

**ANNUAL REPORT  
TO THE  
NUTLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY  
SCHOOL YEAR 2006/2007**

ANNUAL REPORT  
TO THE  
NUTLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY  
SCHOOL YEAR –2006/2007



NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

BOARD MEMBERS

	<u>Term Expires</u>
Mr. Sal Olivo, President	2008
Mr. Gerard Del Tufo, Vice President	2008
Mrs. Maria Alamo	2009
Dr. Philip T. Casale	2010
Mr. Angelo Frannicola	2010
Mr. James Kuchta	2010
Mr. Vincent Moscaritola	2008
Mr. James Viola	2009
Ms. Patricia Williams	2009

ADMINISTRATORS

Mr. Joseph Zarra	Superintendent of Schools
Mrs. Mariana Francioso	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
Mr. Michael Kearney	Radcliffe School
Mrs. Rosemary Clerico	Spring Garden School
Mr. Douglas T. Jones	Washington School
Mrs. MaryLou Dowse	Yantacaw School
Mr. Paul Palozzola	Director of Special Services

# **NUTLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

## **Nutley, New Jersey**

August 27, 2007

Members of the Board of Education:

The 2006/2007 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
- 2007 AP Scholars
- State Award – Invitation to CTY Awards Ceremony
- Mathcounts Competition
- National Council of Teachers of English

Congratulations to the faculty and students who participated in these activities.

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

### **Athletic Awards:**

- 2006-07 Girls Bowling Team – NNJIL Champions
- 2006-07 Boys Bowling Team – NNJIL Champions
- 2006-07 Fencing Champion – Alexandra Kozyra
- 2006-07 Track – Christopher Bradley won the Essex County and Group 3 track meet for the Javelin throw
- 2006-07 Track – Caroline Pawalowski won a silver medal at the Essex County Track meet
- 2006-07 Crew – Women's Varsity won the Cooper River Sprints, Passaic River Sprints, Long Island Championship and Upper Merion Championship
- 2006-07 Crew – Men's Varsity captured the Long Island Championship
- 2006-07 Softball – Coach Zullo captured her 200<sup>th</sup> victory



### **Music Awards**

- 2006 All State Chorus  
Diane Aragona Robert Kennedy  
Timothy Covey Rosanna O'Brien  
Christopher Georgetti Lauren Rauschenberger  
Emma Guerino Joshua Sheldon
- 2006 All State Orchestra  
Nicholas Coppola

### **Music Department Group Performances**

- The Jazz Labs A&B performed at the Jazz Concert at "Trumpets" in Montclair
- NHS Chamber Music Singers performed at Cathedrals in Venice, Salzburg, Graz and Vienna
- The Concert Choir performed at Carnegie Hall
- The Choralettes, Chamber Singers and Concert Choir participated in the spring musical "The Hot Mikado"
- NHS Winter Guard won the championship of the M.A.C., AAA Division

### **Outstanding Achievement Award**

- National Council of Teachers of English Award  
for Superior Performance in Writing  
Raquel George

Additional positive information pertaining to students proceeding to higher education and the scholarships they received, continues to be revealing and is reflected in the following pages. Please note that 87 percent of students will be going on to higher education and that they have been offered a total of \$3,973,328 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:**

- Alignment with Core Standards-Grades 3 & 4 Social Studies
- Essential Questions in Social Studies-Grade 8 and Grade 8 Vector
- Homebound Policy Committee
- World Languages Curriculum Development of Honors Level Courses

**In-services/Workshops Occurred in the Following Areas:**

- A.E.D. Defibrillator Workshop
- American Red Cross Defibrillator Training
- Designing Technology Integrated Lessons
- ITIP, Professional Development & EAN Workshop
- Integrating Technology
- Lunch & Learn – Web Page Design
- Mathematics Workshop
- Solo Software Workshop
- Smartboard Workshop
- Suicide Awareness Workshop
- Technology Basics (2)
- Technology Resources – Creating Online Component for Your Course
- Technology Resources – NHS Library Data Bases
- Technology Resources – Posting Your Own Assignments
- Technology Resources – Using Nettekker

**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 2007/2008 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 2007  
July 31, 2007**

ENROLLMENT.....	336	
TOTAL APPLICANTS PURSUING HIGHER EDUCATION.....	311	
% OF CLASS OF 2007 GOING ON TO POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION.....	92.5%	
Four-Year College/University.....	243	(72%)
Two-Year College.....	51	(15%)
Other Post-Secondary School.....	17	(4%)
Military.....	1	(.003%)
Full-Time Employment.....	21	(6%)
Undecided.....	11	(3%)

**REPORT ON SCHOLASTIC AWARDS  
NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT  
CLASS OF 2007**

SCHOLARSHIPS	\$3,973,328	
		\$3,973,328
OFFERS ACCEPTED	\$2,013,228	
OFFERS DECLINED	1,960,100	
		\$3,973,328



NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

To: Members of the Nutley School community

Date: June 2007

From: The Nutley Board Of Education

Subject: 2006/2007 Student Achievement Test Scores

NATIONAL

TERRANOVA TEST  
2006

National Percentile of Mean NCE

<u>Grade</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>
Reading	75.4	71.9	76	79
Language Arts	79.7	77.4	80	81
Mathematics	73.8	76.9	80	84
Total	79.7	78.9	81	84
Science	65.4	69.7	74	69
Social Studies	68.5	72.4	69	77

Grade 3 NJ ASK Results 2006/2007

	% Part. Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Adv. Proficient General Ed	ALL	Total % Prof. General Ed	ALL
Language Arts	4.2	8.7	87.1	84.0	8.8	7.3	95.5	91.3
Mathematics	3.3	5.9	60.4	59.4	36.3	34.4	96.7	94.1

Grade 4 NJ ASK Results 2006/2007

	% Part. Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Adv. Proficient General Ed	ALL	Total % Prof. General Ed	ALL
Language Arts	8.3	14.2	86.3	81.4	5.4	4.4	91.7	85.8
Mathematics	6.2	10.0	52.3	47.8	41.5	42.1	93.8	89.9
Science	5.4	7.7	37.8	39.8	56.8	52.5	94.6	92.3

Grade 5 NJ ASK Results 2006/2007

	% Part. Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Adv. Proficient General Ed	ALL	Total % Prof. General Ed	ALL
Language Arts	2.6	5.3	85.5	84.7	11.9	10.2	97.4	94.7
Mathematics	6.7	10.6	66.4	61.4	26.9	23.3	93.3	89.4

Grade 6 NJ ASK Results 2006/2007

	% Part. Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Adv. Proficient General Ed	ALL	Total % Prof. General Ed	ALL
Language Arts	5.4	9.1	76.1	74.6	9.5	8.1	96.2	90.8
Mathematics	1.7	4.1	98.3	67.0	31.3	27.1	98.3	95.9

Grade 7 NJ ASK Results 2006/2007

	% Part. Prof.		% Prof.		% Adv. Proficient		Total % Prof.	
	General Ed	ALL	General Ed	ALL	General Ed	ALL	General Ed	ALL
Language Arts	3.3	5.6	69.0	70.8	27.6	23.6	96.6	94.4
Mathematics	13.8	16.4	66.1	65.0	20.1	18.5	86.2	83.5

Grade 8 GEPA Summary Results 2006/2007

	% Part. Prof.		% Prof.		% Adv. Proficient		Total % Prof.	
	General Ed	ALL	General Ed	ALL	General Ed	ALL	General Ed	ALL
Language Arts	11.2	16.9	75.7	72.0	13.1	11.1	88.8	83.1
Mathematics	12.0	18.8	64.7	61.0	23.3	20.1	88.0	88.0
Science	4.3	8.5	63.2	63.2	32.6	28.3	96.8	91.5

Grade 11 HSPA Results (% passing): 2006/2007

	% Part. Prof.		% Prof.		% Adv. Proficient		Total % Prof.	
	General Ed	ALL	General Ed	ALL	General Ed	ALL	General Ed	ALL
Language Arts	2.5	7.2	77.1	74.9	20.3	17.8	97.4	85.7
Mathematics	11.2	16.6	62.5	59.7	26.3	23.7	88.8	83.4

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

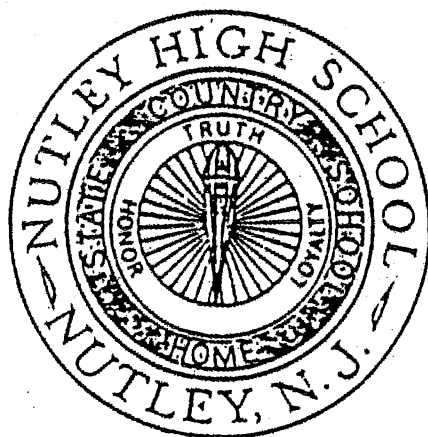
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**NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL**

# **NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL**



**2006 – 2007**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**MR. GREGORY CATRAMBONE**  
**PRINCIPAL**

## ANNUAL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

As the 2006-2007 school year comes to an end, I want to express my sincere thanks to Mr. 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.

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. Project Graduation was held at the Mineral Springs Hotel and Spa located in Vernon, New Jersey. Two hundred and forty students participated and enjoyed an evening of swimming, tennis, basketball, and a variety of recreational activities.

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

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

- Externally, the oval was renovated and field turf was installed prior to the opening of our fall sports programs. A ribbon cutting ceremony and reception was held at the opening of the football season. Our local community, state, and federal dignitaries were in attendance. There were many skilled tradesmen from Nutley that donated their labor and materials to complete the job. They were honored by the Nutley Board of Education at a September board meeting.
- Internally, the gymnasium was renovated. New paint, flooring, bleachers, and soft retractable walls were installed which has made the gymnasium a beautiful facility for all to enjoy. A sound system for the gym is being installed for the 2007-2008 school year.



- A new advanced Culinary Arts classroom was built. State of the art cooking appliances were installed. The advanced students had an opportunity to prepare food for numerous school events. The program mirrors that of an authentic restaurant management program.
- There were one hundred and forty-nine courses offered this year. Forensic Science was the only new course and is extremely popular among the student body.
- Many of our students were honored for their academic and athletic accomplishments. Sixteen students were named Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars, three were named National Merit Commended Scholars, one was named National Merit Semi-finalist, ten were named AP Scholars, and one was named AP Scholar with Distinction. Numerous students scored a 3 or better on advanced placement tests earning advanced placement standing and/or college credits at their college or university. Additionally, our partnership with UMDNJ, Seton Hall, and Montclair State University 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 school year. A SAT class will be offered to juniors and seniors for the 2007-2008 school year. Our SAT scores continue to exceed the state and national averages. The seventy-fifth percentile scored 560 in critical reading, 570 in writing, and 600 in math; and the mean score was 500 in critical reading, 490 in writing, and 520 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 2007 successfully fulfilled this obligation. Our high expectations have assured that the Class of 2007 has demonstrated mastery of the proficiency standard. Our TerraNova results show that our sophomores achieved very well in reading, language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. In the same disciplines, the freshmen scores illustrate positive indicators of our students' scholastic growth.
- There were 738 athletes competing in twenty varsity and sub-varsity sports during the year. Ninety-two 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, Men of Essex, and NJSIAA as Scholar-Athletes. The girls' soccer team played in the semi-finals of the Essex County Tournament and qualified for the NJSIAA Tournament. The boys' soccer team qualified for the NJSIAA Tournament for the second year in a row.
- The girls' bowling team won their fourth consecutive NNJIL title and finished fifth in the NJSIAA State Tournament. The boys' bowling team captured the NNJIL title and finished second in the NJSIAA State Tournament. The wrestling team participated in the county, districts, and regional tournaments with three team members advancing to the state tournament in Atlantic City. The indoor track team competed in the Group 3 Championships, NJSIAA Meet of Champions, and Eastern State Championships. The school record was broken in the triple jump and 4x800 relay team. The ice hockey team qualified for state tournament playoffs.

- The baseball and tennis teams qualified for the NJSIAA Tournament. The track team competed in the Essex County and Group 3 Tournaments. Chris Bradley won the Essex and Group 3 meets for the javelin throw. He placed eighth in the nation at the Nike Outdoor Track Championships. The women's varsity crew team won the Cooper River Sprints, Passaic River Sprints, Long Island Championship, and Upper Marion Championship. The men's varsity crew team won the Long Island Championships. In softball Coach Zullo captured her two hundredth victory.
- Our students' educational experiences have included domestic and international travel. Students have traveled to England and France. Our Chamber Singers performed in Italy, Austria, and Germany. The high school choirs performed together at Carnegie Hall in New York City. Our marching band, concert band, jazz band and orchestra competed in the tri-state area in numerous competitions and received excellent ratings. The winter guard team placed first in the AA MAC Championships.
- The Class of 2007 has received acceptances from some of the top universities in our nation. Post high school plans: 73.7% – four year college; 19.3% – two year college/career preparatory; and 7% - military, employment, other.

A random drug testing program was implemented by the administration. An average of three students a day were screened in the nurse's office. Our Student Assistance Counselor worked along side of the administration to guide the student and parents with drug rehabilitation and related services if needed.

We continue to stress character education through athletics, student activities, and student service to our school and community. It has become an integral component of our educational program.

Our activities foster school spirit, encourage participation and pride, teach tolerance, and develop leadership skills. Our activities program include: club and class activities, dances, car washes, fundraising for world, national, state, and local causes, academic competitions, senior citizen programs, special young adults programs, veterans programs, and international student exchanges with Italy, Austria, and Germany.

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

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

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

**2006-2007 ANNUAL REPORT**

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>STUDENTS ENROLLED</u>
9	347
10	307
11	362
12	<u>344</u>
	1360

**STAFF**

<b>Classroom Teachers</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>Administrators</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Athletic Director</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Guidance Personnel</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Department Coordinators/Chairpersons</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>AV Coordinator</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Librarian</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Nurse</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Special Education Teachers</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Work Experience Coordinator</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Computer Network Technicians</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Student Assistance Coordinator</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Permanent Subs</b>	<b>8</b>



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**2006-2007**  
**GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT**  
**Anne Starace, Vice Principal**  
**Academic 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:

- Academic advising/scheduling
- Individual and group counseling
- Crisis intervention
- 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 2006-07 school year:

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

- Conference – NJ School Counselor Association
- Conference – NJ Association of College Admission Counselors
- Conference – Grief and Crisis Response
- Workshops – Essex County School Counselor Association (Berkeley College, Eastwick Colleges, HoHokus Schools, Dover Business College)
- Workshop – High Focus
- Workshop – NJ Higher Education Student Assistant Authority's Financial Aid
- Counselor Update –University of Delaware
- Counselor Update – William Paterson University
- Counselor Update – Univ. of Pennsylvania, Georgetown, Harvard, Dartmouth
- Workshop - Ruggs' Recommendations on College Admission
- Workshop – Gangs and ADHD
- Workshop – Legal and Ethical Issues
- Meeting – Construction Industry Advancement Program of NJ
- Advisory Board – Caldwell College

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

- College visitations/evening programs: Fordham, Berkeley College, Culinary Institute of America

#### **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
- Standardized testing
- ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)
- Freshman Orientation, Class of 2011
- 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
- Guidance Internships (3)

**Distinctions – Class of 2007**

National Merit Scholarship Program: Finalists: 1

National Merit Scholarship Program: Commended Students: 3

Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars: 16

College Board Advanced Placement Scholars: 10

College Board Advanced Placement Scholars with Distinction: 1

**BUSINESS and CREATIVE ARTS DEPARTMENT**  
**Nutley High School**  
**YEARLY REPORT**  
**2006-2007**

1. We successfully assimilated six new department members.
2. Mrs. Mullane's Web Design won the NJIT Web Design Competition Second Place in the Rapid Design Category \$150 for the team, \$150 for the school, and \$3,000 scholarships for each the team members.
3. The Web Design class in collaboration with Mrs. Olivo's 6<sup>th</sup> grade class at Yantacaw School created a web page linked to the school web page on the book "Al Capone Does My Shirts."
4. The Web Design class in collaboration with Mrs. Osieja and Mrs. Olivo from Yantacaw School and Mrs. Nolasco at Lincoln School created a web page about the parks in Nutley.
5. Ms. Vander Have in conjunction with Mr. O'Dell and Mrs. Bresnan applied for and received a Picturing America Grant. In September NHS will receive a set of 20 large scale reproductions of American art for use in our classes.
6. Renovated and equipped Culinary Room 225 using Perkins Vocational Funds in addition to local funds. Purchased and installed stovetops, ovens, sinks, cabinets, tables, and chairs, upgraded lighting, and air conditioning and created new storage space.
7. Reconfigured and equipped Room A125 for use as Cisco lab and electronics room. Removed old equipment and tables. Moved computers into room. Obtained new electrical kits for practical electricity classes.
8. Had air conditioning installed in Room A125 and A127.
9. Obtained new blueprint copier for technical drawing.
10. Obtained new computerized lathe/mill for metal shops.
11. The College Prep Accounting course continued 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.
12. Culinary arts program continued catering various events in the school and community including faculty meetings, EAN Meetings, senior citizens breakfasts, Advisory Council lunches, and teacher appreciation events.

13. Iron Chef Competition was conducted in culinary classes.
14. Culinary Arts also catered the opening of the new field, Women's Night for the mayor, and sushi for "The Hot Mikado."
15. 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.
16. The zero period Computer Applications class continued to run successfully. This year we incorporated an online component.
17. Ms. Vander Have and Ms. Lappostato designed and printed many signs for the school district.
18. Ms. Lappostato was involved in designing and painting scenery and props for the school play and the Junior Formal.
19. Ms. Lappostato designed a portfolio building class for college bound art students for next year.
20. Field trips included Guggenheim Museum (art), Berkeley College (business), Essex County Courthouse, Meadowlands Complex, New York Automobile Show, Price, Waterhouse, Cooper (business).
21. Mr. Christadore brought in many outside speakers for his classes from the prosecutor's office, CPA firms, and sports marketing corporations.
22. Radio/TV Broadcasting program was approved by the State for vocational funding. Perkins funds will be used for this program next year.
23. Mr. Kelly will join our department next year.
24. Room 227 will receive new computers this summer. This room will be used for Digital Photography, Web Design and Radio/TV Broadcasting.

## 2007 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 315 General education students who took the HSPA in March 2007. Our passing score was 97.1 %.

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.

Students either take a final exam for this course or complete 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, 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.

#### IV Writing Contests

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

#### V. Awards

Miss Rachel George received the National Council of Teachers of English Writing Award.

#### VI. Staff Development

Several staff members attended workshops and seminars during the 2006-7 school year and shared information and new ideas with members of the department. The following is a list of some of the 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.

**Miss Knobloch** attended the New Jersey Writing Conference held at Rutgers University in April 2007. This was an interactive session that involved the use of body and voice.

VII. Enrichment

**Mrs. Hungler** escorted a group of 14 students on a tour of Paris, France.

**Mr. Sasso's** English IV seniors were escorted on a field trip to St. John the Divine and the Cloisters.

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.

June 1, 2007

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

## I. Staff

- A. Departmental statistics indicate that twelve teachers taught a total of 59 class sections. This included 18 regular subjects in addition to classes in the Basic Skills Improvement Program. As of May 2007, the average class size was 20.6 in the regular classes, which represents a decrease of 1 student from last year's average class size of 21.6, and there was an average of 18 students in the basic skills classes.
- B. In September 2006 Mr. John Pinter, Mr. David Nycz and Ms. Nicole Meola joined the math staff here at Nutley High School. They replaced Rosemary Vivinetto, Elinor Alboum and Darren Mischel. Mrs. Vivinetto and Mrs. Alboum retired while Darren Mischel took a supervisor's job with the Jersey City school district. Mr. Pinter taught Transition Math, Basic Geometry and Math Analysis; Mr. Nycz's schedule included Accelerated Geometry, A.P. Statistics and Integrated Math while Ms. Meola taught Basic Algebra I, Algebra I and Plane Geometry. Mr. Nycz who decided to terminate his employment with us at the end of December and Mr. Pinter will not be returning for the 2007 – 2008 school year.

## II. Testing

- A. The math portion of the High School Proficiency Assessment was administered on March 6th. 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. The results of this assessment will not be known until early June.
- B. This year the TerraNova was administered to all ninth and tenth graders from March 5th to March 9<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 also be used to test students out of the Basic Skills

improvement program. This year we had one Basic Skills<sup>10</sup> 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 2006. 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 initial enrollment of 30 seniors, nine of these students entered Nutley High School during their senior year. When we received the results of the October 6<sup>th</sup> retest, it indicated that 25 of the 30 seniors tested were successful. The remaining seniors had to continue to attend the zero period remediation class until they 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 28<sup>th</sup>.
- 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 289 students, 89% of the class of 2006, showed a mean mathematics score of 531. This score compares to 525 for the class of 2005, 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 current state average for this test is 515. Over the past five years the mean score on the math part of the SAT's has increased by 14% compared to 2% for the state of New Jersey and the overall population. 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. This year we had two student teachers. Mrs. Gesumaria was the cooperating teacher for Takesha Ganesh and Mr. Manfria supervised Sean Fitzgerald. Both student teachers were students from Montclair State University and successfully completed their student teaching and therefore will be certified to teach mathematics by the state of New Jersey. I am pleased to state that Takesha Ganesh has accepted a teaching position on our staff.

