of crochet. Students worked on projects such as, crochet, cross-stitch and quilting. They were also taught the benefit of creating a piece of art for someone else.

#### ♦ Bell Choir – Mrs. Carollo

This club was composed of sixth graders who were taught how to read melodic notation in order to play chimettes. They performed as a group during our concerts.

## **PTO Activities**

I would like to thank the Yantacaw School PTO for their tireless efforts on behalf of 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, Law Fair and other clubs. The extra touches they bring to Yantacaw School help maintain its fine tradition. A special thanks to co-presidents, Cindy Lupo and Diana McGovern who led this dedicated 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

Collected box tops for education

Plant Sale

Family Picnic

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.

Books and t-shirts were provided for our Battle of the Books

Provided lunch and ice cream at our annual Field Day

Donated pocket folders and planners for the students

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 sixth 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.

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. A special thanks to Ms. Barbara Hirsch, Director of Special Services for all that she does, each and every day, for the children of our district. We wish her good health and happiness on her retirement.

Our Secretary, Mrs. Gariano, continues to do a superb job. She coordinates the daily school activities and oversees 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, Mrs. D'Onofrio, 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. Michael DeVita, Assistant Secretary/Business Administrator and Mr. John Sincaglia, interim Secretary/Business Administrator, for their assistance and guidance with school finances and also with the many maintenance projects at Yantacaw School.

My sincere 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 my heartfelt thanks to you, Mr. Zarra, for your continued support and guidance during this school year. You are the consummate professional. Your warmth and caring make it a pleasure to work in this school system. I am truly blessed to be a part of such a wonderful administrative team.

Respectfully submitted,

MaryLou Dowse

Principal

MLD:ag



## Annual Report of G/T Specialist

To: Mr. Zarra

From: Becky Olivo Lecky Olivo

Cc: Mrs. Francioso

This year I have provided whole-class enrichment for the third grade classes at Yantacaw, Washington, and Radcliffe. I met with the students for 42 minutes each week. My curriculum has been Primary Education Thinking Skills: A Curriculum for High Level Thinking published by Pieces of Learning. I also did various activities to develop listening skills relying heavily upon Tin Man Press for materials, especially Play by the Rules. Writers' Workshop ideas were also presented.

I had a pull-out program for fourth graders and saw the students once a week in each school. I used the Primary Education Thinking Skills: A Curriculum for High Level Thinking published by Pieces of Learning book three. I also did various in-depth studies including an Olympic unit, Women's History, and natural disasters. Readers' Theatre was also quite successful. The last month of school I taught the children the art of cup stacking to develop whole-brain thinking. At Yantacaw, I taught a fifth grade debate class in the spring, which competed in the County tournament.

Grade five was a pull-out program that used the Junior Great Books Foundation Curriculum which is a reading, writing, discussion program.

Grade six was a pull-out program. Radcliffe, Lincoln, and SGS were transported by bus on Tuesdays to the High School. We did various cooperative learning projects, higher level thinking activities, writing units, and had lunch together. Team Chess, Forensics, and New Jersey Playwrites activities were prepared for. Wednesdays I offered the same program to Washington and Yantacaw students. I received a grant from the New Jersey Veterinary Association for the winter months in which I taught "Taking Care of Your Community, by Taking Care of Its Pets" This was an outreach program to all of the second grade classes in Nutley. The students did research using the computer labs at the high school and prepared lessons for the younger students. The students submitted a play to the New Jersey Playwrites Contest and performed it for their classmates.

I served as treasurer of the Essex County Gifted and Talented Steering Committee. I brought students to the following events:

Third graders from Washington attended Poetry Alive in Verona.

Spring Garden fourth grade GATE students attended Tech Day in Livingston

Fifth and Sixth grade students from all five schools represented Nutley in a Forensics Tournament at Montclair

State University. A preliminary contest was held at the CAT program.