#### IV. FIELD TRIPS

On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, Mr. D'Ambola accompanied a group of students to a Math Fair presented by the mathematics department at William Paterson University. The purpose of this event was to promote mathematics through a series of exciting talks in different areas of mathematics not discussed in high school. In addition, a group of WPU students discussed life as a math major and students were exposed to exciting career opportunities in mathematics.

On December 8<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 30<sup>th</sup> Mr. D'Ambola took 12 students to the thirty-eighth annual mathematics day held by Montclair State University. This year's goal was to entice students to think about a career in the teaching of mathematics. The students attended two seminars that exposed them to a variety of interesting facets in teaching mathematics from the perspective of both student and teacher, which hopefully further stimulated their interest in becoming mathematics teachers. Most of the students attending walked away with a positive opinion of this seminar.

#### V. MATHEMATICS CONTESTS

The Math Club, sponsored by Leann Martin and David Sorensen, 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 60 students from all grade levels competing with other schools throughout the state.

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 Mr. Toby D'Ambola

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

High honors in mathematics were granted to 20 of our graduating seniors. In addition, 49 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.

Toby D'Ambola attended the two day regional conference sponsored by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics in October.

David Sorensen attended the following seminars on technology:  
 Creating an On-Line Component of the courses you teach  
 Nettlecker Workshop  
 Web-Posting Your Own Assignments

David Sorensen attended two seminars on HSPA and SRA training

Leann Martin attended a Pre-Calculus conference held by Rutgers.

Donald Manfria participated in the American Red Cross CPR Training

All members of the math department attended workshops on HSPA preparation and Gang Awareness

## VIII. DEPARTMENTAL GOALS FOR 2007 – 2008

- 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.
- G. Add to our curriculum the Course BC Calculus to meet the needs of those students who took Algebra I in the seventh grade and will be taking AP Calculus next year in their junior year.

## MEMORANDUM

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

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

**Re:** Principal's Report for the 2006 - 2007 School Year

The following are activities of the 2006 - 2007 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, Chamber Singers, Orchestra, Jazz Lab A and B, and Fundamentals of Music I and II remained the same.
2. In the Fall, the Raider Marching Band participated in five competitions, 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. The NHS Raider Band won first place trophies at two marching band competitions this year. No other Raider Band has ever achieved this. In addition, the Raider Band videotaped a commercial for the Chris Matthews *Hard Ball* television show. This commercial was broadcast on nationwide television. The highlight of the year for the Concert Band, Orchestra, Jazz Band, Jazz Lab, and Jazz Combo was the competition and trip to New York City. All of the above mentioned groups competed and received excellent rating trophies. After the competition, the students and their teachers had dinner in New York City and saw a performance of the *Blue Man Group*.
3. This was a rebuilding year for the Orchestra with many new students added to the brass, percussion, 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 New York City Competition. Continuing a tradition that began twelve years ago, the Orchestra and Band will jointly perform at the NHS Graduation.
4. The Choralettes had a very productive year, which included the following performances: Nutley Rotary Club, the Mayor's Tree Lighting Ceremony, the NHS Yuletide Concert, the December concert at St. Mary's Church, the April 17<sup>th</sup> performance at Carnegie Hall, and the NHS Spring Choral Music Festival. In May, the Choralettes gave outstanding performances with the Schola Cantorum of the Hudson Choir at St. Malachy's Church in New York City and Holy Rosary Church in Jersey City, NJ.

### Music Dept. Annual Report – Nutley High School

5. The Jazz Labs A and B performed at the NHS Open House, the Nutley Old Guard, the Yuletide Concert, the NHS Christmas Party, the Parkside Senior Center, Café Night, and at the Jazz Concert at *Trumpets* in Montclair, NJ.
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 December concert at St. Mary's Church, Spring Choral Music Festival, and the NHS Graduation. On April 17, 2007 the Concert Choir was invited to perform at Carnegie Hall, NYC. It was the eighth time a Nutley choir has performed at that prestigious hall. This time, Mr. Cundari was selected to conduct all of the Nutley secondary school choirs. Two Concert Choir students were selected (by audition) to the 2007 N.J. All State Chorus.
7. The NHS Chamber Music Singers had an exceptional fourth year. For the first time the Chamber Singers was scheduled as a class. This permitted the students enough rehearsal time to participate in all of the performances mentioned above (in number 6) as well as to host and perform at their own Madrigal Feast Dinner. Besides this, the Nutley High Chamber Singers went on an outstanding tour of Italy and Austria during the Spring Break. They performed to rave reviews at cathedrals in Venice, Salzburg, Graz, and Vienna. It was a trip the students will never forget.
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, Chamber Singers, and Concert Choir participated in the superb Spring Musical, "The Hot Mikado." It was the best musical I have ever seen at Nutley High.
10. Music Boosters Café Night: Fourteen instrumental groups 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. However, as the season progressed their scores improved at each competition they entered. By the end of the season, the NHS Winter Guard won the championship of the M.A.C., AAA Division. A first for the Winter Guard. Ms. Aurilla Card and her students are to be commended for never giving up and working extremely hard all season long.

Music Dept. Annual Report – Nutley High School

**CONCERNS**

1. There is a need for additional computers and electric keyboards to be installed in Room 102. Four more computers and four electric keyboards in room 102 will enable our students to use music notation software and music websites that are available on the Internet. Room 102 has been wired (five outlets) for the Internet; these additional computers will enable the Music Department to take full advantage of this capability. Also, the new keyboards would permit our department to offer a Piano Lab Class.
2. There is a need for a full-time string teacher in the district. This teacher will be shared by the five elementary schools, Franklin, and Nutley High. This specialist will enable our string students to succeed more rapidly on their beautiful, but difficult to learn instruments.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Purchase several additional computers and electric keyboards for the music department.
2. Hire a string specialist for the elementary schools and secondary schools.

**NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL**  
**300 Franklin Ave.**  
**Nutley, NJ 07110**

**Department of**  
**Health and Physical Education**

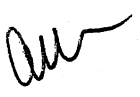
**Anna Melnyk**  
**Department Chairperson**

**Phone: 973-661-8855**  
**Fax: 973-661-3664**  
**amelnyk@nutleyschools.org**

To: Mr. Catrambone

Re: Annual Report, Health/Physical Education 2006-2007

Date: June 11, 2007

From: Anna Melnyk 

The new gymnasium, new bleachers and new oval greeted the health and physical education staff. Strict rules had to be followed for all. No gum chewing on the new floor, no gum chewing on the new turf outside and no food or drink inside or on the new bleachers. As the first few months progressed, the gum chewing "police" was out in full force, teachers and students had to abide by the rules.

The teaching of archery began in the small gym area. The following teachers are to be commended for organizing and getting the equipment ready for a September start. Mr. Noonan had gotten a grant from the National Archery in Schools Program; each staff member got certified in teaching archery according to new rules and teaching commands. Mrs. Larcara is to be commended for making the individual quivers to hold the arrows during shooting. These were made out of a PVC pipe and wood base, which she made over the past summer. Mr. Noonan for setting up the archery net so that all classes could get started on time. Mr. Noonan also started the Archery Club for morning practices and tournament qualifications.

The main gym no longer had dividing doors therefore all staff members had to cooperate when teaching certain activities. Curriculum changes, no more racquetball classes, floor hockey had to use foam blades on the sticks so that the floor was not compromised. I would like to thank the administration for working together on this change. Since we only have three areas to rotate in, the main gym, the small gym and the fitness center, teachers doubled up on certain activities. Other teachers use the down 2 weeks to do library work, lessons in the cafeteria or auditorium, or other physical education activities.

Equipment needed: main gym baskets need to be replaced. The brackets and rods are constantly breaking. Miss Powell's class was seated on the floor as she went to raise the

backboard; one of the metal brackets fell and just missed a student. During the year these rods have been worked on many times.

WAVE – street surfing demonstration; On November 15, 2006, I arranged to bring in a street surfing demonstration to the sophomore classes during periods 2-4-6-8. “The WAVE” Skills P.E. Program was based on a few sports, combining surfing, snow boarding and skate boarding skills. A professional instructor came in to teach the students, Robert Yanneteli. The WAVE utilizes a buddy system as a teaching tool. The company provided all boards and helmets. The WAVE improves balance, strength and agility. It was great to see all of the smiles on the students’ faces. The students really enjoyed it. After the program was over four free boards were sent to the school and were given to some students who were selected by their physical education teachers that exemplified the attitude of fitness, cooperation and physical education.

The intra-class volleyball tournament continued for its 11<sup>th</sup> year with students enthusiastically participating. The final games were held on: prior to the Christmas vacation. The Open Gyms that are held by each class always want to play volleyball. The amount of enthusiasm, teamwork, skills, competition and cheering is astounding. Mr. Mitschow, Mr. Puzio and myself have volunteered to officiate and organize the tournaments for the different classes.

Dividing curtains finally arrived during the 4<sup>th</sup> marking period. Now the classes could be divided into 3 separate areas. What does this accomplish? Each teacher is in charge of their class in their own area. Getting to and from each area was not easy since an opening in the curtains could be beneficial for safety and exiting. Sometimes it is necessary for one teacher to observe two areas, the only way to monitor this is to sit on top of the bleachers to see both sides, for example when playing “wiffleball” in two areas. This is not the best way to monitor students.

Bleachers – new bleachers are great, look nice, remote bleachers work easy, especially when students have to sit in the bleachers, easy way to get them out. Could you look into having all of the bottom panels on hinges so that getting lost items is easier? The only bottom panel that is on hinges is the panel that houses the remote control. Lost items that students have asked me to get; cell phones, Frisbee, keys, hockey balls, shorts, t-shirt, etc.

Driver Education – State Written Test is the heart of this program. Need to improve the teaching of driver education, meaningful experiences are necessary. Retakes and makeup tests are given in the morning, Mr. Mitschow and I organize the dissemination of this phase of the program. Mrs. Romaglia is to be commended for working with the mentally challenged student during these tests. Some students require the test to be read orally to them, Mrs. Romaglia takes care of this phase. I oversee and monitor all.

#### Future of PE:

1. New staff hire – dance instructor
2. Revision of total curriculum to coincide with the NJ Core Curriculum Standards

3. Schedule change – 5 classes for staff members to align with all disciplines.
4. Schedule change – Option 2, athletes excused during their in season sport.  
Study hall assigned, use of classroom or auditorium.
5. Freshman Health failures – when do they repeat this course? The next calendar year, along with their sophomore health? Summer School?

Nutley High School  
Science Department  
Annual Report  
2006-2007

To: Mr. Gregory Catrambone  
From: Mr. Michael Fetherman  
Re: Principal's Report for the 2006-2007 Academic Year  
Date: June 1, 2007

Members of the Nutley High School Science Department experienced another dynamic year of progress and change. Jennifer Mowrey, the newest member of our staff, had an excellent first year, and, by her own admission enjoyed a rich and rewarding learning experience. We are pleased to report that our students have responded favorably to her efforts and look forward to benefiting from her contributions in the years to come.

Several other members of the group are completing their third year of apprenticeship, growing as professionals thanks in large part to the contributions of our knowledgeable veterans who have been so willing to lend their support. 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 2006-2007 school year indicate that 14 dynamic teachers taught 18 different course selections. Worth mention is the healthy balance of entry-level, college prep and advanced placement coursework available to our diverse student population. Learners of all abilities have the opportunity to select courses germane to their interests in preparation for the next chapter in their young adult lives.

The following information constitutes a section-by-section look at each course offering. Included can be found the course instructor, number of sections and the amount of time allotted for class study.

#### **AP Environmental Science – Teachers: Mr. Joseph Tagliareni and Mr. Joseph Simko**

This year 108 students selected from four sections of *AP Environmental Science* each of which met six periods per week. Each instructor taught two sections of this popular course offering.



**AP Biology – Teacher: Mr. Kent Bania.**

This year 49 students selected one of two sections of the AP Biology course offering, each of which met six periods per week. Special recognition goes out to Mr. Bania for a job well done this year, his first as an AP instructor!

**AP Chemistry – Teacher: Ms. Christine Polk.**

Ms. Polk continued her impressive work with our AP Chemistry course and continues to meet the challenges and demands of this comprehensive, college preparatory curriculum. 13 students selected this course offering that met six periods per week.

**AP Physics – Teacher: Mr. Crispulo Isiminger.**

Having met the necessary prerequisites, 24 students successfully navigated their way through this challenging AP course offering.

**Accelerated Biology – Teacher: Ms. Kati Gratz**

Ms. Gratz successfully steered 75 of our finest freshman through three sections of *Biology IX Honors*, each with its own laboratory period.

**Chemistry Honors – Teacher: Dr. Peter Smith.**

Dr. Smith continued with his award-winning ways and successfully navigated 65 students through the *Honors Chemistry* course offering. This course meets six periods per week.

**Physics Honors – Teacher: Mr. Crispulo Isiminger.**

This year we offered one section of *Physics Honors* selected by 20 students. This course meets six periods per week.

**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 provided its 31 students with an additional lab period one day per week.

**Human Physiology – Teacher: Dr. Peter Smith.**

This year we offered two sections of *Human Physiology*. This class meets five periods per week and was taught to 64 of our young learners.

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

This year we offered three sections of *Microbiology* to 50 students, one section of which was offered in the inclusion setting (assisted by Mr. Harbison). This class meets five periods per week.

**College Biology – Teachers: Mrs. Paula Kasner, Ms. Kati Gratz, Ms. Jennifer Mowrey, Mrs. Megan O'Hagan and Mr. Joseph Simko.**

There were a total of eleven sections of *College Biology* taught to 253 students by five different teachers. All incoming ninth graders are required to study biology, and this course is offered at three different levels of instruction.

**Biology for Living – Teacher: Ms. Jennifer Mowrey**

*Biology for Living*, offered to 37 students, provided an entry-level science option for the technical school/career oriented student. Ms. Mowrey joined our ranks this year and did

a fine job teaching all three sections, assisted two periods per day by Mr. Robert Harbison and one period per day by Mr. Donald Sellari in the inclusion setting.

**College Chemistry – Teachers: Dr. Michael Naumoff, Ms. Christine Polk and Dr. Anthony Surmatis.**

This year we offered eleven sections of *College Chemistry* to 206 students, each class offered with its own lab period. Dr. Naumoff and Dr. Surmatis each taught four sections, while Ms. Polk taught the remaining three sections.

**College Physics – Teacher: Mr. Crispulo Isiminger.**

Two sections of *College Physics* ran this year, taught to 26 students. This course meets six periods per week.

**Earth/Space Science – Teacher: Ms. Megan O'Hagan**

This year we offered three sections of *Earth/Space Science* taught to 61 students. One section was taught in the inclusion setting with the assistance of Mr. Harbison.

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

This year we offered three sections of *Environmental Science* to 80 students. Mr. Tagliareni taught all three sections.

## **II. Advanced Placement Testing**

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

Advanced Placement Biology: 20  
 Advanced Placement Chemistry: 6  
 Advanced Placement Environmental Science: 11  
 Advanced Placement Physics: 3

## **III. Science Awards**

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

*Bausch & Lomb Science Award* – Allison Striano  
*Dominick Di Cioccio Memorial Award* – Allison Striano  
*Rensselaer Award* – Caroline Powalowski

#### **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 job well done!"

New Jersey Science Teachers Convention  
 NJ Audubon - *Seminar on the Environment*  
 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, Drake University  
*The Faculty Senate*  
*Drew University Science Career Day*  
*Engineering Career Day, NJIT*  
*Technology In-Service: Posting Your Own Assignments*  
*Email & Network Basics on PC Seminar*  
*Technology Tools for the Classroom Seminar*  
*Leadership in Education Seminar*  
*Real-world Problems in Biology Seminar*  
*Nettrekker Technology Workshop*  
*Odd Girl Out Workshop*  
 AP Chemistry Summer Institute  
*NHS Library Databases Seminar*  
*Creating an On-Line Component Technology Seminar*  
 CPR training  
 Student Ambassador Teacher Leader

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

To continually meet the challenges of our dynamic secondary school learners, instructors of the physical sciences selected a new textbook for our *College Chemistry* course offering. Additional copies of the *Forensic Science* textbook were purchased, as well as a new textbook for our *Earth/Space Science* program. Our efforts reflect the desire to keep reaching forward, as we hope to maximize the usefulness 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 permit 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 *Health 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 earned college credits through Seton Hall University's *Project Acceleration* program. For a nominal fee, students enrolled in this worthwhile program which seeks to recognize and reward collegiate-level achievement with college credit to students that successfully reach the established benchmarks in *AP Biology*, *Human Physiology* and *AP Chemistry*. Congratulations to all of our student participants!

## **VIII. Extracurricular Activities**

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

- Biology Club – Mr. Bania and Ms. Gratz
- Asian Culture Club Advisor – Dr. Naumoff
- C.A.T. Program – Mr. Simko and Ms. Gratz
- Lacrosse coach (Montclair State University) – Mr. Bania
- Assistant Football Coach (NHS) – Dr. Smith

Anime Club – Mr. Isiminger  
Class Advisors – Ms. Gratz, Mr. Simko and Mrs. O'Hagan  
C.L.A.W. Advisor – Mr. Joe Tagliareni  
Car Club Advisor – Dr. Surmatis  
Academic Team – Ms. Mowrey  
Health Careers Club Advisor – Mrs. Kasner

### **IX. Concerns for the Future**

Our science department continues its commitment to the districts' students and their achievement throughout their tenure here at Nutley High School. Lesson planning reflects thoughtful consideration of our students' emotional and educational needs and a steady focus on curricular objectives and state standards.

In an effort to enhance the vertical alignment of our Middle to ninth grade curricula, as well as the in-house horizontal alignment, it is imperative that we engage the challenges and reap the rewards that calendar-based curriculum mapping bring to the educational round-table.

## Nutley High School

**To:** Mr. Gregory Catrambone, Principal

**Date:** June 1, 2007

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

**Subject:** Principal's Report for 2006 - 2007 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 1248 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 conducted a review of the Advanced Placement courses in accordance with the demands of the College Board. In addition, the department added a new course, Advanced Placement Human Geography. 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 department conducted a school level objective project regarding geography skills in all of the World History classes.
- C. The department, in conjunction with Library Media Services and the Art Department, applied for, and won, a National Endowment for the Humanities grant. Titled "Picturing America", this grant provides 40 works of art from American history. This will not only facilitate department efforts to satisfy the state core curriculum requirement that art be infused into the social studies curriculum, but will also serve as writing and discussion prompts and provide visual resources for alternative learning styles.
- D. 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.
- E. The department continues to be in compliance with the state mandate regarding Holocaust / Genocide education. Pursuant to this mandate, and in compliance with district objectives, instruction concerning the Holocaust was infused into appropriate units of the curriculum, and a faculty-generated test concerning this epoch was administered to United States History II classes.
- F. 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 relevant units of the United States History curriculum, as well as other courses where appropriate, and a faculty generated test was administered to the students in many of these classes. The faculty also addressed additional issues pertaining to bullying

- G. A departmental initiative to infuse more reading into the social studies curriculum, and to enhance reading skills and raise verbal SAT scores, was continued during the 2006 – 2007 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.
- H. 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. Workshop on dealing with difficult parents
2. Montclair State Humanities seminars
3. Montclair State Archaeology seminars
4. The New Jersey Council for the Social Studies Annual Fall Conference
5. *Student Voices* civic education program
6. New Jersey Council for the Social Studies / New Jersey Annual Convention
7. New Jersey Department of Education workshop on the forthcoming Amistad Mandate and Curriculum
8. Three HSPA Workshops
9. A workshop on the Lincoln-Douglas Debates
10. In - service workshops on Instructional Theory In Practice (ITIP), Critical Thinking, and Computer Skills.
11. 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.
12. NJASSP Student Activities Conference

B. Faculty members completed graduate courses through Kean University and Montclair State University.

### III. Enrichment

- A. The following activities were conducted by the Social Studies faculty:
1. A presentation by Keith Elias on character development
  2. New Jersey Canals project from the department's website.
  3. School level objective in World History classes regarding human-environment interactions
  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. The Honorable Joanne Cocchiola, Mayor of Nutley
    - b. 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.
- C. Money was budgeted for new texts in AP Human Geography and AP United States History.
- D. 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 – Alexandra Mateescu
- 2. Daughters of the American Revolution Medal in History, Yantacaw Chapter – Raquel George
- 3. League of Women Voters of Nutley – Bianca Rodriguez
- 4. Nutley Post # 70, American Legion Auxiliary – Michael Pawalowski and Chelsea Woods
- 5. The Carmen A. Orechio Civic Association Award – Dan Castillo

#### VI. Items New to the Social Studies Department for 2006 - 2007

- A. Mrs. Nicole David returned from maternity leave and resumed her full teaching load, and also assisted Mr. Gerald Ryan with the Student Council.
- B. Three long-time and distinguished members of the department, Mr. Edward Annett, Mrs. Jeri Cohn, and Mr. Raymond Chapman, announced their retirement effective the end of the 2006-2007 academic year. Their expertise, experience, and contributions to the students and the department will be missed.
- C. 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.
- D. One overhead projector and cart were added to the department, and received heavy usage.
- E. One new LCD projector was added to the department, and received heavy usage.
- F. The newly revised World History and World History Honors courses were implemented for the third year, along with the primary source and other materials.

- G. 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 four 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. The department would like to control its portion of the web site, as current difficulties in maintaining and linking to files has discouraged effective use of this important resource for students.
- F. In-service courses that are content-based and designed to enhance current instruction would be a welcome addition to the professional development program.

**NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY  
WORLD LANGUAGES and ESL DEPARTMENTS**

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

FROM: Mr. Ciro Violante, Coordinator of the World Languages and ESL Departments

SUBJECT: Annual Report – 2006-07

**I. Statistical Data and Staff**

1. Approximately 74% 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. Frost-Guzzo taught 3 classes of ESL at the high school, and 2 at the middle school. Mr. DiCristo taught one Latin class at the high school and four at Franklin Middle School.
3. Mr. Violante continues to be also the **Coordinator of Project Acceleration** with Seton Hall University. During the academic year 2006-07, about 210 students signed up for Project Acceleration credits in the Fall 2006 and Spring 2007 semesters.
4. District ESL Program – The district **has met** the Annual Measurable Achievement Objective (**AMAO**) for English Language Learners with 79% of students improving (the state required 60% improvement).
5. For all the years that ESL has been taught in the district, the previous supervisors never applied for Immigrant Student Aid Grants which the State has awarded every year to other schools in the state. Mr. Violante became the district ESL Coordinator last year. This school year he applied for the **Immigrant Students Aid Grant**. The district was awarded a substantial amount for the first time for FY 2008.

**II. Curriculum**

1. The staff worked very diligently on the AP Audit in Italian, Spanish, French and Latin.

2. Mrs. Rucinski and Mrs. Rhein mentored two students from Montclair State University doing their senior and junior practicum in Spanish.
3. 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.
4. The 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.
5. For the 2007-08 school year, the department is adding honors courses in levels 2 and 3 in Spanish, Italian, French and Latin.
6. Mrs. Stepansky's Latin Honor Society students presented a program about Latin and Roman Concepts relevant to today's times to the elementary schools.

### **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: "Andrea Chenier", and "Don Carlo", 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 hosted the dignitaries in Hotels nearby.**
3. **Once again Mr. Cicchino and Mr. Violante chaperoned a group of 25 students and parents on a trip to Italy during the spring vacations. During the tour of Venice, Florence, Stresa, Assisi, San Marino, 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 April 11, 2007. 120 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 Courtyard. The "Italian Night" was attended by parents, students, administrators and teachers.
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 prize, and were awarded \$150.00 each. The students were: Cassandra Petretta grade 9, Rosanna O'Brien grade 10, John O'Reilly grade 11, and Michelle Dente grade 12.
7. Mr. Cicchino's Italian classes attended a performance of the Opera "Cavalleria Rusticana", "Pagliacci" on October 17, 2006, "Turandot", on March 27, 2007, at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City.
8. Mrs. Stepansky's Latin, 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 4H Kyle Fader, Michael Melillo, Gianna Santelli and David Falcone, were awarded "**Cum Laude**". In Level 5AP, Nikita Penett was awarded "**magna cum laude**". Chelsea Woods, Justine Ocampo, and Allison Striano were awarded "**Cum Laude**". **Many who participated in the contest 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 Annual Italian National High School Exam.
10. Mr. Violante and Mrs. Stepansky were nominated and selected for inclusion in "Who's Who Among America's Teachers"
11. The French, Spanish and Latin National Honor Societies held fundraising events for Scholarships to benefit Seniors going to College and study the language.
12. Mrs. Rhein's Heritage Spanish I and IIH had a speaker for Farleigh Dickenson University to speak about a Study Abroad Program for Spanish Speaking Students.

13. Mrs. Rhein took the Spanish VH students to the Guggenheim Museum to view art works from Spain, from El Greco to Picasso.
14. The Spanish Honor Society Sponsored by Mrs. Rhein had a flower sale for Valentine's Day.
15. Mrs. Camarda's French classes National French Week in November with poster contests and French Cuisine.

#### IV. Workshops - Professional Development, Conferences

1. Mr. Violante attended several Professional Development Workshop Series for ESL and World Language Educators sponsored by the State Department of Education. He also attended the by-monthly Roundtable of New Jersey State World Language Supervisors in Monroe Township. Some of the Conferences/workshops were:
  - a. *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. *Don Carlo*
  - b. *People, Passion, and Power: Giodano's Andrea Chenier and Puccini's Turandot*
3. Mrs. Rucinski attended the following workshops/conferences during the school year.
  - a. *One week of AP Spanish language workshop at Drew University during the summer of 2006.*
  - b. *She attended a Saturday workshop by Greg Dungan from American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL). The workshop addressed methodologies for teaching language in context, integrating language skills and techniques for improving language proficiency according to ACTFL.*
  - c. *Completed the AP Spanish Language Audit for the College Board.*
  - d. *Created the drafts for the World Languages levels 2 and 3 Honors courses.*
  - e. *Member of the Faculty Senate.*
  - f. *Prepared guidelines for methodologies, techniques and activities that will be implemented into the new level 2 and 3 honors curricula for Spanish.*

4. Mr. Violante as ESL District Coordinator, was a representative at the National OELA Fifth Annual Celebrate Our Rising Stars Summit, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancing, and Academic Achievement for Limited English Proficient Students, Washington D.C. He participated in the following conferences:
  - *Strategies to Close the Achievement Gap.*
  - *Structured "Academic Talk" for English Learners: A Key to Narrowing the Verbal Gap in K-12 Classroom.*
  - *Title III Accountability (NCLB)*
  - *Understanding Title III Requirements*
  - *Assessing ELL Students in Content and Literacy*
  - *Strategies for Developing Oral Language in English and Other Languages.*
5. Mr. Cicchino attended a conference "*Showcase Italian: Pedagogical Approaches to Italian Language, Italian Studies, and Italian American Studies*" at Rutgers University Sponsored by Italian Embassy, the New Jersey Department of Education and New Jersey Italian American Heritage Commission.

**V. Departmental Goals/Recommendations :**

1. 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.

Respectfully submitted

Ciro Violante, Coordinator of World Languages and ESL

June 1, 2007

# NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL

300 FRANKLIN AVENUE  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

JOSEPH PIRO  
Athletic Director

Tel. 973-661-8849  
Fax 973-661-2834  
jpiro@nutleyschools.org

To: Greg Catrambone

From: Joe Piro 

Re: End of Year Report

Date: 6/4/07

I would like to thank the Nutley Board of Education, Superintendent of Schools Joseph Zarra and Nutley High School Principal Greg Catrambone for the opportunity to work with our student athletes and coaches. It is an honor and a privilege to be the Athletic Director of such an outstanding department. The 2006-2007 school year was a great year for the Nutley Athletic Department. We renovated and opened the New Park Oval complete with an all weather field, new landscaping and brick paver walkways. We renovated the gymnasium with new bleachers and a brand new floor, as well as made various equipment additions to a number of our programs. Nutley had 738 athletes compete in 20 varsity and sub-varsity sports during the 2006-2007 school year.

The boys and girls soccer teams, the boys and girls bowling teams, the ice hockey team, boys tennis team and the baseball team all qualified for the NJSIAA State Tournament. We had a total of 92 athletes recognized as All-League, All-County and All State Athletes. The girls and boys bowling teams both captured NNJIL titles, and Chris Bradley will travel to North Carolina and participate in The Nike Outdoor Track Championships.

## Fall Sports Highlights:

Anthony Maurillo, Louie Ritacco, and Bryan Manfria all received scholarships to play their respective sport in college

**Girls Soccer:** Played in the Semi Finals of The Essex County Tournament and qualified for the NJSIAA Tournament.

**Boys Soccer:** Qualified for the NJSIAA tournament for the second year in a row.

## Individual Honors:

### All-State Group 3

Bryan Manfria (SOC)

Louie Ritacco (FB)

Anthony Maurillo (FB)

### 1<sup>st</sup> team All Essex County

Louie Ritacco (FB)

Anthony Maurillo (FB)

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Team All Essex County

Stephanie Rizzi (SOC)

Meghan Ginter (SOC)

Bryan Manfria (SOC)

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Team All Essex County

Gabrielle Issabella (SOC)

Aaron DaSilva (SOC)

**GO RAIDERS!**



**1<sup>st</sup> Team NNJIL**

Louie Ritacco (WRS)  
 Caroline Pawalowski (IT)  
 Chris Bradley (IT)  
 Craig Michaud (IT)  
 Anthony Rauco (IT)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Team NNJIL**

Joe Aiello (IT)  
 Celina Sooksatan (IT)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Team NNJIL**

Lisa Stanziano (BL)  
 Tim Ammendola (IH)  
 Anthony Cifelli (WRS)

**1<sup>st</sup> Team NNJIL**

Jon Grueter (IT)  
 Michael Pawalowski (IT)  
 Bryan DeBarberi (IT)  
 Matt Gallo (BL)  
 Mike DeMunno (BL)  
 Bernadette Espiritu (BL)  
 Alyssa Flaherty (BL)  
 Nikita Pannet (BL)

**Spring Sports Highlights**

**Baseball:** Qualified for the NJSIAA tournament

**Tennis:** Qualified for the NJSIAA tournament

**Track:** Chris Bradley won the Essex County and Group 3 track meet for the Javelin throw. Caroline Pawalowski won a silver medal at the Essex County Track meet.

**Crew:** Women's Varsity won the Cooper River Sprints, Passaic River Sprints, Long Island Championship, & Upper Merion Championship the Men's Varsity Captured the Long Island Championships

**Softball:** Coach Zullo captured her 200<sup>th</sup> victory

**Individual Honors****1<sup>st</sup> team All Essex County**

Chris Bradley (TK)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Team All Essex County**

Caroline Pawalowski (TK)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Team All Essex County****1<sup>st</sup> Team NNJIL**

Meghan Ginter (SB)  
 Samantha Minervini (SB)  
 Jilliaan Donatello (SB)  
 Chris Bradley (TK)  
 Carroll Tinsley (TK)  
 Amarillis Padilla (TK)  
 Frank DeGennaro (BB)  
 Joe Ritacco (BB)  
 Carlos Sanchez (LAX)  
 Matt McCann (LAX)  
 Richard Piccone (TEN)  
 Peter Pensuwan (TEN)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Team NNJIL**

Meghan McDevitt (SB)  
 Pete Zinicola (G)  
 Caroline Pawalowski (TK)  
 Craig Michaud (TK)  
 William Lupo (BB)  
 Guiseppe Pappacio (BB)  
 Matt Giglio (BB)  
 Tom Ring (LAX)  
 Sam Pavliak (LAX)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Team NNJIL**

Pat Sceppaguercio (G)  
 Brian DeBarberi (TK)  
 Arielle Scarpelli (TK)  
 Mike Ryder (BB)  
 Glenn Cox (BB)  
 Tim Botti (LAX)  
 Jahren Gines (TEN)

Attached please find the scores final scores and records of all of our athletic teams. Varsity track Junior Varsity wrestling, and bowling are not recorded. Please see attached results for crew.

**GO RAIDERS!**

**1<sup>st</sup> Team NNJIL**

Stephanie Rizzi (SOC)  
 Meghan Ginter (SOC)  
 Elizabeth Sardinsky (SOC)  
 Bryan Manfria (SOC)  
 Aaron DaSilva (SOC)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Team NNJIL**

Olivia Guillianio (SOC)  
 Jillian Donatello (SOC)  
 Maria Perez (SOC)  
 Gabrielle Isabella (SOC)  
 Carlos Sanchez (SOC)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Team NNJIL**

Joe Aiello (SOC)  
 Kyle Gruelich (SOC)  
 Tomoe Bien (ten)

**1<sup>st</sup> Team NNJIL**

Louie Ritacco (FB)  
 Anthony Maurillo (FB)  
 Frank DeGennaro (FB)  
 Dan Michalek (FB)  
 Bryan DeBarberi (XC)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Team NNJIL**

Mike Ryder (SOC)  
 Steve Nelson (SOC)  
 John Deblasio (FB)  
 John Isabella (FB)  
 Michael Lambrugo (FB)  
 Nick Purciello (FB)  
 Caroline Pawalowski (XC)  
 Anthony Rauco (XC)  
 Kathleen Mroz (XC)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Team NNJIL**

Katelyn Mardero (VB)  
 Rob Roselli (FB)  
 Tim Botti (FB)  
 Michael Pawalowski (XC)  
 Victor Pasquariello (FB)  
 Dana Principe (XC)  
 Jeffrey Lin (XC)

**Winter Sports Highlights:**

**Wrestling:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Place finish in District 14, 3 Wrestlers qualified for the NJSIAA State tournament, Louie Ritacco captured a Essex County Title, Anthony Cifelli won his first match in the NJSIAA State Tournament.

**Indoor Track:** Craig Michaud medaled in the Group 3 Championships and advanced to the NJSIAA Meet of Champions, Caroline Pawalowski qualified for Eastern State Championships, Michael and Caroline Pawalowski broke the school record for the triple jump (32'10 1/4" & 39'8") Cris Bradley, Caroline Pawalowski, Craig Machaud and The 4 x 800 Relay team (Anthony Rauco, Jon Grueter, Michael Pawalowski, Bryan DeBarberi) all captured a league championships

**Ice Hockey:** Team qualified for state playoffs and hosted a home game.

**Bowling:** Boys captured a NNJIL title, qualified for the NJSIAA state tournament and placed 2<sup>nd</sup>. The girls captured their 4th consecutive NNJIL title, qualified and finished 5th in the NJSIAA state tournament.

**Individual Honors****1<sup>st</sup> team All Essex County****2<sup>nd</sup> Team All Essex County****3<sup>rd</sup> Team All Essex County**

Louie Ritacco (WRS)  
 Anthony Cifelli (WRS)

**1<sup>st</sup> Team NNJIL**

Carroll Tinsley (BKB)  
 Gabrielle Isabella (BKB)  
 Anthony Dmico (WRS)  
 Vincent Maurillo (WRS)  
 Anthony Maurillo (WRS)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Team NNJIL**

William Lupo (BKB)  
 Erik Perdon (IH)  
 John Varga (IH)  
 Meghan Ginter (BKB)  
 Robert Lubertazzi (WRS)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Team NNJIL**

John Isabella (BKB)  
 Olivia Guillianio (BKB)  
 Tai Tan Luu (IT)  
 Amarillis Padilla (IT)  
 Daniel Pennet (BL)

**GO RAIDERS!**

# **Nutley High School**

## **Library Media Center**

### **Annual Report 2006-2007**

June 1, 2007

Susan Bresnan, MA, MLIS  
Library Media Specialist

**Narrative:**

The Library Media Center has continued to play an active role in providing services to the High School community. The Library contains 25,563 volumes, 70 print periodical subscriptions and access to over 40 subscription databases including titles from Ebscohost, Facts on File, Proquest, and the Thomson/Gale series of databases. A new database from Thomson/Gale was added this year. LitFinder is a resource for full-texts of poems, short stories, and plays – a particularly useful tool for the Junior and Senior Theme research. Additionally, the District provided access to the netTrekker Internet Search Engine – an academic-based search engine specifically designed for students and teachers. Students also continued to access subscription databases available through the Nutley Public Library.

The number of classes scheduled in the Library increased with an average of 50 classes per month for the months of December, January, February, April, and May. March saw a record number 91 of classes scheduled in the Library. Although the majority of classes were from the English and Social Studies departments, we have also had classes from World Languages, Science, Culinary Arts, ESL, Special Education, and Physical Education. In addition to scheduled classes, students used the Library before and after school, and during lunch periods.

Completed Projects in the Library include:

- Re-organization of print periodicals.
- Revision of Library Web Page including new pathfinders for Short Stories and Poetry on the Web.
- Continued weeding of books, particularly paperback fiction.

Projects for 2007-2008 include:

- Continued re-organization of Paperback Fiction Collection.
- Continued revision of Library Web Page.
- Continued weeding of books.

**Statistics as of June 1, 2007:**

Number of books checked out:	2490
Numbers of classes in Library:	425
Number of books added to collection:	650
Number of books lost:	6
Fine monies deposited:	\$1,000.00
Copier monies deposited:	\$ 182.00

**COPY ACTIVITY**

Series	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Total
000s	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	1	3	9
100s	5	0	0	1	3	10	32	20	11	82
200s	19	8	6	3	0	3	7	26	4	76
300s	1	4	12	51	24	22	54	46	20	234
400s	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	5
500s	0	0	0	6	4	35	11	12	10	78
600s	4	3	2	8	9	8	24	30	19	107
700s	14	3	2	11	10	1	12	20	18	91
800s	14	7	1	23	42	41	54	34	24	240
900s	14	14	7	44	48	83	89	34	26	359
BIO	17	10	4	26	17	28	23	4	2	131
FIC	26	23	48	102	127	60	71	60	37	554
P FIC	14	10	32	83	107	66	48	41	29	430
REF	12	2	0	4	11	5	22	10	9	75
TEMP	0	1	0	1	3	2	5	7	0	19
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>363</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>2490</b>

**CLASSES SCHEDULED IN LIBRARY**

Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	TOTAL
13	25	33	51	56	54	91	51	49	2	425

# **MEDIA DEPARTMENT**

## **YEAR END REPORT**

### **2006-2007**

June, 2007  
Mr. James Kelly

## 2006-2007 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. They also took a tour of the MSNBC studio in October. During an in-house field trip students also participated in a live promo shoot of MSNBC's Hardball.
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, St. Patrick's Day Parade 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 December/
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, campus news programs, and live gameshows.
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. Audio Visual Hardware Requests

Daily requests	355
Long term requests	90
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>455</b>

## II. 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.

## III. 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

## IV. Expected Postal and Rental Expenses for 2006-2007 School Year

Postage	\$ 100.00
Rentals	100.00
Software Purchases	300.00
Hardware Purchases	<u>16,000.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 16,500.00</b>



54.

**Missing Software 2006-2007**

None

**Missing Hardware 2006-2007**

None

**Summer Loans 2007**

Chris Oseja	Utilizing a TV/VCR in Math Resource Room for Summer Program
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**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 18, 2007****FACT SHEET**

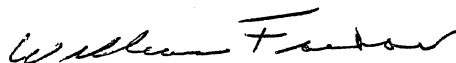
1. CIE Regular Program.
2. Began with 22 students and finished with 14 students.
3. The 14 Students break down as follows:
  - Two (2) will be going to four year colleges.
  - One (1) will perform the same work they were trained for on the CIE program either on a full time or part time basis.
  - Four (4) will go to vocational school, two years or less.
  - Four (4) will go to the county college.
  - Three (3) will go into apprenticeship programs.
4. Total earnings of these students during the 2006-2007 school year amounted to \$82,580.00.
5. Several of our CIE students participated in a scholarship program offered by the New Jersey State Coordinators Association.

Four Nutley students received scholarships:

Cristina Grasso - \$1,000.00 - Capri Institute  
Luigi Carputo - \$5,250.00 - Metro-Auto Electric  
John Demmer - \$5,450.00 - Metro-Auto Electric  
Devon Elsmore - \$3,000.00 - Hohokus Rets - Nutley

6. We had One (1) students participate in the Electrical Apprenticeship Program.
7. We had three (3) 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 25 speakers from various vocational schools speak during my 3<sup>rd</sup> period class about the opportunities provided at their schools.
11. Finally, the Career Club I started seven years ago took four field trips to various businesses and medical and technical institutes to give students ideas of what other options are available if any decide not to go to a two or four year college.

Sincerely yours,



William Farkas  
CIE Coordinator

WF/md

**FRANKLIN SCHOOL**

# 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 2006-2007 School Year  
**DATE:** June 8, 2007

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 non-curricular 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. Twelve after school mathematic review sessions were offered and well-received by the students. This, in conjunction with other activities, will hopefully help us achieve safe harbor. 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 2006-2007 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. Mr. Schwarz offered several in-service workshops to enhance the teachers' use of the Grade Pro Program. 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 660 with a top score in the verbal area of 640.

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 2006-2007 School Year**

Our School Level Objectives were implemented during the 2006-2007 school year. The following details Franklin School:

#### **OBJECTIVE I**

By June of 2007, all students, excluding special education students will achieve the Language Arts Literacy benchmark of 66 during the 2007 administration of the GEPA. Special education students will increase their passing rate from 39.7 to 45.7, thus attaining safe harbor.

**Results:** During the 2006-2007 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. The students in grade 8 met and exceeded the benchmark of 45.7 by achieving a score of 46.9 thus showing a total improvement of 21 points from the 2006-2007 GEPA Test scores.

#### **OBJECTIVE II**

By June of 2007, all students, excluding special education students, will achieve the math benchmark of 49 during the March 2007 administration of GEPA. Special education students will increase their rate of passing from 26.6 to 34.9, thus attaining safe harbor.

**Results:** During the 2006-2007 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. The students in Grade 7 met and clearly exceeded the benchmark of 49 by achieving a score of 72.1 thus showing a total improvement of 41 points from the 2006-2007 NJ ASK Test scores.

### **School Level Objectives for the 2007-2008 School Year**

#### **OBJECTIVE I**

By June of 2008, seventy percent of students enrolled in the seventh grade English classes will achieve an average score of three or better on two open-ended 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 2008, 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 2007-2008 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 mathematics strategies, language arts strategies 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 2006-2007 school year was a very productive year with many students enjoying the Halloween Dance, the Inaugural Ball, the spring dance 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 2007-2008 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 Pro program to its fullest.

Continue to incorporate the use of e-mail to inform staff of day-to-day activities at Franklin School along with informing parents/guardians of all informational items through the school's website.

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.

Monitor new computer electives that will be instituted during the 2007-2008 school year to verify that FMS is meeting standards 8.1 and 8.2.