I held a district-wide Brainteaser Tournament in February to choose a team to represent Nutley in the county Academically Speaking Tournament. Weekly practices were held after school at Yantacaw to prepare.

Fifth grade students from Yantacaw competed in the Essex County Debate Tournament.

Sixth grade GATE students attended a county Team Chess Tournament in May.

I chaired the G.A.T.E. committee which was comprised of a member from each elementary school. Meetings were held bi-monthly through February after school.

I taught a cup-stacking enrichment cluster at Spring Garden School.

I taught a Lego/Robotics class to the second graders at Lincoln School. The event culminated at the School-Wide Coral Reef Evening.

I taught a Starlab/Curious George/H.L. Rey activity to the first grades at Spring Garden and Lincoln.

I did an eight week Lewis and Clark/ Starlab activity with the Fifth Grade at Yantacaw. This activity culminated at the History Fair. I received a grant from the Nutley Business Association to purchase a buzzer system for the Franklin Middle School to be used for county competitions.

I assisted Barbara Hirsch with the CAT program the first half of the year.

I taught a professional development course on Implementing Differentiation in the Regular Classroom

The past two years have been a learning experience for me. I will take the lessons that I've learned and use them in the classroom. I thank you for the opportunity.

TO:

Mr. Joseph Zarra

FROM:

Barbara Hirsch

RE:

Special Services Annual Report - 2005/2006

NEW REFERRALS			2004/2005	2005/2006
Nutley High School			15	13
Franklin			8	5
Yantacaw			17	20
Lincoln			12	39
Radcliffe			11	12
Spring Garden			12	8
Washington			12	17
Preschool Handicapped			16	14
Early Kindergarten Admissions			15	0
Referral Backlog			0	0
Referrals Pending			20	15
Annual Review Pending			3	0
New Referrals			181	177
NEW CLASSIFICATIONS	•			
Auditorily Handicapped (Deaf)			0	0
Autistic			. 0	. 1
Cognitively Impaired			0	0
Communication Impaired			0	0
Emotionally Disturbed			4	2
Multiply Disabled	P. C.		0	0
Orthopedically Impaired			0	0
Other Health Impaired			5	9
Preschool Disabled			12	23
Social Maladjustment			0	0
Specific Learning Disability			39	50
Traumatic Brain Injury			. 0	0
Visually Impaired			0	0
TOTAL			60	85
			•	
Students Graduated			33	45
Students Dropped Out			4	6
Students Declassified			4	9
Day Placements			55	56
Residentials			1(court	ordered) 0
Received from other districts			4	4
Eligible for Speech/Language Se	rvices (Public)		60	45
Non-public Classified			12	42
Vocational (full-time)		•	. 0	0
(part-time)		·	5	6
Home Programs			2	1

The following special services priorities were addressed in a positive manner during the 2005/2006 school year.

- 1. Community based transition partnerships were expanded.
- 2. Grant opportunities were explored with several awards received.
- 3. Parent involvement in the educational process was provided and encouraged.
- 4. All mandates relative to the reauthorization of IDEA were addressed and implemented.
- 5. The availability of defibrillators in all schools was explored.
- 6. Resource center services in the elementary schools were expanded.
- 7. Physical and occupational therapy options were increased.
- 8. The homebound instruction program was reviewed.
- 9. Counseling opportunities for middle school and high school students were explored and implemented.
- 10. Inclusionary experiences at all levels were expanded.
- 11. The Gifted and Talented Specialist developed meaningful experiences at all grade levels.
- 12. GEPA results at Franklin School were reviewed and necessary support and services were provided.
- 13. In-service training for support personnel was continued.
- 14. The Four Square Writing Process was implemented in all classes.
- 15. The primary SLD program was expanded.
- 16. Support services for the preschool disabled population was increased.
- 17. Community awareness relative to the attributes and needs of the adolescent disabled population were explored and a presentation was given to the Board of Commissioners.
- 18. The present facilities utilized for special education classes were reviewed and specific recommendations were made.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Hirsch

Director of Special Services