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.

Continue to oversee the implementation of 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 all 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 2007

## 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 are given reading and writing samples beginning in September that reinforce skills tested on the GEPA. Essays are graded following the holistic scoring method used by the judges of the GEPA.
- B. Writing, editing, and reading samples are also given to seventh grade students. Teachers guide students through detailed assignments that follow the guidelines of the GEPA.
- C. Seventh grade mini-lessons that reinforce the skills tested on the writing section of the GEPA are also incorporated into the curriculum from January through March.

## II. Instruction

Eighth graders are required to write a research paper. They are guided through a step-by-step approach and follow the MLA format. Students prepare an outline, note cards, a rough draft, and a detailed bibliography/works cited. Students use the computer as a source for some of this research.

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

### 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.

### 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 an 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.

.North Jersey Spelling Bee: The North Herald Newspaper Spelling Bee was coordinated by Melissa Echevarria

### 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. Students are required to read three books from these lists and they will be asked to demonstrate their of these books in the fall.

### V. Bookroom

The bookroom contains material in present use in the classroom. An updated inventory of these materials is prepared and submitted for September. This year presents a challenge since books are in the process of being relocated to a different area. Teachers will continue to store some texts in their classrooms.

### 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  
 From: Toby D'Ambola  
 Subject: Annual Report – Mathematics Department, Franklin School  
 Date: June 1, 2007

## I. Staff

- A. Departmental statistics indicate that 8 regular teachers taught a total of 38 Math classes with an average class size of 20. This includes three sections of Algebra I and two sections of Computer Applications. In a state mandated supplemental program, Denise Cleary and Connie Inguanti taught our Math Strategies classes. Ms. Cleary taught three math strategies classes at the 7<sup>th</sup> grade level while Ms. Inguanti taught five math strategies classes, four at the 8<sup>th</sup> grade level and one at the 7<sup>th</sup> grade level. Both Ms. Cleary and Ms. Inguanti worked on test taking skills in answering open-ended questions with their students while at the same time reinforcing those skills being taught in the regular math classes.
- B. This year, no new teachers join the math staff at the middle school. Two math teachers had extended leaves of absences. Mr. Frank Sasso was out in the fall for medical reasons while Mrs. Bethany Turro was absent from January 1<sup>st</sup> on a maternity leave. Ms. Janine Thomas replaced both of these individuals doing an excellent job filling in for them. Ms. Thomas has proven to me that she is a hard-working individual who is highly dependable and enthusiastic. She was willing to accept all tasks that were assigned to her and has shown to be a very confident and capable person in the classroom. Her hard work and dedication allowed the students' education in these classes to continue without interruption.

## II. TESTING

- A. On March 13, 2007 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 NJ ASK was given to all 7<sup>th</sup> graders the week of March 19<sup>th</sup>. Results from this test will be used to help determine whether a student should be placed in a math strategy class for the next school year.
- C. John Hopkins Talent Search results for the 2006 - 2007 school year indicated that the mean SAT score in mathematics achieved by all of our students was 462, an increase of 22 points over last year. The following 7<sup>th</sup> grade students received distinction and/or state awards from John Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth: Kimberly Lu, Jennifer Xu and Amanda Zhao. Eighth grade

students who participated and received awards are: James Kwon and Paul Lee.

### 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.
- C. In October, 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.
- D. This year we initiated an after school program to assist those students in levels 3 and 4 of our math program. The classes met from the middle of January to March 8<sup>th</sup> on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3 P.M. to 4 P.M. Class size was kept to a minimum so that each student could receive individualized attention in increasing his or her skills in answering open-ended questions. At the end of these sessions a sample test was given to all students to evaluate their overall progress and to prepare them to take the upcoming state assessments.
- E. In February a comprehensive test was given to all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes as a pre-test refresher for the Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment and the 7<sup>th</sup> grade NJ Assessment of Student Knowledge that was 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 and the NJ ASK, 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 state assessment at each level.
- G. This year we continued to offer Algebra I at the seventh grade level. Those students who successfully completed this course will either take 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, met once a week to prepare for contests and discuss problem-solving strategies. In February they participated in MathCounts, a national math competition.

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

On October 27, 2006 Nancy Foglio and Denise Cleary attended the AMTNJ conference held in Somerset.

Frank Sasso, Deanna Fredricks, Sarah Misner, Nicole Ferraro and Jennifer Ambrose attended graduate school helping them to keep up to date with current trends in education.

The entire math department attended two GEPA workshops at the high school on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and January 12<sup>th</sup> so that they may improve their skills on teaching test taking techniques

### V. DEPARTMENTAL GOALS FOR 2007 – 2008

- A. Continue to monitor the progress of those students in the Math Strategies 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  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY  
WORLD LANGUAGES and ESL DEPARTMENTS**

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

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

SUBJECT: Annual Report, 2006-07

**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, Spanish, and Latin, levels 1A and 1B
3. Mr. Di Cristo together with Mrs. Stepansky the Latin teachers at the high school visited the five elementary schools to promote the Latin program to 6<sup>th</sup> graders.
4. Mrs. Frost-Guzzo, the new ESL teacher has worked very diligently with other members of the department and the administration to test LEP students for entrance/exiting the ESL program. She has revamped the ESL program at the Middle School to make it more challenging, and make the students accountable, at the same time to prepare them for the ACCESS Test as required by the State of New Jersey according to the NCLB and Title 3.

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

1. Mrs. Schiavone's Italian classes attended performances of Operas "Cavalleria Rusticana and Pagliacci" "La Boheme" and "Don Carlo" 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.
3. The Spanish club had a field trip to the United Nations on December 14, 2006.



4. Mrs. Muniz mentored two Spanish students for the Junior Practicum. One from Montclair State University and one from Seton Hall University.
5. Mrs. Frost-Guzzo, new ESL teacher attended the following workshops/conferences.
  - *Spring Conference of- The Foreign Language Educators of New Jersey (FLENJ).*
  - *Spring Conference - New Jersey Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages/Bilingual Education (NJTESOL/BE).*
6. Mr. Violante As ESL District Coordinator, was a representative at the National OELA Fifth Annual Celebrate Our Rising Stars Summit, U.S. Department of Education, Office of English Language Acquisition, Language Enhancing, and Academic Achievement for Limited English Proficient Students, Washington D.C. He participated in the following conferences:
  - *Strategies to Close the Achievement Gap.*
  - *Structured "Academic Talk" for English Learners: A Key to Narrowing the Verbal Gap in K-12 Classroom.*
  - *Title III Accountability (NCLB)*
  - *Understanding Title III Requirements*
  - *Assessing ELL Students in Content and Literacy*
  - *Strategies for Developing Oral Language in English and Other Languages.*

#### IV. Departmental Recommendations

- The New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards for World Languages and The State Department of Education mandate 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. **N.J.A.C. 6A:8-3.1 (a)3 holds districts accountable for "assessing and publicly reporting on the progress of all students in developing the knowledge and skills specified by the Core Curriculum Content Standards, including content areas not currently in the Statewide assessment program"**
- Children in early second language programs where curriculum is aligned with other core areas show gains in standardized tests of basic skills, and derive additional cognitive and affective benefits;
- **Early language learning results in improving literacy skills.** Reading and writing processes are similar for first and second languages. Skills and strategies are transferable for first to second language and vice-versa. Well constructed K-8 world languages curriculum will positively influence literacy skills in both first and second language learning.

**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 2006 - 2007

The following are activities of the 2006 - 2007 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. However, the projected enrollment for next year's band will be back up to 100 members.
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 which Franklin Middle School hosted, 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 18 -19 the Concert Choir participated at the Hershey Park 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, the Madrigal Feast Dinner which they co-hosted with the NHS Madrigal Singers, and the Spring Choral Festival. On May 4<sup>th</sup>, the Madrigal Singers competed at the Festival In The Parks Competition at Great Adventure. Not only did the Madrigal Singers receive a First Place Trophy, but were chosen as the best vocal group of the festival.

### 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 Northern N.J. Region I 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. The FMS Jazz Band was selected as the Overall Best Jazz Band. This group received scores higher than several high school jazz bands to achieve this honor. On May 21<sup>st</sup> the FMS Jazz Band performed (to rave reviews) at *Trumpets* Jazz Club in Montclair, NJ. Once again, the Band marched 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 fifty 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 fifty years old) with new ones.

***Franklin Middle School  
Science Department  
Annual Report  
2006-2007***

**To: Mr. John Calicchio**

**From: Mr. Michael Fetherman**

**Re: Principal's Report for the 2006-2007 Academic Year**

**Date: June 1, 2007**

The Franklin Middle School science department experienced another great year of both progress and change. For starters, Mr. Frank Francia, as a result of his hard work and dedication to the youngsters at Franklin School, earned the distinction of *tenure* effective January of 2007 – congratulation, Frank! Ms. Alison Yacullo, meanwhile, continues to impress, educate and entertain, only now it is from the confines of our newly completed second floor science room. It should be noted that both Ms. Yacullo and Mr. Francia have made a tremendously positive impact on our Middle School students, and are a pleasure to work with outside of the classroom. Mrs. Lynn Zazzali has proven herself worthy as long-term substitute for the recently retired Ms. Neilley, and Mrs. Love, Mr. Bertuzzi and Mr. Libert have again lived up to their titles as master teachers - 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 2006-2007 school year indicate that 7 diverse and dynamic teachers taught 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade science in the *inclusion*, *regular* and *vector* level settings. Our Middle School curriculum emphasizes four areas of study: *life*, *physical*, *earth* and *environmental science*, the following of which constitutes a section-by-section mention of each staff member's classroom teaching assignment.

**Teacher: Mr. Joseph Bertuzzi**

Mr. Bertuzzi taught five sections of eighth grade science: three offerings taught at the "regular" education level, two at the "vector" level.

**Teacher: Mr. Frank Francia**

Mr. Francia taught five sections of seventh grade science: three offerings taught at the "regular" education level, two at the "vector" level.

**Teacher: Mr. Frank Libert**

Mr. Libert taught five sections of eighth grade science: three offerings taught at the “regular” education level, two at the “vector” level.

**Teacher: Mrs. Laura Love**

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

**Teacher: Ms. Jeanne Neilley**

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

**Teacher: Ms. Alison Yacullo**

Ms. Yacullo taught three sections of “regular” education seventh grade science in addition to two “vector” level seventh grade science courses.

**Mrs. Lynn Zazzali**

Mrs. Zazzali filled in admirably for Ms. Neilley as a long-term substitute teacher. Mrs. Zazzali covered all of Ms. Neilley’s classes and duties, and has established herself as a competent educational leader under difficult circumstances - thanks, Lynn! We look forward to Lynn joining us on a full-time basis next year.

**II. Staff Development**

Each and every staff member of the Franklin Middle School science department sought and participated in professional development opportunities that ranged from workshops to lecture series to field trips. I commend all participants on “a job well done.” See section III - Extracurricular Activities for a detailed listing.

**III. Extracurricular Activities**

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

Supervised *Club Suzio*

Supervised *Club Esteban*

Supervised *Meteorology and Sports Information Club*

Sponsored the *Kickin’ for Lizzie Soccer Tournament*

Participated in *Earthwatch* scientific research

Completed Graduate Course work at Montclair State and William Paterson Universities

Participated in the *Principal’s Advisory Council*

Attended the *Nutrition/Advanced Nutrition Seminar at The Institute of the National Association of Certified Health Professionals*

Attended the *Bat Habitats Investigation, Weiss Ecology Center*

Attended the *Frelinghuysen Arboretum* and *NJ State Botanical Gardens*

Investigated the state of Maine's ecosystems via kayak  
 Applied for grant funding via Montclair State University  
 Participated in numerous technology (Easy Grade Pro) in-service seminars  
 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 activities, several staff members displayed their students' science projects in hallways and classrooms to reflective and reinforce various components of the FMS science 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. Classroom lessons reflect careful planning and execution with constant focus on curricular objectives and state standards.

Staff members continue their efforts to assist in the transition to our new science rooms, as renovations that had begun some time ago now move towards completion. In addition, staff and students alike anticipate an exciting renewal to the delivery of instruction this fall with the arrival of six large-screen smart boards, one for each newly completed science classroom.

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. As such, books should be user-friendly to encourage our students to read and reflect the most up-to-date information available in the dynamic field of science and discovery.

Additionally, on behalf of a continued effort to enhance the vertical alignment of our K-6, Middle School and 9-12 curricula, it is now more necessary than ever that we take on the challenges and reap the rewards of calendar-based curriculum mapping. Dialogue continues in an effort to promote articulation between our primary, middle school and high school educators, and we can reasonably presuppose that the learning experiences of all of our youngsters will profit from this worthwhile endeavor.

**BUSINESS and CREATIVE ARTS DEPARTMENT**  
**Franklin Middle School**  
**YEARLY REPORT**  
**2006-2007**

**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 continued to coordinate the applications process for 7<sup>th</sup> grade Fine Arts and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Advanced Art.
5. Ms. Hill mentored Ms. Vander Have and Mrs. Lappostato, the new fine arts teachers at the high school.
6. Mrs. Dorfman displayed computer generated work in the main display case.
7. Ms. Dorfman assisted with the Easy Grade Pro workshops.

# Franklin Middle School

## Principal's Report

### 2006 - 2007

**To:** Mr. John Calicchio, Principal

**Date:** June 1, 2007

**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 303 seventh grade students and 332 eighth grade students.

#### **I. Curriculum**

The department continued to implement a curriculum that was designed in accordance with the 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 and the first half of the two-year sequence in World History. Special emphasis was placed in the seventh grade upon the study of American government, and in the eighth grade upon world geography and the history of the ancient and medieval eras. 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 implemented the newly revised the Grade Eight curriculum, which focuses 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 three 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. A series of workshops addressing the "essential questions" model and relevant concerns regarding the new course were conducted during the fall.



## **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 curriculum where appropriate. The department is currently considering means of evaluating the increased infusion of reading into the curriculum, as well as the retention of geography skills. More emphasis will be placed upon “essential questions” in the eighth grade. 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. Essential Questions in Social Studies workshops.
2. Graduate courses at Caldwell College
3. New Jersey Network for Educational Renewal
4. Difficult Parents workshop
5. 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. Ancient History poster projects
- G. World Religions projects
- H. Internet - Based Projects Concerning the Constitution and the Bill of Rights
- I. Analysis and Creation of Political Cartoons
- J. 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

Grade Eight

*Journey Across Time: The Early Ages* combined volume, 2005

## **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 he did this past year. As always, the department is encouraged by the ongoing support of Mr. Calicchio and the administration towards the realization of these goals.

To: Mr. John Calicchio

From: Ms. Luann Zullo

Re: 2006-2007 Annual Report Health and Physical Education Department

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

-Ms. Luann Zullo teaches Health and Physical Education. She is also the Freshman Girls Basketball and Varsity Softball Coach at Nutley High School. Ms. Zullo sponsors the Softball Club and also chaperones many extra curricular activities at the Middle School. Ms. Zullo helps to supervise the Central Detention Program at the Middle School. She also organized the budget for the department.

-Mr. Thomas Grant teaches Health and Physical Education. Mr. Grant serves as Varsity Golf Coach at Nutley High School this past year. He also sponsored the Golf Club at the Middle School.

-Mr. Christopher Chern teaches Health and Physical Education. Mr. Chern is on leave; Ms. Kristen Gumeny substituted for Mr. Chern's health classes and Mr. Carter L. Carter substituted for his physical education classes. Instruction was not affected.

-Mrs. Jennifer Citarella teaches Health and Physical Education. Mrs. Citarella is on leave; Ms. Gina Tucci substituted for Mrs. Citarella for the past two years. Instruction was not affected.

Due to school construction the Physical Education Department was without a gymnasium or locker rooms for the first marking period. When the new turf in the Oval was completed, weather permitting, the physical education classes were able to use that facility for lifetime activities. The availability of the northern thirty yards of the field allowed students to participate in frisbee and hacky sack games, fitness walking and other cooperative educational activities. Students received an excused grade (X) for this marking period. Their overall grade will be based on two marking periods of physical education instead of three.

At the beginning of the second marking period the gymnasium was still not completed, therefore the second marking period was dedicated to Health Education. Unlike in the past where health was offered each of the four marking periods to help with overcrowding in the physical education classes, this year every student in the school was scheduled for health second marking period. Each teacher taught both the seventh and eighth grade health curriculum. This included alcohol, tobacco, substance use and abuse, self-esteem, mental health, wellness, fitness and nutrition, human reproduction, AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases.

The use of graphic notes, guest speakers, lectures, class discussion, audio-visual aids, homework assignments, current events and critical thinking were some of the techniques used to introduce and develop the student 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.

At the beginning of marking period three the new gymnasium and locker room facilities were available. The physical education curriculum was implemented by offering soccer, basketball, team handball and other lifetime activities. During the fourth marking period, when possible, the students were given a choice of two activities to participate in. This increased participation and students' positive attitude toward physical education. Activities included football, softball, volleyball, ultimate Frisbee, fitness education, and many lead-up and cooperative educational activities.

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

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 the skill goals. The teachers monitored and adjusted the

lesson when appropriate. At the conclusion, the class had a brief review of the day and when possible were given a preview of the next day's class.

The department continued the optional use of sweats. It allowed us to keep classes outside for more of the year, considering the size of the classes and our limited space this was very important. It would also allow those students who do not feel comfortable in shorts to wear sweats without being penalized for not being prepared for class. This year there was no official physical education uniform.

**LINCOLN SCHOOL**

# NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

LINCOLN SCHOOL  
301 HARRISON STREET  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

LORRAINE RESTEL  
Principal

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

**TO:** Mr. Joseph Zarra  
**DATE:** June 29, 2007  
**FROM:** Lorraine Restel, Principal, Lincoln School  
**SUBJECT:** Principal's Annual Report – School Year 2006-2007

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:

### Continuing Priorities

- Technology Curriculum
- State Mandated School Objectives
- District Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Program
- District Emergency Management Plan
- Science Calendar Curriculum Mapping
- Differentiated Instruction/Inclusion Instructional Strategies
- Implementation of Mathematics Curriculum
- One Step Web Page
- Implementation of Language Arts Literacy
- 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



- Designing Technology Integrated Lessons
- 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

## **Testing**

The results of the Nutley Math mid-term and final Tests, the 2007 NJ ASK, 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 encourage our learners.

## **Results of School Level Objectives 2006 – 2007**

Students in kindergarten and first grade demonstrated proficiency in writing through a writing assessment. 83% of the students assessed achieved a score of 80% or better on a teacher-developed assessment. A rubric was used to score the writing assignment.

The students in grades two through six demonstrated proficiency in writing through a series of writing assessments given throughout the year. A total of 86% of the students assessed achieved a score of 80% or better on the teacher-developed assessments. A rubric was used to score the writing assignments.

The students of Lincoln School successfully met the 2006-2007 School-level Objectives.

## **School Level Objectives 2007 -2008**

By June 2008, students in grades kindergarten through two (K – 2) will show appropriate proficiency using computer applications and technology tools to produce a word processing document and create a multimedia presentation. This objective will be assessed during the months of February and May. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a combined score of 80% on teacher – developed assessments.

By June 2008, students in grades three through six (3 -6) will show age appropriate proficiency using computer applications and technology tools to produce and edit a word processing document with text and graphics, utilizing a graphic organizer, and create a multimedia presentation. This objective will be assessed during the months of February and May. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a combined score of 80% on the teacher –developed assessments.

## **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 2006 – 2007 year.

January Advance at Montclair State University

Singapore Math – Strategies to Improve Math Performance

Practical Strategies for Working with Students with Asperger Syndrome and

High- Functioning Autism Grades K – 12

Dr. Jean's Razzle Dazzle Centers and Activities For Reading, Writing, and Math  
(Grades Pre-K, K, & 1)

Strategies for Mentoring and Coaching

Critical Thinking in the Elementary Classroom

Affirmative Action

ASK Preparation Workshop

Family Math

Family Science

Dave Glatzer Math Workshop

MSUNER Teacher Study Group – Technology Tips for the Teacher

Priorities Report

SAC Meetings

Working With Autism Spectrum Students

Spring NJ ASK Training

CPR Training

Social Studies Curriculum Committee

Graduate courses through various Universities

**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

Throughout the year the children and staff have participated in many different projects and programs. The following are some of the highlights:

### Author Visit

This spring the students in the Pre-K, Kindergarten, and grades 1 & 2 were delighted to meet Alyssa Capucilli, author of many children's books including the series of adorable stories about Biscuit, a loveable puppy. Many of the children purchased her books which she was gracious enough to autograph for each child. The children were also excited to meet Biscuit the Dog in person, (played by Ms. Peters, Lincoln School's librarian.)

### **Ozzie Alive**

To help celebrate Earth Day, Ozzie Tollefson, of Ozzie Alive, Inc. came to Lincoln School to do two performances about our National Parks and Wilderness Trails. His presentation contained many interesting facts and concluded with a beautiful slide journey across the country. Ozzie has driven through all 50 of our states and hikes most of the National Parks. The slide show took us to Alaska, Glacier Bay, and Denali, to name a few. His message encouraged the students to take care of the Earth so that we always have a place to retreat where we can be at peace and confront the essential meanings of life and our connection to the world.

### **Pick – A- Packet**

The students in grades four through six enjoyed a day of cooperative problem solving activities. Each grade level was divided into teams of five to six and given twelve different puzzles in a round-robin learning adventure to solve as a group. The activity allowed the children to use critical thinking skills and problem solving techniques to complete a task. A scorekeeper tallied the scores for each team and a winning team was announced at the end of the session.

### **Simon Sez for Better Listening**

Steve Max visited Lincoln School in January to present his program to grades K – 6. Through the use of the game Simon Sez, the children were encouraged to become better listeners. The program also touched on topics like concentration, staying focused, avoiding distractions, not succumbing to peer pressure, showing respect, and the idea that it is OK to make mistakes. The program was well received by both students and teachers.

### **Bruce Segal Assemblies – Sweet Home New Jersey**

Students in grades 3 – 6 were invited to an assembly in March by Bruce Segal focusing on New Jersey. The program included facts about Nutley as well as information relating to the state of New Jersey in general.

### **Bruce Segal Assemblies – Tropical Rainforests**

Students in grades K – 2 were invited to an assembly about a visit to the Tropical Rainforests. It proved to be very informative for the children and included an interesting slide presentation of some examples of animals and vegetation that inhabit the area.

### **Dan Geltrude Assembly**

Mr. Daniel Geltrude visited the students in grades 4, 5, and 6 to speak with them about the dangers of skin cancer. His talk was informative and well received by the students and teachers.

### **Lincoln School Website**

Each month, teachers and specialists wrote a short message highlighting what was happening in their classes. Parents and students enjoyed this up close look at their class.

### **4<sup>th</sup> Grade Astronomy Program**

The fourth grade, in conjunction with Raritan Valley Community College participated in an Astronomy Program, which consisted in bi-weekly visits from Mr. 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 Science and Social Studies lessons.

### **Family Math and Family Science**

Parents of students in the fourth grade were given the opportunity to attend the popular Family Math and Family Science Programs with their children. Mrs. Dolores Contreras and Mrs. Lorraine Rubinstein promoted problem solving using various manipulative activities in the Family Math workshop. Mrs. Carol Gurney and Mrs. Danielle Ferraro planned hands-on experiments for their Family Science groups. These experiments supported the scientific process. These sessions correlated with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards and fostered the home and school connection.

### **Monthly Math Challenge**

Each month the Basic Skills Team at Lincoln School, consisting of Mrs. Dolores Contreras, Mrs. Cyndi Lynch, Ms. Leslie Scrilillo, and Ms. Amy Reszka, developed a series of math challenge questions based on a mathematical concept such as geometry or measurement. They visited each class and along with the math teacher, explored the theme using manipulatives. Materials were left in the classrooms for use in future lessons. A math challenge question was developed for each grade level and completed individually in class. The children put their answers into a special box outside the principal's office. Children with the correct answer were rewarded with a special prize. This is a program the children have participated in over the past several years. We are planning on continuing this successful program next year.

### **Lincoln School Art Show**

The students of Lincoln School were honored to have the opportunity to conduct an art show at the St. John's Church in Newark this May. Under the direction of Ms. Mary Pagana and Ms. Patricia Griffin, approximately 100 students had their artwork displayed in the show. It was well received and attended by the parents, children, and many dignitaries from our town and others.

### **Musicales**

Mrs. Carol Bender provided the students of Lincoln School with an opportunity to participate in several productions this year. Students in grade one entertained their parents in December with a variety of holiday tunes. Grades 5 & 6 explored Jazz in a program entitled "Gotta Be Jazz" in April, and the third and fourth grades entertained us with several songs and sections highlighting their recorders. The Lincolnaires performed beautifully at the Holiday concert. They were also invited to sing for the Board of Education before one of their monthly meetings. Mr. Baron Raymonde continues to be an inspiration to the students of Lincoln School. Under his guidance and instruction, the instrumental music program continues to grow. His performances were both inspirational and entertaining.

### **Teacher Study Group – Technology Tips for the Teacher**

This group was formed through a \$500 grant through Montclair State University's Network for Educational Renewal (MSUNER). A group of approximately twenty- two teachers met once a week during their lunch hour to become more familiar with and explore the programs and technology available to them for use in the classroom. Among the topics covered was Easy Grade Pro, nettrekker, United Streaming, various web sites, use of the LCD Projector, graphing on the computer, and Kidspiration.

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

Lincoln School welcomed several women from the Nutley community to speak to the fifth and sixth grades in honor of Women's History Month in March. The panelists discussed their career experiences and answered many thoughtful questions from the students. The assembly was well received and provided the students with perspective into many different careers.

### **Battle of the Books**

Students in grades five and six participated in the National Battle of the Books Program. The students in each grade were divided into teams. Each team was responsible for reading fifteen novels from a pre-selected list. The teams then "battled" in their classes by answering questions based on their comprehension of the various books. Winners of the fifth grade then battled the sixth grade winner in the "ultimate battle." This year, the sixth grades won the challenge. This program continues to be an extremely successful method of promoting reading, exposing the children to different kinds of novels, and improving comprehension skills. This is a worthwhile program that will continue again during the 2007 -2008 school year.

### **Philosophy for Children – Grade 5**

The Institute for the Advancement of Philosophy for Children at Montclair State University invited the fifth grade classes in Nutley to participate in a project called "Becoming Better Thinkers." Funded by the National Academy of Education, the project's goal was to help children develop good thinking and effective communication

skills. During the four month program, selected classes were given selections to read and then discuss with their group. The sessions were videotaped and facilitated by either the classroom teacher or a faculty member from Montclair State University. The students were assessed in developing their thinking and communication skills at the beginning and end of the program. This assessment involved a written composition, a reading comprehension test, and individual interviews.

## **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 grants that will increase technology in the classroom.

## **Programs that Support our Community**

The students of Lincoln School are very generous and compassionate toward the needs of others. The following are examples of programs conducted during the 2006 -2007 school year:

### **St. John's Homeless Shelter**

Students in the fifth grade, under the direction of Miss Patricia Griffin, visited St. John's Soup Kitchen monthly to prepare food for the homeless. They also collected food and clothing to bring to the shelter throughout the year.

### **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.

### **Katrina Relief Donation**

The faculty and Staff of Lincoln School incorporated a Mardi Gras theme in their Halloween costumes this year. A collection was taken among the staff, and a donation was made to Nutley's sister city, Bay St. Louis, Miss. for the Katrina Relief Fund.



**St. Baldrick's Day – Nutley**

The Student Council sold Lincoln School Pride bumper stickers to raise money to sponsor a Lincoln School parent, who participated in the town-wide event. The donations are used to help fight childhood cancer.

**Loose Change for Lizzie**

The students in Mrs. Rubinstein's third grade class conducted a school wide collection of loose change to benefit Lizzie Chern, the child of a teacher in the Franklin Middle School who is battling cancer. A donation of a little more than \$1,000 was made.

**Pennies for Patriots**

Students in each class collected loose change during the month of October to be used to purchase supplies to support our troops.

**2006 Holiday Treasure Chest**

The students of Lincoln School collected new, unwrapped toys during the month of December and donated them to Nutley's CARE Committee to be distributed to needy families in Nutley during the holiday season.

**Pennies for Play**

The NJ State Firemen's Mutual Benevolent Association along with the Save the Children and Mercy Corps collected pennies and loose change throughout the months of May and June to help rebuild playgrounds in areas hit with disasters like Hurricane Katrina and the Tsunami.

**Pajama Program**

The students of Lincoln School collected new pajamas and books during the month of March and donated them to needy children in the United States and around the world. The collections were handled through Ms. Claudia Marra, who did an outstanding job.

### **The Earth's Big Birthday Project**

In conjunction with our Earth Day activities in the month of April, Mrs. Sally Magin organized the Earth's Big Birthday Project Big Gift. The children in Lincoln School were invited to purchase a colorful Rainforest bracelet for \$1.00. The proceeds from the collection were donated to be used to protect orangutans living in the Rainforests.

### **Spring Soldier Supply Drive**

Lincoln School's Student Council collected various travel sized toiletries during the months of May and June to send overseas to our troops.

### **Integrated Work Study Program – Nutley High School**

Under the direction of Mrs. Sharon Romaglia, students from Nutley High School worked at Lincoln School this year. Each afternoon a group of caring responsible students came to Lincoln School to serve as helpers in several of our classrooms. They performed many tasks to aid the teachers and were well received by the students and staff. We look forward to continuing this program next year.

## **Health and Safety**

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

### **Pre-School Exercise Program "Courageous Pacers"**

The pre-school Special Education classes along with the SLD classes in Lincoln School worked along with Mrs. Karen Chasmar on the Courageous Pacers program in conjunction with the Mayor's Wellness Campaign. The children worked throughout the year on physical fitness by walking, lifting weights made from water bottles, and various other activities. Progress was displayed on charts in the hallway. Mayor Cocchiola was invited to the school for the culminating activity where the children demonstrated the activities they had been working on throughout the year.

**Substance Education**

Mrs. Nancy Thunell, our Student Assistance Coordinator, met with many students and classes over the course of this year. Among the topics discussed were peer pressure, conflict resolution, bullying, and drug / tobacco prevention.

**Social Skills**

Mrs. Thunell and school psychologist Ms. Sara Fredricks continued their Social Skills Group this year. The group met once a week during the lunch hour to work with students who were experiencing problems with social skills. The meetings were well attended and successful. The group is planning to continue meeting next year.

**Health Screenings**

Mrs. Robin Greengrove, our school nurse, conducted screeningd for vision and hearing for all children in Lincoln School. Children in grade five were also screened for scoliosis. She conducted the puberty presentations for the fifth grade boys and girls as well as attending to the needs of individual children with health or hygiene concerns.

**Jump for Heart**

Mr. Thomas Gargiulo facilitated the Jump For Heart program this year. After a motivational assembly introducing the program to the students, Mr. Gargiulo planned a school wide field day that emphasized the importance of exercise for a healthy heart. The students participated in a series of cardiovascular related exercises that promoted healthy behaviors and fun. The event raised over \$4,000 that was donated to the American Heart Association.

**Relay For Life**

The staff of Lincoln School formed the team Bonnie's Buddies and participated in Nutley's first Relay for Life event. The team raised money in memory of Bonnie Weiss, a staff member of Lincoln School who lost her battle with cancer last summer.

## **Class Trips**

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

- September
  - Kindergarten trip to the Nutley Fire House
- October
  - Fifth grade trip to Bloomfield College
  - First grade trip to Heaven Hills Farm
  - Sixth grade camping trip to Fairview Lake YMCA Camp
- November
  - Third grade trip to Waterloo Village
- January
  - Second Grade Trip to Newark Museum
  - Kindergarten trip to Theaterworks
- February
  - Third grade trip to the Meadowlands
- March
  - First grade trip to Broadway Bound
- May
  - Kindergarten trip to Jersey City
  - Special Education Classes trip to the Friendship Festival
  - Third grade trip to Jenkinson's Pier
- June
  - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Roller Skating / Yearbook signing
  - Kindergarten trip to Van Saun Park
  - Second grade trip to the Nutley Library
  - Third grade trip to the Nutley Museum and Franklin Reformed Church and cemetery

Students from the SLD classes accompanied their partner classes on field trips.

## **Student Achievements**

Many students in Lincoln School participated in a variety of poster and essay contests throughout the year in addition to their required schoolwork. The following is a list of some of the activities they participated in.

- ABC 2007 Science Fair
- Nutley Elks Lodge No. 1290 Essay Contest “Why I’m Proud to be an American”
- Nutley School District Original Recipe contest
- Nutley Veteran’s Council Poster Contest “Freedom Isn’t Free”
- ABC Poetry Festival

## **Clubs at Lincoln School**

The following is a list of clubs offered at Lincoln School during the 2006 -2007 school year:

### **Academically Speaking / Trivia Club –Mrs. Dolores Contreras**

This club consisted of sixth graders. They met weekly to develop an awareness of facts and information that relates to a variety of subject areas.

### **Advanced Recorder Ensemble – Mrs. Carol Bender**

This club is for fifth and sixth grade students who expressed a desire to continue playing the soprano recorder. They learned more advanced music including two part music. They performed at the Spring Concert.

### **Animal Club – Mrs. Valerie Martin and Ms. Florence Meyers**

The purpose of this club is to create an awareness of and appreciation for animals. The children held several fundraisers to enable them to make donations to a variety of animal causes.

**Sixth Grade Art Club – Ms. Mary Pagana**

The sixth grade students in this club enhanced their drawing experiences to produce a portfolio that was presented to the middle school for consideration into the fine arts class. They also worked on the decorations for all school musicales.

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

The fifth grade students in this club had an opportunity to use their artistic abilities in advanced art projects. Their work was displayed throughout the school.

**Future Newscasters Club – Ms. Janine Peters**

The students in this club met weekly to report on current events and learn to use the media devices available to them. The students worked with the video camera, i-movies, the digital camera, and word processing to simulate a news report.

**Lincolnaires – Mrs. Carol Bender**

The fifth and sixth grade students in this ensemble worked to learn unison, two and three part choral music, and good singing skills to perform a several concerts and functions throughout the school year.

**Olde World Crafts Club – Mrs. Kimberly Algieri**

The students in this club learned the basic stitches used in the art of crocheting. They were encouraged to create crocheted squares that were sewn together to create lap robes to be donated to a senior care facility.

**Service Club – Feed the Hungry – Ms. Patricia Griffin**

This club, consisting of fifth grade students met once a month to service and feed the hungry at St. John's Church, Newark. They worked there to prepare meals and serve breakfast to the needy. The children also collected food and clothing to be distributed to those in need.

### **Sixth Grade Patrol Program - Mr. Kenneth Ferriol**

This group of sixth grade students performed various duties throughout Lincoln School to help to maintain order and aide the classroom teachers and staff. This club fostered responsibility, tolerance for others, and a feeling of community amongst its members. Students in this club must have received all of their checks on the Social Skills side of their report card in order to participate.

### **Student Council – Grade five –Mrs. Jessica Nolasco**

The members of this club, along with the sixth grade club worked throughout the year to perform school and community services to come to the aid of those in need.

### **Student Council – Grade 6 – Mrs. Linda Batson**

The members of this club, along with the fifth grade club worked throughout the year to perform school and community services to come to the aid of those in need.

### **Wednesday Walkers – Mrs. Ellen Wolf and Mrs. Karen Chasmar**

This club invited “high risk” students and students with special needs to participate in a program that provided them an opportunity to exercise and socialize during the lunch hour. The students met each Wednesday and walked 1.5 miles through the neighborhood surrounding Lincoln School. This program also supported the Mayor’s Wellness Campaign and the Mayor’s Fitness Challenge.

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

I would like to thank the Lincoln school PTO for its dedication to our school. Their unending enthusiasm and commitment to our school 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 co-presidents Sue DePiro and Joyleen Mainiero and the rest of the board for their tireless efforts on behalf of our school. I am looking forward to another successful year working with them.

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

- New Parent's Tea
- Scholastic Book Fair (Fall and Spring)
- Pumpkin Patch
- Fall Social
- Holiday Boutique
- Family Bingo
- Tricky Tray
- Talent Show
- Muffins for Mom
- Donuts for Dad
- Sixth Grade activities and dance
- Movie nights
- Plant sale for Mother's Day
- Staff Appreciation Luncheon
- Olympic shirts and pizza
- Author Assembly
- Simon Sez Assembly
- Bake Sales
- Bruce Segal Assemblies

The following list contains examples of the wonderful gifts the Lincoln School PTO has purchased for our school as a result of their tireless fundraising throughout the year. The entire staff joins me in thanking them for their generosity and support.

- Agenda Pads and Folders for the entire school
- Battle of the Books Sets for grades 5 & 6
- Science Kits for grades 2 & 3
- Califone Listening Center



- Boom Boxes
- Learn to Read Holiday Series
- Telescope with a Solar Filter
- Additional novels for grade 5
- Half arc rug
- Bean bag chairs
- Pre K Math and Language packs
- Rubbermaid Sturdy Chairs for our Preschool Class
- Rhythm Set
- Folder trays and cubbies
- Easels
- Drying racks
- 5 Mac iBooks
- 2 Trumpets

## **Concerns**

Lincoln School continues to need attention due to its age and its ever increasing population. Our playground blacktop needs to be resurfaced in order to prevent injury to staff and students. The faculty and staff will continue to monitor the needs of the facility and cooperate in all efforts to improve the situation so that we can provide our students with the best possible learning environment.

## **Conclusion**

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the faculty and staff for their unending support throughout my first year as principal of Lincoln School. There was never a time that I questioned their loyalty and support. I would also like to thank the parent community for allowing me the privilege of working with their children. The Lincoln School students should be commended for their enthusiasm and desire to do their best.

Mrs. Donna Bolcato, our school secretary, has made my transition into the Lincoln School family an extremely smooth one. Her warm, caring manner and unbelievable work ethic has been a vital part of the successful management of our school. She, along with our team of dedicated aides have provided a pleasant office environment for myself, the staff, the students, and the parents.

Mr. Phil Nicolette, the Manager of Buildings and Grounds has been a great resource for me with my many questions regarding the many maintenance projects at Lincoln School. He, along with my custodial staff, under the guidance of head custodian Daniel Russomanno, has worked tirelessly to provide a safe, clean, orderly environment for our staff and students. I appreciate all of their efforts.

I would like to extend my thanks to the Child Study Team and Department of Special Services for their assistance and guidance in supporting our at risk students. Under their care, these students continue to flourish and grow both academically and socially.

Thank you to the Nutley Board of Education for their support of Lincoln School and their dedication to the children of Nutley. I would like to extend a special thank you to Mrs. Maria Alamo, our Lincoln School Board of Education Representative. Her attendance at our PTO meetings added valuable insight to our meetings and events. I appreciate all of her help and guidance.

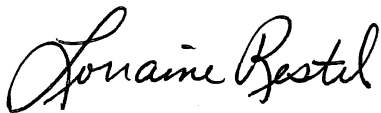
I would be remiss if I didn't thank my administrative colleagues, especially Rosemary Clerico, for their help and guidance during my first year as principal of Lincoln School. Their patience and humor helped to make my year successful and enjoyable.

Mr. Robert Green and Mr. Michael DeVita should be commended for their patience and understanding in guiding me into my first experiences with planning and maintaining a budget for my school. With their help and guidance, Lincoln School successfully functioned and the needs of our faculty and staff were met.

I would like to thank Mrs. Mariana Francioso, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, for her encouragement and guidance during this year. She was never too busy to take my calls and her advice was invaluable.

I would like to especially thank Mr. Joseph Zarra, Superintendent of Schools, for giving me the opportunity to serve as the principal of Lincoln School. His professional advice, enthusiasm, and leadership is invaluable. His dedication to the students, staff, and families of Nutley is second to none. I look forward to working with him for in the 2007 – 2008 school year and for many years to come.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lorraine Restel". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Lorraine Restel

Principal, Lincoln School

June 29, 2007

## **RADCLIFFE SCHOOL**

# NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

RADCLIFFE SCHOOL

NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Joseph Zarra DATE: June 29, 2007

FROM: Sherrie M. Tolve, Principal, Radcliffe School

RE: **Principal's Annual Report - School Year 2006/2007**

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
- Social Studies Curriculum

Continued In-Service was provided in the following areas:

- Instructional Theory into Practice K-12
- Intervention & Referral Services (I&RS) and 504
- Technology Tidbits
- Character Education K-12
- Elementary Assessment –New Jersey ASK 3, 4, 5 & 6
- Mentoring Program
- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Procedures
- Affirmative Action Policies
- Smart Board
- Suicide Prevention

Curriculum Development occurred in the following areas:

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

Mrs. Christine Oseija, Elementary Technology Facilitator Teacher, continues to assist classroom teachers with lessons to aid in infusing technology throughout the curriculum. Also, this year the PTO bought 3 Smartboards for the Library and Mrs. Oseija taught workshops throughout the school year. Mrs. Oseija held a teacher-workshop this year for posting of grade level websites. We continue to monitor and upgrade our software, CD Roms, and other computer-related items.

### **Results of School Level Objectives – 2006-2007 School Year**

By June 2007, students in grades kindergarten through first (K-1) demonstrated proficiency in writing as demonstrated through a writing assessment. More than 85% of the students achieved a score 80% on a teacher-developed assessment. A rubric was used to score the writing assignment.

By June 2007, students in grades two through six (2-6) demonstrated proficiency in writing as demonstrated through writing assessments given throughout the school year. More than 93% of the students achieved a score of 80% on all three teacher-developed assessments. A rubric was used to score each writing assignment.

### **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 2007-2008 school year:

By June 2008, students in grades kindergarten through two (K – 2) will show age appropriate proficiency using computer applications and technology tools to produce a word processing document and create a multimedia presentation. This objective will be assessed during the months of February and May. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a combined score of 80% on the teacher-developed assessments.

By June 2008, students in grades in three through six (3 – 6) will show age appropriate proficiency using computer applications and technology tools to produce and edit a word processing document with text and graphics, utilizing a graphic organizer, and create a multimedia presentation. This objective will be assessed during the months of February and May. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a combined score of 80% on the teacher-developed assessments.

## **School Activities**

***Walk-to-School Wednesdays – Every Wednesday starting October 4, 2006*** – this initiative was township-wide through the Mayor's office. Radcliffe School walked with Mayor Cocchiola on Wednesday, November 1, from the corner Bloomfield Avenue and Knox Place.

***PTO Open House – Tuesday, September 26, 2006***

Our annual open house was September 26, 2006. The teachers were in attendance, along with Mr. James Viola, our board representative.

***New Parent Meeting – Tuesday, September 26, 2006***

The New Parent Meeting was held before the open house.

***Fire Prevention Week – October 9 – 13, 2006***

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 2 – 6, 2006***

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

***Red Ribbon Week***

Red Ribbon Week began on Saturday, October 21, 2006, and went through the following week, ending on Halloween, October 31, 2006. Red bracelets were handed out to all of the students and staff to support "Just Say No to Drugs", by our Elementary Student Assistance Counselor, Mrs. Alisa Gennace.

***Parent Visitation Day – Friday, November 17, 2006***

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 sixth year at Radcliffe School. The program was successfully shared with the other elementary schools, under the guidance of Mrs. Alisa Gennace.

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

American Education Week was celebrated the week of November 13, 2006, with Parent Visitation Day was held on Friday, November 17. Parent conferences were held on Tuesday, November 14 and Thursday, November 16.

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

Our holiday music program was held on Wednesday, December 13, 2006, at 7:00 P.M. in the gymnasium and was conducted by Mrs. Marie Sanders for our choral program and Mr. Baron Raymonde for our instrumental program and fourth grade violins. The musicale included performances from Fifth and Sixth Grades. This was well received again this year.

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

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

### ***Read Across America – March 2 – March 9, 2007***

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 Pappalardo, 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 2007/08 was the week of March 5 - 9, 2007, in the Radcliffe Library, along with the other elementary schools. Kindergarten orientation was held the Monday, May 18, at 1:00 P.M. in the Library, with Mrs. Holly Jasnowitz, 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 Miss Danine Osetto and Miss Danielle Pappalardo, our Basic Skills teachers.

### ***Women in History – Assembly***

This year's assembly was held on Monday, March 26, 2007, 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 Tuesday, April 10, 2007, under the direction of the choral director, Mrs. Marie Sanders. It was an entertaining and enjoyable evening.

**Spring Musicale – grades 1 & 2**

On Thursday, May 24, 2007, Mrs. Marie Sanders led grades one and two in their Spring Musicale. The Chorale performed under the direction of Mrs. Marie Sanders 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  
 Brainteasers Club – Mrs. Mary Balitsos, Sponsor  
 Chess Club – Mrs. Mary Balitsos, Sponsor  
 Chorale – Mrs. Marie Sanders, Sponsor  
 From the Inside Out Window Club – Miss Carla Cullari/Miss Holly Moscaritola  
 Human Relations Club, Miss Carla Cullari/Miss Holly Moscaritola  
 Law Fair Club – Mrs. Nancy Szura, Sponsor  
 Peer Mediators' Club – Mrs. Alisa Gennace/Miss Courtney Jousset  
 Peer Tutoring Club – Mrs. Gail Kahn/Mrs. Nancy Szura, Sponsors  
 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**

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.Jasnowitz, Family Science

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

First Grade - M. Cristantiello – “Read Across America” for the entire district, Math Test Development

Second Grade – S.Lennon – Family Science

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

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

Third Grade – M.Strumolo – Battle of the Books

Third Grade - S. Hagert – Superintendent's Advisory

Third Grade – P. Conry – Mathematics Curriculum Committee

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

Fourth Grade – V.Sautter – Computer Web Page

Fifth Grade – M. Balistsos – Chess & Brainteasers

Fifth Grade - E. Napoli – Montclair State Initiative, Student Council

Fifth Grade – C.Cullari – Montclair State Initiative, Family Math

Sixth Grade – N.Gatto – Mathematics – Strategies & Activities Workshop

Sixth Grade – C. Jousset – Peer Mediators

Sixth Grade - N. Szura – Law Fair Club

Library – J.Gambaro – Student Council

SAC – A.Gennace – Peer Mediators

Physical Education - J. Alessio – Physical Education workshops

Basic Skills – D.Osetto – Read Across America, Third Half Club

Basic Skills – D.Pappalardo - Read Across America, Third Half Club

### **Special Programs**

Kindergarten

The Kindergarten Promotion was held on Friday, June 22, 2007.

The students presented a Disney theme for the promotion program.

Grades 1 - 2

Spring Musicale - held on Thursday, May 24, 2007 and was conducted by Mrs. Sanders. The 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade-Band students also performed under the directions of Mr. Raymonde.

Grades 3 - 4

Spring Musicale - held on Tuesday, April 10, 2007 and was conducted by Mrs. Marie Sanders.

Grades 5 – 6

Holiday Musicale – held on Wednesday, December 13, 2007, and was conducted by Mrs. Sanders 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

<b><u>Class/Club Trips</u></b>	Each grade participated in a curriculum-related field trip. The following reflects the year-at-a-glance:
Kindergarten	Kindergarten Picnic
First Grade	Outragesss Pets
Second Grade	Theatre Works & Nutley Public Library
Third Grade	Nutley Museum / Franklin Reformed Cemetery, Museum of Early Trades and Crafts
Fourth Grade	Crane House & Franklin Mineral Mines
Fifth Grade	Ocean Institute at Sandy Hook, NJ
Sixth Grade	The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, PA
Animal Club	Raptor Trust Education Center
Chess Club	Essex Fells School
Law Fair Club	NJ Law Center, New Brunswick
Safety Patrols	Patrol Picnic
Wildlife Club	Raptor Trust Education Center

### **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 2006/07 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 2007/08 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 21, 2007 for Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Grades. Awards were presented for high honor roll, honor roll, and perfect attendance. Awards were handed out to the lower grades in their classrooms. In addition, awards were given for the winners in mathematics, geography, physical fitness (President's Challenge), poster contests, and for the participants of the clubs and student council. Again, this year the "John Walker Foundation Scholarship" was given to two outstanding sixth grade students: The presentation of the Walker Scholarship was done by Mrs. Nancy Szura, on Thursday, June 21, 2007, at the Awards Assembly.

### **Presidential Achievement Awards**

The awards, presented for Presidential Achievement, were given to ten sixth grade students at the Awards Assembly Program on June 21, 2007. 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 NJ ASK, and honors / high honors for final grade.

**P.T.O.**

Radcliffe School would like to thank Mrs. Toni Ann Sullivan, who led the organization through this school year – 2006-07 - very successfully. The 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. President, Mrs. Sullivan, led the organization through the following events. Some activities were a first-time event, but the overall consensus was that the organization was very active and successful.

***Assembly Programs***

Franklin Middle School – Latin Club  
 Franklin Middle School – S.T.A.N.D  
 Motivational Productions – “Color of Love”  
 Cyber Bully  
 Endangered Species of the World  
 Sun Damage to the Skin

***P.T.O. Activities / Meetings***

Sept.	Innisbrook Gift Wrap
Sept.	Open House
Sept.	Picture Perfect Portrait Day
October	Pumpkin Patch
October	Pasta Night
October	Sixth Grade Walk-a-thon
November	Fall Fest
December	Holiday Musicale
December	Holiday Boutique
March	Gertrude Hawks Candy Sale
March	Tricky Tray
April	Spring Musicale
May	Spring Musicale
May	Plant Sale
May	Teachers' Appreciation Lunch
May	Spring Picture Perfect Day
May	Junior Olympics
June	Ice Cream Truck Day
June	Promotion Activities

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

The 2006/07 school year proved to be another successful P.T.O. year, with numerous meetings and assemblies.

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

The Family Pasta Night and Family Fall Fest were both successful.

The Holiday Boutique, 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 Brownstone, West Paterson, 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.

### **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. Again, 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 fourth 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 fourth 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
- monitoring of the Autism Program

**Conclusion**

In closure, I wish to express my sincere appreciation and thanks to Mr. Joseph Zarra, Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Mariana Francioso, Assistant Superintendent, members of the Board of Education, Mrs. Ann Marie Bruder, Director of Special Services, Mr. Robert Green, Business Administrator, 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. Ballester, Mrs. Cappetta, Mrs. Cifalino, Mrs. McGarty, Mrs. Pavlisko, Mrs. Puccio, and again this year, Mrs. Boyle in the Board of Education Hallway. These staff members continue to assist the lunch program and office, on behalf of the students and staff of Radcliffe School.

A special thanks to the P.T.O. 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,

  
Sherrie M. Tolve  
Principal

NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: June, 2007

RE: List of Accomplishments – School Year 2006/07

- Team Leader – I & RS Team
- Recycling – in coordination with the Township and with the assistance of the Student Council
- Introduction of various philanthropic endeavors
- Introduction of “Pennies for Patients” for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and with the assistance of the Human Relations Club

- NJ ASK Training Workshop
- Literacy Workshops
- Character Education Training Workshop
- Math Workshop
- Smart Board Training
- Website design

## **SPRING GARDEN SCHOOL**



# **SPRING GARDEN SCHOOL**

114.

TO: Mr. Joseph Zarra  
Superintendent of Schools

FROM: Mrs. Rosemary Clerico  
Principal

RE: 2006/07 Annual Report

DATE: June 28, 2007

**This is a summary of programs, events, and activities that have taken place at Spring Garden School during the 2006-2007 school year. I am very proud of the students, staff and parents for all their efforts throughout the year.**

**Continuing Priorities**

- Technology Curriculum
- State Mandated School Objectives
- District Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Program
- District Emergency Management Plan
- Science Calendar Curriculum Mapping
- Differentiated Instruction/Inclusion Instructional Strategies
- Implementation of Mathematics Curriculum
- One Step Web Page
- Implementation of Language Arts Literacy
- 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
- Designing Technology Integrated Lessons
- 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

**Workshops Attended by Staff:**

MSUNER- January Advance 2007  
Math Workshop- David Glatzer Grade 6  
Philosophy for Children- Grade 5  
An Inside Perspective on Autism & Asperger Syndrome  
Social Skills Training for Autism

**Results of School Level Objectives - 2006/07 School Year**

During the 2006-2007 school year, students in grades kindergarten through sixth (K-6) demonstrated proficiency in writing as demonstrated through a writing assessment. 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 2007-2008 school year.

**School Level Objectives - 2007/08 School Year**

By June 2008, students in grades kindergarten through two (K-2) will show age appropriate proficiency using computer applications and technology tools to produce a word processing document and create a multimedia presentation. This objective will be assessed during the months of February and May. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a combined score of 80% on the teacher-developed assessments.

By June 2008, students in grades three through six (3-6) will show age appropriate proficiency using computer applications and technology tools to produce and edit a word processing document with text and graphics, utilizing a graphic organizer, and create a multimedia presentation. This objective will be assessed during the months of February and May. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a combined score of 80% on the teacher-developed assessments.

**Programs**

The district mainstream program has been implemented in grades five and six: Two sixth grade students were included in social studies class, and one sixth grade student was included in science. The entire self-contained SLD class was mainstreamed with grade five physical education and music classes. The special education students all progressed nicely.

The C.A.T. Program continued to be implemented this year for grades four-six under the direction of Tracy Egan. An Open House on April 14, 2007, was a wonderful culminating activity. The students' work was highlighted and enjoyed by all.

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.

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

**Read Across America**

On March 2, 2007, 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**

On May 1, 2007, the fifth graders participated in "Law Day, 2007," a program sponsored by the American Bar Association. The theme of this year's Law Day, "Liberty Under Law: Empowering Youth, Assuring Democracy," highlighted the importance of teaching our students about the vital role they can play in our democratic society. As educators, we have a duty to help our youth become responsible citizens by promoting the virtues that sustain our democracy and foster a deeper understanding and respect for our country, and their spirit and character will help promote justice, equality and opportunity throughout our country. In order to prepare for this event, the students studied a fact pattern, which focused on the first amendment to the constitution of the United States. The students had to consider the limitations of this first amendment and if it had been violated in a mock case: Georgina Hanshee Vs. The Fort George School Board. Students had to assume the roles of the plaintiff, defense, witnesses, and jury. Joining the students that day were Essex County Superior Court Judge Thomas Vena, attorneys Stephen Pogany and Ann Sorrel, and Sheriff's officer Robert Deyo. Following the mock trial, a question and answer period was conducted allowing the students to gain a greater insight into our judicial system.

**Mayor's Fitness Challenge**

The Mayor's Fitness Challenge's goal was to promote a healthy lifestyle by encouraging the students to exercise and eat healthy. Each student that took the pledge was given an exercise logbook in which they were able to record their physical activity for each day. On Wednesday, January 10, 2007, the Mayor met approximately fifty students and the principal and walked to school. This initiative helped students achieve the goal to walk twenty-six point two miles.

**Dodge Grant****Montclair State University Network for Educational Renewal**

It is always a constant endeavor to explore and investigate methods of teaching to help ensure success for our student population. This is the second year of implementation of the Dodge Grant, from Montclair State University Network for Educational Renewal of \$2,250.00, which has enabled me to work collaboratively with my staff to implement literature circles in both the primary and intermediate grades. It has been a very rewarding experience to see that students' interest in reading has increased through the use of literature circles. Maintaining self-contained language arts classes has also contributed to the success of this program. Class sets of books were ordered for grades two through six with the grant money.

**Teacher Study Group**  
**Attention Deficit and Asperger Syndrome**

I am very proud to report that the staff at Spring Garden School was awarded a Teacher Study Group Grant of five hundred dollars from Montclair State University Network for Educational Renewal. Our study group was comprised of twenty-five staff members who met during lunchtime to exchange ideas and strategies.

This year the focus of the study group was on Attention Deficit (ADD/ADHD) and Asperger's Syndrome, which has become a growing problem that faces many of our educators today. A child with ADD/ADHD, like one with learning disabilities, does not "outgrow" it, though their difficulties and behaviors are manifested differently as the child matures. The best help we can give our children is early identification and intervention to prevent the cycle of failure, frustration and plummeting self-esteem.

We believe it is our responsibility to pull together as a team, to do everything we can to meet these children's needs effectively. It is our endeavor to explore various techniques and strategies that will help students with ADD/ADHD become successful.

Another area of concern is Asperger Syndrome. Asperger Syndrome, a form of autism, in which intellectual ability is generally high but social awareness is low effects many students. Roughly 1 in 166 American children born today will fall somewhere on the autistic spectrum. That's more than three times the number with juvenile diabetes. The teaching staff needs support and strategies to help children exhibiting signs of autism become productive citizens of society.

The grant enabled the staff to attend various conferences, purchase resource materials, as well as organize visits from various guest speakers.

**Teacher Incentive Grants: Montclair State University Network for Educational Renewal**

Five of our teachers received teacher incentive grants from MSUNER of two hundred dollars each. These grants helped purchase materials in the area of Wilson Reading and Writing Supplies and reading materials for centers.

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

## **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.

### **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.

### **National Geographic Bee**

On January 10, 2007, the students in grades four through six competed in a geography bee. A series of questions were asked during homeroom and a winner was selected to go on to the final competition, which was held in the auditorium. This year, first place went to a student in fourth grade, John McCullough. The students enjoyed this activity very much.

### **Wilson Language Program**

The Wilson Language Program is a multi-sensory reading system that uses a controlled vocabulary to teach reading. The staff feels the need for this type of program due to the increasing number of at-risk students that struggle with the decoding and encoding of words. We believe that students will be able to focus on higher-level critical

reading skills if they spent less time struggling with the decoding of words. Follow-up through our I & RS committee and Child Study Team have identified students that do not qualify for special education services, however, they require a more specialized type of reading instruction.

A pilot program was implemented which was conducted by Mrs. Hutcheson, and assisted by Valerie Piacenza. Mrs. Hutcheson met with kindergarten through third grade teachers to provide them with demonstration lessons. These sample lessons were then taken back to class by the regular education staff and implemented into daily reading instruction. The teachers met on their lunch hour to further their professional development in this area focusing on the twelve steps of the Wilson Language Program.

To successfully implement this program properly in the future we applied for a NEA Foundation Grant of \$5000. I am very proud to report that we received the \$5000 grant from the NEA Foundation. We were the only school in the state of New Jersey to receive this national grant. I am very proud of the staff for working on this project.

### **Montclair State University**

#### **Institute for the Advancement of Philosophy for Children**

In conjunction with Montclair State University the fifth grade teachers and students participated in a project called "Becoming Better Thinkers." This project was funded by a grant from the National Academy of Education. During the project students read engaging stories and took part in videotaped group discussions of their readings. During these discussions, students were prompted to give reasons for their opinions, asked questions of their classmates, and listened to each other. The goal of this program was to increase critical thinking and improve writing skills. Both students and teachers enjoyed the aforementioned program.

### **Battle of the Books**

Once again this year we implemented Battle of the Books with our fifth and sixth grade students. Thanks to the PTO's generosity we were able to purchase books for each class. The goal of the program was to have students read as many of the fifteen books purchased as possible. Groups are formed and a competition was held at the end of the school year. The students enjoyed the reading material as well as the competition.

### **St Jude's Children's Hospital**

For the first time this year, Spring Garden School participated in fundraising for St. Jude's Children's Hospital. Mr. Aduato and Mrs. McCormick organized this fundraiser. The kick off for the fundraiser was a video that depicted children with cancer that were patients at the hospital. The students did an amazing job and raised \$12, 002.



**CLUBS****Journalism Club**

The newspaper club met every other Monday under the supervision of Miss Antoinette Frannicola. The students prepared two outstanding comprehensive issues. 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 five and six. The mission of the council focused on school and aspects of community service. Major projects included a collection for 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 five and six 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 seeds. Special acorn wreaths and topiaries were also fashioned for decor.

**Library Research**

The library was opened at lunch to enable students in grades four through six to utilize the technology and research materials and to do independent work.

### **Jeopardy Club**

The Jeopardy Club met every Friday from 11:30-12:00 pm. The club was opened to students in grades five and six. The game tests the students' knowledge of: math, science, history, English, geography, and civics.

### **Safety Patrols**

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

### **Co-operative Game Club**

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

### **Drama Club**

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

### **Military Fan Mail Club**

With the help of the local business community, veteran's organizations, and donations from students, friends, family members, and total strangers, the students of Spring Garden School's Military Fan Mail Club invited the family of Corporal David Unger to visit them in New Jersey.

Members of the club have written to military members since 2002. Their thousands of cards and letters have been answered by soldiers serving all over the world. But a letter they received in November of 2006 was unlike any of the others. The letter was from Mrs. Dianna Pitts, mother of Army Corporal David Unger. In her letter, Dianna thanked the students for writing to her son, explaining that David had saved every one of their letters because they had meant a lot to him. She went on to say that the letters now mean a lot to his family, as David was killed in Iraq on October 17, 2006, fourteen days before his twenty-second birthday.

Mrs. Pitt's letter touched the students, and they were determined to help Corporal Unger's family through this difficult time. What followed was a new letter writing campaign to David's mother, brothers, and sister. Students offered words of comfort and

gratitude to this grieving family, and made it very clear that David's sacrifice would not be forgotten. On March 22<sup>nd</sup>, they kicked off "Project David Unger," an effort to raise money to fly the family from their home in Easton, Kansas, to Nutley, New Jersey.

An outpouring of generosity made this dream a reality. On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, David's grandmother, mother, brother, and sister were flown to New Jersey to meet the children who wrote the letters that have come to mean so much. While in New Jersey, the Unger/Pitts family was hosted at dinners, luncheons, and assemblies. They toured New Your City, where they saw their first Broadway play, and they visited Washington, D.C

Several months ago project David M. Unger was a dream held by 67 young Americans. As a result of their hard work and dedication, these children have witnessed their dreams become a reality as they hosted the Unger/Pitts family trip to New Jersey.

### **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.

### **Do Something Club**

The Do Something Club helped students to develop leadership, good citizenship, and character. This club was very busy helping others. Some activities were Bear Hug Drive, Kisses for Katrina, Red Ribbon Drive, and Lend a Hand for Battered Women. The students participated with great enthusiasm.

### **Assembly Programs**

- October 11      Gr. K-6 Nutley Fire Dept. Assembly Program
- 17      K-6 "Color of Love" Character Education
- 25      PTO Assembly entitled, "Spooktacular" (K-6)
- November      Gr. 4-6 Veteran's Day Assembly – Military Fan Mail Club
- Gr. K-6 PTO – "Body Works"
- December      Gr. 4-6 FMS Choir – Holiday Caroling
- February      Gr. 4-6 FMS – Jazz Band
- K-6 PTO Assembly, entitled, "Rose's Ride"
- May              Gr. 4-6 "Sun Safety & the Dangers of Tanning" Daniel Geltrude
- Gr. 4-6 – Canine Assembly
- Gr. 4 – "Tobacco Prevention"
- June              K-6 – PTO Assembly – Air Balloon on the blacktop

The annual awards assembly under the supervision of Mr. Patrick Gabriel and Ms. Debra Parigi honored all students who participated in school activities, local contests, and community service with special certificates and commendations as a form of recognition.

Kindergarten.	. Turtle Back Zoo . Nutley Firehouse
Grade 1	. Discover That Museum . Montclair State University Memorial Auditorium “Junie B. Jones”
Grade 2	. Jenkinsons Aquarium . Senior Parkside . Nutley Public Library . Newark Museum . Wightman’s Farm
Grade 3	. Nutley Museum
Grade 4	. Bronx Zoo . Adventure Aquarium - Camden
Grade 5	. West Point Academy, New York . Movie Theater – “Bridge to Terribithia”
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
SLD	. Brunswick Bowl . Montclair State – Memorial Auditorium

**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS**

Many students received special awards and recognition in local, county, and state, levels this year. The following represents a list of honors in the field of literature, art and science.

**Kindergarten:**

K-6 ABC Science Fair  
Evan Harzer – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

**Grade 1:**

ABC Science Fair – Kyle Miskovich – 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
Hailey Conklin and Julia Yang – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

**Grade 2:**

ABC Science Fair – Stephanie Calluori – 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
Thomas Donohoe – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

**Grade 3:**

ABC Science Fair

**Grade 4:**

ABC Science Fair – Issak Lindenbaum - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place  
Elks Poster Contest – Tara McGraw – 1<sup>st</sup> Place

**Grade 5:**

ABC Science Fair –Patrick Dudasik – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place  
Elks Poster Contest – Carly McGraw – 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
Nicole Gonzalez – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place  
Nutley Lions Club Poster Contest - “Give Peace a Chance”  
American Legion Drawing Contest -  
Nutley Elks Americanism Essay Contest - “Why I’m Proud to be an American”  
Winners: Theresa Plummer, Ryan DelGrande, Adam Personette  
Nutley Veterans Council Poster Contest, “Freedom Is Not Free?” - Lily Terhune  
Lions Club Spelling Bee

Grade 6:

ABC Science Fair – Zachariah Calluori and Matthew Kabat – 2<sup>nd</sup> Place  
Nutley Lions Club Spelling Bee  
Nutley Elks Americanism Essay Contest “Why I’m Proud To Be an American”  
Free Throw  
AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary – “Why Is It Important to Vote?”

Grade 5 & 6

Third-half Club Basketball Tournament

**Hoop Shoot Champs**

Group I – Vincent Petracco  
Molly Demgard  
Group II – Nicholas Liaci  
Sarah Montes  
Group III Angelo Sceppaguercio  
Natalie Ferrara

**Free Throw Contest:**

First Place –Molly Demgard, Nicholas Liaci, Sarah Montes, Angelo  
Sceppaguercio,  
Second Place – Natalie Ferrara  
Third Place – Vincent Petracco

**Regional Champion & State Finalist – Sarah Montes 4<sup>th</sup> Place**

**Johns Hopkins**

One student in grade five and three students in grade six received the Johns Hopkins Award.

**The Annual Book Fair**

The Annual Book Fair was 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, Mrs. Mariana Francioso and the Nutley Board of Education, especially Dr. Parisi our representative. A special thanks to the Child Study Team who aids us with our special education children and their programs, and Robert Green 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

## **WASHINGTON SCHOOL**



# Nutley Public Schools

WASHINGTON SCHOOL  
155 WASHINGTON AVENUE  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

**Douglas T. Jones**  
Principal

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

June 27, 2007

TO: Mr. Joseph Zarra  
FROM: Douglas T. Jones  
RE: Principal's Annual Report – School Year 2006-2007

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:

- Physical Education / Wellness Initiative
- Core Curriculum Content Standards
- Technology Curriculum
- State Mandated School Level Objectives
- District Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Program
- District Emergency Management Plan
- Science Calendar Curriculum Mapping
- Differentiated Instruction/Inclusion Instructional Strategies
- Implementation of Mathematics Curriculum
- Instructional leveled Spelling
- Implementation of Language Arts Literacy New Strategies

- Basic Skills Instruction Implementation
- Art Curriculum and Project Advancement
- Facilities Improvement Plan

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

- Instructional Theory into Practice
- Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS) and 504
- Technology Tidbits
- Designing Technology Integrated Lessons
- 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
- Instructional Leveled Spelling Training and Evaluation

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

- Language Arts Literacy
- Mathematics
- Media Arts / Library / Technology

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, develop projects and classroom implementation concepts

**Results of School Level Objectives – 2006-2007 School Year**

During the 2006-2007 school year, students in grades kindergarten to six demonstrated proficiency in writing, as demonstrated through writing assessments. The students successfully met the goals set for the school year.

**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 2007-2008 school year:

By June 2008, students in grades kindergarten through two (K-2) will demonstrate age appropriate proficiency using computer applications and technology tools to produce a word processing document and create a multi-media presentation. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assessment.

By June 2008, students in grades three through six (3-6) will demonstrate age appropriate proficiency using computer applications and technology tools to produce and edit a word document with text and graphics, (utilizing a graphic organizer), and create a multimedia presentation. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assessment.

### **Testing**

The results of the **TerraNova Test** (grades 1-2) were carefully reviewed. Information about the tests was evaluated and strategies were developed for next year based on information obtained.

The **New Jersey ASK 3,4,5 and 6** were given to all Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth graders of Washington School in the content areas of Language Arts and Mathematics and Science in some cases. Test scores are continuously reviewed and plans for improvement were implemented. Washington School students continue to fare well. Washington School showed a dramatic increase in students scoring advanced proficient from last years results.

### **Staff Development**

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

Instructional Leveled Spelling  
 Semple Math  
 Introduction to Wilson  
 Mary Grove College MAT Program  
 NJ ASK 3-6 Workshops  
 Eliminating Bullying Workshops  
 Math Curriculum Workshop  
 Integrating Technology Workshop  
 Language Arts Workshop  
 Critical Thinking in the Classroom  
 Technology Integration  
 Defibrillator Training  
 CPR Training  
 Epi-Pen Training  
 Parent/Teacher Conferences

Monthly faculty meetings continually highlight curriculum, Emergency management procedures, Special Education/504 accommodations, school level objectives, Basic Skills, affirmative action, technology, special programs and assemblies, Superintendent's Advisory Committee, safety, liability, classroom management concerns, and any other items that needed to be addressed.

## **SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

### ♦ **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.

### ♦ **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.

### ♦ **Contests**

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

### ♦ **The Third Half Club / 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 Washington team had a great time winning this tournament and attending the Awards Dinner.

### ♦ **I&RS Team**

**2006/2007**

During the 2006/2007 school year, the Washington School I&RS team met as needed on a continuous basis. The team consisted of the Principal, Student Assistance Counselor, Learning Consultant, Classroom Teacher Representatives, School Nurse, Parents, and the Referring Classroom Teacher.

Throughout the year, the referral team has successfully assisted many at-risk Washington School students. Interventions utilized by the team to assist these students are as follows: parent-teacher communication, program modification, in-class support, additional basic skills instruction, Wilson reading program, and referrals to the SAC for emotional support.

Sixteen students were referred to the I&RS team. Of these sixteen students, eight students were referred to the CST for testing and five completed interventions set in place by the I&RS team. In addition, two students were referred for occupational therapy and one speech referral was made. Also, four students received school counseling services.

Overall, the team was effective in meeting the needs of the students who were referred and continues to be a positive resource for the students and teachers of Washington School.

### **Student Assistance Program**

Throughout the school year, thirty-two permission slips for services were sent home with students. Of these thirty-two students, fifteen were seen by the counselor on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. The remaining students were met with on an as needed basis.

In addition to this caseload, many more students were met with based on situational needs (i.e. conflict resolution, grief and loss behavior). Ongoing contact with parents was made and five students were referred to outside counseling. Also, one student was sent for an emergency psychiatric evaluation.

Contact was made with teachers throughout the year in order to better meet the needs of their class as a whole. Classroom visitations were made covering topics such as bullying, friendship, and appropriate codes of behavior. Violence Awareness and Red Ribbon Week activities were coordinated. Also, students in need were identified for the Holiday Treasure Chest and appropriate arrangements were made for these families. Twelve I&RS meetings were organized and facilitated at Washington School, including notification to staff members, recording interventions for the classroom teachers, and keeping track of incoming referrals.

In conclusion, students who received services for the 2006/2007 school year will receive continuation of services letters in the fall of 2007 in order to maintain the continuity of the Student Assistance Program and meet the needs of the students of Washington School.

#### **♦ Musicales**

Mrs. Tirri, our instrumental instructor, and Mrs. Bimbi, our vocal music teacher, conducted three musicales in December, April, and May. During the December program grades one, 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 two, three and four performed. The May concert highlighted songs by our fifth and sixth grade students, instrumental students, Sixth Grade Bell Choir and the Fifth and Sixth Grade Vocal Choir. These concerts highlight the progress of the children in the areas of vocal and instrumental music. Washington School 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.

Additionally, students learned information concerning the Holocaust.

Our fifth and sixth grade students participated in a Women in History panel discussion during which women from the community spoke about opportunities for women. A question and answer period followed.

◆ **Assembly Programs**

Fire Safety Assembly  
Awards Assembly  
Character Education  
Laser Light Halloween Spooktacular  
NJ Transit  
Spoon Man  
FMS Brass Ensemble  
Tobacco Prevention  
Nutley Library  
Women in History Panel Discussion  
Essex County Canine Police  
Sun Safety Program  
Sports Camp Presentation  
Passaic Valley Sewage Commission  
Peer Mediators Presentation  
Juggling Assembly

◆ **Parent Volunteers**

Once again, The Washington PTO consisting of parent volunteers consistently assisted the school in providing support and programs. They are a vital part of the school community and an asset to the children of Washington School.

◆ **Battle of the Books**

Our fourth, fifth and sixth 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 Science Fair**

Washington School students participated in the science fair. Several students received awards. All of the projects were outstanding and the children had a great time creating them. The winners then displayed them at the Washington School.

♦ **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 Washington School to read to our students.

♦ **Johns Hopkins Plus Test**

Several students from Washington School took the Johns Hopkins Plus Test.

♦ **Field Day**

Our first annual Fitness Field Day was held on June 20. The entire student body competed in "Olympic-style" events. At the end of the competitions the PTO treated everyone to hot dogs, drinks, vegetables and watermelon. The children truly enjoy this event. Mayor Cocchiola attended the day's events to celebrate the Wellness campaign.

♦ **Montclair State University Research Program**

Our fifth graders participated in an innovative research program to help students develop better thinking and communication skills. Classroom discussions were video taped and student progress was assessed through compositions and a reading test.

♦ **Student Awards**

**JOHN H. WALKER MEMORIAL FOUNDATION AWARD**

Salvatore Gabriele  
Sarah Valvano

**ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT**

**MRS. MONTEROSA**

Daniel Caraballo  
Sammie DaCostaLobo  
Douglas Edert  
Tristan Freyre  
Ellie McCreesh

Hailey Padilla  
Darien Ramirez  
Hailey Tyerman

**MS. PUZIO**

Ameera Bhatti  
Sam Coulson  
Saiyam Roy  
Rauf Ural  
Anna Rosinski  
Sabrina Vasquez

**MS. DELORENZO**

Michael Alvarez  
Nicole Giordano  
Eduardo Machado

**MS. CERISANO**

Joseph Pierro  
Zhaorui Wang  
Averill Wong

**MRS. CRISSON**

Christian Bascunan  
Thomas Boniello  
Frankie Galasso  
Janhvi Kharawala  
Jake McEwan  
Shelby Pojawa  
Hazal Tasdemir

**MRS. SUTER**

Conor Jackman  
Mary Laney  
Cameron Lipton-Martinez  
Maggie McCreesh  
Nicholas Napolitano  
Avkash Patel  
Michael Rodrigues

**MRS. CAREY**

Dante Intindola  
April Klecak  
Danielle Mannino  
Joelle Ocampo  
Devin White



**MRS. MOSIOR**

Dante Vocaturo

**MS. CERNIGLIA**

Hasnan Shah

**MRS. TIBALDO**

Aafreen Azmi

Monika Hanna

**MRS. HEALY**

Kaitlyn O'Neill

Nicholas Tran

Nicole Zolnierczyk

**MRS. BECKMEYER**

Sherein Abdelhady

Daniel Cimafranca

Hye-Jo Ahn

**MS. CAFONE**

Daniel Alvarez

Zohaeb Atiq

Olivia Tran

**MRS. LENIK**

Caroline Diaz

Salvatore Gabriele

Kevin Li

Olivia Russell

Sarah Valvano

**MRS. ISABELLA**

Natasha Redmond

Virali Dave

Andrew Flynn

**MR. SMYTH**

Sonam Daraji

Krupa Patel

Debanjan Saha

Alice Tran

**PERFECT ATTENDANCE**

Christopher Cardola – 2CER  
Aash Patel – 2S  
Brian Cowley – 4C  
Haddy Abdelhaddy – 4H  
Ariel Bueno – 4H  
Kaitlyn Quinn – 4H  
Sherein Abdelhady – 5B  
Olivia Tran – 5C  
Megha Kharawala – 6L  
Anyelika Ruiz – 6L  
Jonathan Huang – 6L  
Brian Bak – 6I  
Julianna Boniello – 6I  
Virali Dave – 6I  
Dana Gutierrez – 6I  
Vincent Scalia – 6I

**MAYOR'S FITNESS CHALLENGE**

Joshua Ciffer – K  
Julia Tiene – 2  
Mary Laney – 2  
Vincent Rispoli – 2  
Conor Jackman – 2  
Mario Cifuentes – 2  
April Klecak – 3  
Stephanie Pancaro – 3  
Brianna McGeown – 3  
Kaitlyn O'Neill – 4  
Julia Seremba – 5  
Brittany Currie – 5  
Sarah Slater – 5  
Sherein Abdelhady – 5  
Ian Loveall – 5  
Michael Vilar – 5  
Matthew Ciffer – 6  
Nathasha Redmond - 6

**ELKS FREE THROW CONTEST**

Michael Canning – 2<sup>nd</sup> place  
 Clayton Castellanos  
 Kaitlyn Eda – also 1st place winner and District winner  
 Andrew Flynn  
 Nikayla Goldenberg – 3<sup>rd</sup> place  
 Kristen Marandola

**SCIENCE FAIR**

6<sup>th</sup> Grade  
 Richard Grabowski – 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
 Debanjan Saha – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade  
 Brandon Valentin – 1<sup>st</sup> Place  
 Dante Intindola –

**NUTLEY ELKS AMERICANISM ESSAY WINNER**

Julianna Boniello  
 Tommy Cookson  
 Briana Cusimano

**VETERANS' COUNCIL MEMORIAL DAY POSTER CONTEST**

Julianna Boniello

**AMVETS AMERICANISM ESSAY CONTEST HONORABLE MENTION**

Sarah Valvano

**LION'S CLUB SPELLING BEE – 3<sup>rd</sup> GRADE**

Brianna McGeown  
 Anthony Alonso  
 Rosalina Perez  
 Stephen Valvano

**LION'S SPELLING BEE 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

Aafreen Azmi – 1<sup>st</sup> place

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION – PEOMS WERE PUBLISHED IN “A CELEBRATION OF YOUNG POETS” FALL 2006**

Aafreen Azmi  
 Dana Testa

**4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BATTLE OF THE BOOKS WINNERS**

Aafreen Azmi

Brittany Grabowski

Matthew Mullany

Isaiah Vitiello

**5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BATTLE OF THE BOOKS WINNERS**

Sherein Abdelhady

Zohaeb Atiq

Danielle Jeffers

Bobby Manieri

Jake Russo

Jason Tschoepe

**PROGRAM COVER FOR ALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAM  
DESIGNED BY –**

Natasha Redmond

**Health and Safety Programs**

Mrs. Roberts, 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. Roberts tested grades K, 2, and 6.

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

**Class Trips**

Students in each grade took two field experiences outside of the school. Many programs were geared to science and math curricula and were enjoyed by all who attended.

## **WASHINGTON SCHOOL CLUBS**

Art Club  
 Animal Club  
 Chimettes  
 Dance Club  
 Fitness Club  
 Gardening Club  
 Knitting Club  
 Math Wizards  
 Pictionary Club  
 Fiesta Fever Spanish Club  
 Student Council  
 Writer's Club  
 Newspaper  
 Patrols  
 Sign Language  
 We've got the BEAT

## **PTO Activities**

I would like to thank the Washington 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. The extra touches they bring to Washington School help maintain its fine tradition. I truly appreciate the support and cooperation of this wonderful community.

Some of the PTO activities included:

Wrapping Paper Sale

Pumpkin Patch

Holiday Pizza Party

Holiday Boutique

Holiday Luncheon

Scholastic Book Fair

Collected box tops for education

Plant Sale

Family Picnic

Staff Appreciation Luncheon

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 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

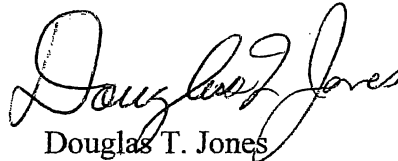
### **Conclusion**

In closing I wish to thank Mr. Joseph Zarra, Superintendent of School, for his support and guidance. His direct honest assessment of the district and Washington School has been vital for my professional growth. Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Marianna Francioso for her continual guidance, Members of the Board of Education, Mrs. Marianna Francioso, Director of Special Services, Mr. Robert Green, Principals of all other schools for their collected assistance and support in making the past year my personal best 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 ideal 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 our wonderful, dedicated office and building aides; Mrs. Lisa DeFabbi, Mrs. Pat Defrank, Mrs. Carolyn Drago, Mrs. Janet Fenwick, Mrs. Linda Ritacco, and Mrs. Diane Guarino and their efforts should be lauded for her efforts.

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 27, 2007

SUBJECT: Principal's Annual Report – School Year 2006/2007

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 Curriculum
- State Mandated School Level Objectives
- District Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Program
- District Emergency Management Plan
- Science Calendar Curriculum Mapping
- Differentiated Instruction/Inclusion Instructional Strategies
- Implementation of Mathematics Curriculum
- One Step Web Page
- Implementation of Language Arts Literacy New Strategies
- IRLA Curriculum
- Core Curriculum Content Standards
- Facilities Plan

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

- Instructional Theory into Practice
- Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS) and 504
- Technology Tidbits



- Designing Technology Integrated Lessons
- 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

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-five 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 – 2006-2007 School Year**

During the 2006-2007 school year, students in grades kindergarten to six demonstrated proficiency in writing, as demonstrated through writing assessments. 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 2007-2008 school year:

By June 2008, students in grades kindergarten through two (K-2) will demonstrate age appropriate proficiency using computer applications and technology tools to produce a word processing document and create a multi-media presentation. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assessment.

By June 2008, students in grades three through six (3-6) will demonstrate age appropriate proficiency using computer applications and technology tools to produce and edit a word document with text and graphics, (utilizing a graphic

organizer), and create a multimedia presentation. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assessment.

### **Testing**

The results of 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:

Incorporating Nettekker Into Technology Lessons Workshop  
 Multicultural Manners in an Educational Setting Workshop  
 CPR Training  
 Defibrillator Training  
 NJ ASK 3-6 Workshops  
 Math Curriculum Workshop  
 Integrating Technology Workshop  
 Follett Library Book Review  
 Language Arts Workshop  
 Technology Tidbits  
 Barnes and Noble Workshop  
 Mary Grove College MAT Program  
 Epi-Pen Training  
 Culturally Responsive Teaching  
 Critical Thinking in the Classroom  
 Designing Technology Integrated Lessons  
 Science – Let's Rock'n Roll Ice Cream  
 Making Mathematics Come Alive Through Manipulative Activities  
 Singapore Math Workshop  
 Parent/Teacher Conferences  
 Centering on Math Workshop  
 Culturally Responsive Teacher Workshop  
 Teachers as Leaders Conference  
 Mentoring and Coaching  
 Critical Thinking  
 Art Educators Conference  
 Dr. Jean's Razzle Dazzle Workshop

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**

### ◆ **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.

### ◆ **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.

### ◆ **Contests**

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

Susan Maroldi won first place in the Memorial Day poster contest.

Yuko Okabe won first place and Pamela Henning first runner up in the Health Fair poster contest.

Erin Toye won first place in the district in the Nutley Elks Americanism essay contest.

Michael Azierski won honorable mention in the Veteran's Day essay contest.

### ◆ **Spelling Bee**

Mrs. McKenzie conducted a spelling bee for sixth graders. David Jeong 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.

♦ **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, Sixth Grade Bell Choir and the Fifth and Sixth Grade Vocal Choir, playing and singing 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 community spoke about opportunities for women. A question and answer period followed.

♦ **Assembly Programs**

Fire Safety Assembly  
Awards Assembly  
Character Education  
Laser Light Halloween Spooktacular  
NJ Transit  
Spoon Man  
FMS Brass Ensemble  
Tobacco Prevention  
Nutley Library  
Women in History Panel Discussion  
NJ State Mock Trial – Law Day  
New Seven Wonders

Law Fair  
 Sun Safety Program  
 Sports Camp Presentation  
 Passaic Valley Sewage Commission  
 Peer Mediators Presentation  
 Juggling Assembly and workshops  
 Master Tree Steward  
 Red Cross

◆ **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 Science Fair**

Yantacaw students participated in the science fair. Two Yantacaw students received first place awards, three received second place awards and eleven 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. Three students achieved state distinction.

♦ **Field Day**

Our sixth annual field day was held on June 21. 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 35 classes. These classes included Origami, Gardening, Science, Latin American Culture, Italian, Irish Dancing, Scrapbooking, Yoga, 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.

♦ **Montclair State University Research Program**

Our fifth graders participated in an innovative research program to help students develop better thinking and communication skills. Classroom discussions were video taped and student progress was assessed through compositions and a reading test.

♦ **New Seven Wonders Project**

Our sixth grade students participated in a project on the New Seven Wonders. Groups of sixth graders chose what they thought should be one of the new seven wonders. They then conducted an assembly for grades four through six. They displayed posters and presented speeches to convince their peers to vote for their "wonder". After the assembly Yantacaw students voted for their top seven choices. Those choices were then sent to the national committee. The winners will be announced in July in Portugal. Our Yantacaw students were very proud to take part in such a prestigious event!

### **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 – Schafer Farms  
 Grade 1 – Outrageous Pet Museum  
 Grade 2 – Newark Museum  
 Grade 3 – Newark Museum, Kingsland Manor  
 Grade 4 – Artspower – Montclair State University  
                   The Seeing Eye Institute  
 Grade 5 – Philadelphia Zoo  
 Grade 6 – Franklin Institute  
 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, 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/Mr. Luzzi**

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.

#### ♦ **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. The trial was 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. In May they were given a test to determine eligibility for seventh grade Algebra.

♦ **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. Tusche 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. They conducted an assembly at the end of the year.

♦ **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.

♦ **Chorus – Mrs. Carollo**

Fifth and sixth grade students learned how to read choral scores while experiencing singing two-part songs. These students performed at school and district programs.

♦ **Cup Stackers – Mrs. Olivo**

This club was designed for fourth graders to help improve their whole-brain thinking and develop eye/hand coordination while having fun.

♦ **Friendship Club – Mrs. Tusche**

Club members worked on social skills such as, making and keeping friends, using empathy, identifying feelings, expressing emotions appropriately and problem solving. The students were encouraged to listen carefully to one another and to support each other.

### **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, Lori DiAntonio and Maria Geltrude 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  
Café Night  
Casino Night  
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.

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. Robert Green, 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 out to Mrs. Mariana Francioso, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, for her guidance and support throughout the year. We are truly fortunate to have the opportunity to work under someone who is not only knowledgeable, but compassionate as well. I would also like to thank all my colleagues who so graciously shared their expertise and offered their encouragement and assistance throughout the year.

Finally, I want 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

## **SPECIAL SERVICES**

# The Nutley Public Schools

155.

Department of Special Services  
300 Franklin Avenue  
Nutley, New Jersey 07110

MAY - 4 2007


Ann Marie Bruder  
Director of Special Services

Tel. (973) 661-8811  
Fax: (973) 661-5296

Tracy Egan  
Director of C.A.T.

Tel. (973) 661-8872  
Fax: (973) 661-3775

To: Mr. Joseph Zarra

From: Tracy Egan 

Re: C.A.T. Annual Report

Date: May 4, 2007

Mr. Zarra:

Attached is an outline of the work I have done this year. If you have any questions or recommendations, I would be happy to discuss them with you.

Please let me know if I can be of any assistance to you.

Thank you.

C: Mrs. Francioso

C.A.T. 2006 - 2007

Number of students: 350 Fall Semester 357 Spring semester

Average Class size is 22.

Courses offered:

<u>Course</u>	<u>Instructor(s)</u>	<u>Enrollment Fall/Spring</u>
Algebra Fun	Ms. Susan Haggert	16/17
American Girl Experience	Mrs. Christina Stendardi	10/10
Bridge	Mr. Nick Norcia	12/16
Cats and dogs	Mrs. Gail Kahn	19/23
Digital Photography	Mr. Michael Kearney	14/17
Ecology(Fall)		31
Adventures in Biology(Spring)	Mr. Joseph Simko Ms. Denise Mazza	30
Express Yourself	Mr. Dennis Pandolfi	30/30
Kids in Business	Ms. Jennifer Ambrose Ms. Joniene Ryder	28/31
Learning to Quilt	Ms. Margot Smith	8/11
Mad Scientists	Ms. Kati Gratz	24/25
Magic in Food Chemistry	Mr. Tarik Huggins Ms. Janine Thomas Ms. Dana D'Ambola	31/32
Make a Difference	Ms. Erika Pavelika Ms. Nicole Ferraro	24/25

157.	Math Magic	Ms. Deanna Fredericks	18/19
	Reach for the Stars	Mrs. Kim Algieri	22(fall only)
	Sensational Scrapbooking	Mrs. Flavia Groenling	20/25
	Social Studies through Film	Mr. Louis Manganiello	18/24
	Techno Magic	Ms. Veronica Zoltowski	15/18
	Writing on the Computer	Ms. Kelly Hollywood	10/12

Field trips: 26

Field Trip Destinations:

Cats and Dogs - Raptor Trust, Lakota Wolf Preserve, St. Huberts, Essex  
County Environmental Center

Digital Photography – Museum of Natural History, Coney Island Aquarium

Mad Scientists – Museum of Natural History, Coney Island Aquarium, Duke  
Farms

Biology/Ecology – Museum of Natural History, Coney Island Aquarium,  
Duke Farms, Verona Water Treatment, Sterling Hills  
Mineral Mines

Make a Difference – Adden's Court, Bergen County Humane Society, Kids  
Closet, Various Parks

Learning to Quilt – Rag Shop

### Director 's Responsibilities:

- Supplied Renzullis to principals of elementary schools to identify students recommended into program.
- Sorted and grouped information of students in fourth, fifth, and sixth grade who are recommended into program.
- Contacted parents of students new to program in July 2006.
- Held orientation meeting for parents of new students to program.
- Updated and improved course catalog, course selection sheet, parent notification, and permission slips for program and field trips.
- Scheduled classrooms.
- Scheduled students in classes.
- Set agenda for and held weekly staff meetings.
- Recorded weekly attendance of staff and students.
- Compiled attendance statistics as requested by assistant superintendent.
- Monitored dismissal of students from classes and field trips.
- Coordinated with schools and principals for identification of students recommended for Johns Hopkins testing.
- Conducted Johns Hopkins informational meeting for parents about the change of testing locations and privatization of tests.
- Coordinated with administrative assistant in high school for approval of purchase orders, culinary requests, parent and principal phone calls, mail, parent letters, packets for students, payroll, and A/V requests.
- Maintained expense and supply accounts.
- Ordered supplies for program.
- Maintained open lines of communication with business administrator in regards to updates and changes in purchase order process.
- Recommended teachers, nurse, and substitutes to be hired and replaced.
- Discipline issues.
- Contacted parents of sixth grade C.A.T. students for vector program.
- Hosted meeting with parents and Mr. John Calicchio for vector program.
- Coordinated with Franklin Middle School guidance department for seventh graders qualified to take SAT introduction classes.
- Notified parents of SAT introduction classes.
- Monitored staff and students of SAT introduction classes.
- Coordinated with ABC for Science fair.
- Conducted mock fire drill.
- Attended GATE meeting.
- Attended Essex County Steering Committee meetings.
- Informed custodians of weekly needs of classrooms in high school.
- Invited stakeholders to open house.
- Maintained website.
- Reviewed and celebrated results from Johns Hopkins testing.
- Creating new standards and forms for acceptance into program.
- Kept Assistant Superintendent informed of activities, issues and event.



## Suggestions:

- Field trip expense account due to new policy of using funds for cost of bus drivers. Anticipated trips for 2007-2008 are 30.
- For the safety of the students, hold program in Franklin School. The building is secured which will prevent parents (or anyone else) from approaching or removing students from class without approval. In addition, proper fire drills can be practiced.
- Add more courses: Geography and World Language
- Evaluate functioning of staff/course on annual basis to meet academically talented needs
- Attendance should influence choice selection. If absent 3 or more times, students should not get to choose courses before other students.

## Concerns:

- What is the relationship of the gifted and talented program during the school week to C.A.T., if any?
- Will students be involved in both programs or choose between the two?
- Will acceptance into C.A.T. be a pre-requisite for working with gifted and talented teachers?

**STUDENT ASSISTANCE COUNSELOR**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**2006 - 2007**

To: Mr. Joseph Zarra, Superintendent  
 From: **Lisa Cassilli**, Student Assistance Coordinator  
 Date: June 25, 2007  
 Re: **High School SAC Annual Report**

This annual report provides a summary of responsibilities and services provided by the high school SAC for the 2004-2005 school year. The most significant function of the high school SAC is to provide *consistent and enduring support services* to students in need of assistance. The SAC offers a **broad-brush approach** in that counseling is provided to students for a **myriad of issues** including, but not limited to, substance abuse. Many students have concurrent issues that complicate effectively addressing the issue; thus requiring extended time to be dedicated to that particular student.

For example, one student in particular that received assistance this year was experiencing significant family issues due to abandonment by his mother. He was also experiencing academic failure and depression, as well as ADHD (no medication). This student began associating with other students who shared similar problems and used marijuana to self-medicate his feelings of frustration and loneliness. This led to excessive absences from school and removal from classes. He was a 17 year-old freshman due to his pattern of failure and self-destruction. Working with this student was a challenging experience that required daily contact and diligent case management. He is now successfully attending school and passing all of his subjects with a goal of graduation and owning a business. He is also free of all substances and is on medication for his ADHD.

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

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

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

Narcotics Anonymous. All of the students seen by the SAC are offered educational materials, appropriate numbers to call for assistance, and ongoing support.

## II.

### PROGRAMS

The high school SAC continues to work hand-in-hand with the middle school SAC and elementary SACs to provide exceptional prevention and intervention programs as well as parent and staff training programs. The Substance Abuse Policy, developed by the SACs throughout the 2001-2002 school year, is utilized as an example for other districts throughout the state. **In addition, cases are discussed regularly to provide supervision** and a smooth transition for students entering the high school. A mentoring program is employed when the middle school SAC determines a student may need guidance from an older peer. The following programs have been utilized this year:

- **New Hope/Renaissance House Speakers Bureau**
- **Violence Awareness Week & Red Ribbon Week Activities**
- **DR. MICHAEL FOWLIN's** presentation, **"You don't know me until you know me"** focused on treating others with respect and not judging others based on how they look.
- **"DIRT" ASSEMBLY** addressed drug/alcohol use through the dynamic presentation by John Morello.
- **"ODD GIRL OUT" – district-wide evening training for girls on female aggression/bullying.**
- **Staff Inservice and Trainings** offered at faculty meetings, department meetings, and after-school.

## III.

### "A CRASH COURSE IN REALITY"

Due to the high incidence of recent drunk driving accidents involving Nutley youth, and the increasing population of students involved in substances, a unique bi-annual program was coordinated by the high school SAC. This program called "A Crash Course in Reality" was a cooperative effort among many different agencies both in Nutley and in the State including the Port Authority of NY/NJ, the Nutley Fire and Police Departments, the Nutley Municipal Alliance, the Department of Public Works and the Emergency Rescue Squad.

The program consisted of several components including a veteran fireman as a moderator and a simulated car crash with "victims" and a drunk driver. The officers and EMT workers took 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students through the entire process of what would happen in a "real-life" DUI accident. Students also heard from Ron Bonadonna, who lost his daughter

to a drunk driver several years ago. Students were encouraged to utilize both the school SAC and the police to gain support and receive confidential assistance. Many community members and parents came to this event and much positive feedback was received. It was an outward demonstration of Nutley's commitment to come together as a community and prevent drunk driving.

#### IV. **SADD CONSULTANT**

The SAC serves as a consultant to the SADD Peer Leadership Group, offering expertise on speakers, assemblies and programming for students relative to destructive decisions. The Advisor for SADD often seeks assistance from the SAC to provide programs that address sensitive issues (i.e. suicide prevention, date rape, etc.) in an appropriate venue.

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

The SAC attended many professional conferences including the following:

- Ethics and Clinical Supervision
- High Focus Training on Prescription Drug Dependency
- Intervention and Referral Services Team Training/Homebound Instruction Training sponsored by the State
- Association for Student Assistance Professionals (ASAP): two-day conference on substance abuse
- Eating Disorders and Self-Mutilation
- Juvenile Conference Committee Training

#### VI. **MEETINGS**

The SAC sits on a multitude of community and statewide committees, representing the Nutley School District in a positive manner. Most recently, the SAC joined the **CHAMP Committee** under Mayor Joanne Cocchiola. This committee provides mentorship to youth in our community and offers resources to families in need.

- A. Child Study Team – member
- B. **Intervention and Referral Services – assistant to Chair**
- C. Municipal Alliance Committee - member

- D. Juvenile Conference Committee – volunteer member
- E. Association for Student Assistance Professionals (ASAP) – organizational member
- F. National Student Assistance Association – member

## VII.

### OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED

- A. **INTERVENTION AND REFERRAL SERVICES (I & RS):**  
**two periods each day** are dedicated to this team as well as providing case management for 504 students in need.  
**\*This team received, processed and monitored more than 100 students this year alone.** More members are necessary to continue to provide quality services to regular education services to students in need of assistance.
- B. **POLICY:** continual revision and updates to the substance abuse policy and procedures. **Participated in the development and implementation of a cutting edge Random Drug Testing Policy.** Assisted in the random drug testing process and parent contacts. Provides the Board with modifications/suggestions for the Random Drug Testing Policy on an ongoing basis. Set up the protocol for Random Drug Testing with the Immedicenter and Quest Laboratory.  
  
**HOMEBOUND POLICY** – Chairperson of the Homebound Policy Committee, which reviewed and updated the Homebound Policy for the District. Set up the school-based physician contract, which affords our District the opportunity to approve or deny homebound requests. Ongoing monitoring of all homebound cases, tutors, and doctor's requests.
- C. **FACULTY IN-SERVICE:** provides research-based presenters for Articulation Days, I & RS, and faculty training on substance abuse and mental health issues.

- D. REFERRAL LIST:** annual revisions are made to the Referral List, which is provided to guidance counselors, nurses, administrators, and parents. This requires research and site visits. Several site visits occurred this year including:
- Alternatives Counseling, Livingston
  - Mountainside Hospital, Montclair
  - Montclair Counseling Center, Montclair
  - High Focus Centers, Cranford
  - Touchstone Hall, Rockleigh
  - Adapt Program, Hackensack
- E. SAFE AND DRUG FREE SCHOOLS REPORT:** annually completes Title IV requirements for the Improving America's Schools Act (IASA) to maintain federal funding.

Joseph Cappello  
Student Assistance Coordinator

June 6, 2007  
Revised June 21, 2007

### **SAC Summary** **2006-2007 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, 207 students were provided services throughout the course of the 2006-2007 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 2006-2007 school year:

- Assisted administrators in implementing Nutley School District's Drug and Alcohol Policy.
  - Three FMS student were subjected to the requirements of the district's drug and alcohol policy based on suspicion of being under the influence.
- Provided additional student assistance services at Nutley High School.
- 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.
  - Committee members met on June 28, 2006 to prepare for the 2006-2007 school year.
  - Posters highlighting the Pillars of Character were displayed throughout Franklin School.
  - Assisted in applying for the *Fostering Change in School Culture Through Character Education* grant. Selection and notification will be determined by June 15, 2007.
- Conducted a seventh and eighth grade orientation on September 22, 2006 in each lunch study to introduce self as well as services offered by the Student Assistance Program.
- Presented at FMS' faculty meeting on April 2, 2007. 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.
  - 5) referral process.
- Assisted in implementing the random drug testing program at Nutley High School.
    - Attended the August 31, 2006 in-service training by Mark Forster of Quest Diagnostics regarding the use of the drug screen cup and completing the chain of custody form.
  - 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 STAND (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 recognizing School Violence Awareness Week (October 16-20) by leading a school-wide fundraiser for a local shelter for battered women and their children. Students and staff were encouraged to donate a quarter during their lunch periods. Donors were recognized on the cafeteria bulletin board with a *Lending a Hand to Stop Violence* logo. \$350 was generously donated.
    - Members assisted in coordinating *National Red Ribbon Week* (October 23-31) activities by:
      - 1) decorating Franklin School with red ribbons and a banner.
      - 2) promoting and participating in the *Three Theme Days*:
        - Raid on Drugs* – students wore Nutley Raider apparel to show their community's commitment to be drug free.
        - Put a Cap on Drugs Day* – Students wore a hat or visor to show their Red Ribbon Week spirit.
        - Team Up Against Drugs* – Students wore their favorite sports team clothing to team up for the fight against drugs.
      - 3) participating in the creation of the *FMS Anti-Drug Commercial*.
    - 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 facilitated by the Comprehensive Tobacco Control Program of New Jersey (CTCPNJ).
      - Attended the Fourth Annual REBEL2 Veteran Summit on April 2, 2007

at the Crown Plaza Monroe in Jamesburg, New Jersey with eight members. Students engaged in workshops to increase their knowledge and skills of facilitating interactive presentations at the elementary and middle schools.

- Received a \$1,500 grant to fund tobacco prevention programs.
- Free REBEL2 t-shirts provided by CTCPNJ were distributed to members of STAND.
- Members of STAND conducted interactive outreach presentations to fourth grade students in each elementary school on May 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. The presentation focused on the harmful effects of smoking, the toxic ingredients of a cigarette, myths of smoking and ways to remain smoke-free.
- Attended the 2007 Essex County REBEL Awards Ceremony with 18 members of STAND to highlight this year's activities.
- The following activities were held for School Violence Awareness Week (October 16-20, 2006):
  - Tuesday, October 3, 2006, Dave and Bill Mettler of Quiet Riot presented their character education program, *Conflict Resolution: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Leaders*. Through these performances, students and staff learned the four qualities a school needs to create the most effective environment for conflict resolution: BELONGING, CHOICE, FUN and RESPECT. The program was sponsored by the Nutley Municipal Alliance Committee and the Nutley School District Character Education Committee.
  - PA announcements were made each morning suggesting ways to make FMS a safer school.
  - Students, teachers, and staff donated money to the Safe House, a shelter for battered women and their children affiliated with Clara Maass Hospital. \$333.19 was collected. A total of \$350 was present to the shelter in Shop Rite gift certificates.
  - Spoke in each seventh grade health class on October 20 regarding harassment / bullying.
- Celebrated Red Ribbon Week (October 23-31, 2006) by:
  - Coordinated the *Three Theme Days: Raid on Drugs, Put a Cap on Drugs Day* and *Team Up Against Drugs*.
  - Distributed suggested drug prevention classroom activities to teachers.
  - Coordinated the presentations by Essex Prevention Resources, Essex County's alcohol, drug and tobacco resource center, on October 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> in each health class. Delma Downey-Miles, Executive Director, conducted the alcohol awareness (seventh graders) and club drug awareness (eighth graders) presentations.
  - Organized the creation of the *FMS Anti-Drug Commercial* with the assistance of Mr. Kearney. Students voluntarily videotaped themselves with their "Anti-Drug": a person, hobby, or passion that stands between them and drugs. The public service announcement highlighted students taking part in positive,

drug-free activities and making healthy lifestyle choices. The commercial was shown during lunch study periods.

- Observed the American Cancer Society's Great American Smokeout on November 16, 2006. This annual event held on the third Thursday in November encourages adults and young adults to remain smoke-free, and current smokers to quit. A bulletin board titled *Celebrities... who've died from tobacco use* located in the cafeteria was developed by members of STAND. Members of STAND also created a mock cemetery in the lobby illustrating the deadly consequences of tobacco use. "Non-smoker" t-shirts were worn too.
- Assisted in organizing the January 22, 2007 assemblies to promote *No Name Calling Week*. The assemblies were conducted by the State of New Jersey's Department of Law and Public Safety: Division of Civil Rights. Members of Nutley High School's Student Against Destructive Decision (SADD) and Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) assisted in conducting informal surveys in each lunch period.
- Attended the *World Against Violence Youth Conference* on May 15, 2007 at New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) with fourteen seventh grade student council members. The conference offered by the Essex County Prosecutor's Office and NJIT's PreCollege TriO Program focused on the following subjects:
  - a) Bullying - Peer Pressure
  - b) Gun Violence – "Don't Shoot. I want to grow up."
  - c) Alcohol and Drug Awareness
- 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 to students.
- Served as a member of the Nutley Municipal Alliance Committee.
- Member of Community Health and Mentoring Program (C.H.A.M.P.), a community based program geared to providing an array of services to at-risk youth and families of Nutley.

- Coordinated the Franklin Middle School Toy Drive. Toys were donated to Saint Barnabas Medical Center's Child Life Program which provides gifts to youth in the Pediatric Unit, Burn Unit and Valerie Center.
- 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 Thursday, October 19, 2006.
- Conducted on-site visits of the following treatment providers to determine if they should be placed on the *Nutley School District: Student Assistance Program Referral List*:
  - Stepping Forward Counseling Center (Livingston)
  - Philmore Associates (Nutley)
- Observed *Jesse's Journey*, a drug and alcohol prevention program on February 6, 2007 at Becton Regional High School. Two presentations are scheduled for October 25, 2007 during Red Ribbon Week.
- Assisted in monitoring Central and Saturday detentions.
- Provided orientation of the Nutley School District's Student Assistance Program to Montclair State University student.
- Advisor for the FMS Ski Club. Three trips were taken in collaboration with the Nutley Department of Recreation.
  - February 20, 2006 – Mountain Creek
  - February 22, 2007 – Elk Mountain
  - March 2, 2007 – Shawnee Mountain
- Attended the following workshops:
  - *REBEL/REBEL2 School Advisor Training* by NJPN (November 3, 2006)
  - *Off the Shelf: The Dangers, Prevalence and Consequences of Prescription and Over-the-Counter Drug Abuse* by The Center for Alcohol and Drug Resources (March 20, 2007)
  - *Revisions to N.J.A.C. 6A:16* by NJDOE (May 16, 2007).

## Annual Report 2006-2007

Nancy Thunell  
SAC/ELEMENTARY COUNSELOR  
March 2007

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 and Lisa Cassilli Providers meeting: This meeting was held at 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 addressing technology.
- Member of the Intervention & Referral Service team at Lincoln School.
- Worked with students 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 .
- Co-facilitated Peer Mediation Club at Spring Garden: 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 2007-2008:**

- 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.