

ANNUAL REPORT
TO THE
NUTLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY
SCHOOL YEAR 2007/2008

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TO THE
NUTLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY
SCHOOL YEAR – 2007/2008

NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Mrs. Maria Alamo
Mr. Angelo Frannicola
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Mr. Kenneth Reilly
Lt. Steve Rogers
Mr. Walter Sautter
Ms. Patti Williams

TERM EXPIRES

2010
2011
2009
2010
2010
2011
2009
2011
2009

ADMINISTRATORS

Mr. Joseph Zarra
Mrs. Mariana Francioso
Mr. Michael DeVita
Mr. Gregory Catrambone
Mr. John Calicchio
Mrs. Lorraine Restel
Mr. Michael Kearney
Mrs. Rosemary Clerico
Mr. Douglas T. Jones
Mr.. David Sorensen
Mr. Paul Palozzola

Superintendent of Schools
Assistant Superintendent of Schools
Acting Board Secretary
Principal - Nutley High School
Principal - J.H. Walker Middle School
Principal - Lincoln Elementary School
Principal - Radcliffe Elementary School
Principal - Spring Garden Elementary School
Principal - Washington Elementary School
Principal - Yantacaw Elementary School
Director of Special Services

NUTLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Nutley, New Jersey

August 25, 2008

Members of the Board of Education:

The 2007/2008 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
- 2008 National AP Scholar
- 2008 AP Scholars with Distinction
- 2008 AP Scholars with Honors
- 2008 AP Scholar Awards
- 2008 National Hispanic Scholars
- International Latin Exam Winners
- Congressional Art Exhibit Winners
- Rotary International Award
- State Award – Invitation to CTY Awards Ceremony
- Mathcounts Competition

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

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

Athletic Awards:

- 2007-08 Girls Varsity Softball Team -NNJIL Title
- 2007-08 Boys Varsity Baseball Team -NNJIL Title
- 2007-08 Boys Bowling Team - Essex County and State
Sectional Titles

Music Awards

- All State Chorus
Michael Huynh
Morgan Williams

Music Department Group Performances

The Nutley School District was designated one of the Best 100 Districts for Music Education in all of America

- The Jazz Labs A&B performed at the Jazz Concert at "Trumpets" in Montclair
- NHS Chamber Music Singers performed at St. Jorge's Catholic Church and the University of Puerto Rico
- The Concert Choir performed at Carnegie Hall
- The Choralettes, Chamber Singers and Concert Choir participated in the outstanding spring musical "West Side Story"
- NHS Raider Band won first place trophies at three marching band competitions.

Additional positive information pertaining to students proceeding to higher education and the scholarships they received, continues to be revealing and is reflected in the following pages. Please note that 89.1 percent of students will be going on to higher education and that they have been offered a total of \$3,675,850 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:

- Basic Skills Curriculum Committee
- Eden Institute Training
- Fine Arts Curriculum Committee
- Language Arts Curriculum Committee
- Music Academy Curriculum (Summer 2007)
- Perkins Vocational Funding Committee
- Social Studies Curriculum Grades 3 & 4
- Technology Curriculum Committee

In-services/Workshops Occurred in the Following Areas:

- Affirmative Action
- Digital Camera Basics
- Easiteach with Math Toolbar & Kaleidos
- Easy Grade Pro 4.0 Workshop
- Easy Grade Pro for New Users on Mac
- Exploring & Organizing your PC
- I&RS Workshop
- ITIP, Professional Development & EAN Workshop
- Laptops, Notebook Programs and Faculty Web
- Macbook Laptop Cart
- Math Workshop Grades 3, 4, 5
- Math Workshop Grades 6, 7, 8
- Multimedia Software Workshop
- New Version 4.0 Easy Grade Pro for the PC
- Say iDo to iPhoto
- Singapore Math
- SuperCaio.it-Textbook Presentation
- Web Resources
- Wilson Reading

The Following Initiatives Continue to be Implemented:

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

As we begin the 2008/2009 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 2008
June 25, 2008

ENROLLMENT.....	359	
TOTAL APPLICANTS PURSUING HIGHER EDUCATION.....	320	
% OF CLASS OF 2007 GOING ON TO POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION.....	89.1%	
Four-Year College/University.....	263	(73.3%)
Two-Year College.....	46	(12.8%)
Other Post-Secondary School.....	11	(3%)
Military.....	5	(1.4%)
Full-Time Employment.....	22	(6.1%)
Undecided.....	12	(3.4%)

REPORT ON SCHOLASTIC AWARDS
NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT
CLASS OF 2008

SCHOLARSHIPS	\$3,675,850	
		\$3,675,850
OFFERS ACCEPTED	\$2,166,250	
OFFERS DECLINED	1,509,600	
		\$3,675,850

NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

To: Members of the Nutley School community

Date: August 2008

From: The Nutley Board Of Education

Subject: 2007/2008 Student Achievement Test Scores

NATIONAL

TERRANOVA TEST
2008

National Percentile of Mean NCE

<u>Grade</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>
Reading	90	86	77	75
Language Arts	93	89	77	80
Mathematics	91	88	80	83
Total	94	91	81	82
Science	85	83	76	69
Social Studies	84	87	71	77

Grade 3 NJ ASK Results 2007/2008

	% Part. Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Adv. Proficient General Ed	ALL	Total % Prof. General Ed	ALL
Language Arts	5.4	6.6	88.9	88.5	5.7	4.9	94.6	93.4
Mathematics	5.4	5.6	49.4	50.2	45.2	44.3	94.6	94.5

Grade 4 NJ ASK Results 2007/2008

	% Part. Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Adv. Proficient General Ed	ALL	Total % Prof. General Ed	ALL
Language Arts	4.1	8.5	92.1	88.0	3.7	3.5	95.8	91.5
Mathematics	5.0	6.0	46.3	47.0	48.8	47.0	95.1	94.0
Science	1.7	2.5	37.1	38.9	61.3	58.7	98.4	97.6

Grade 5 NJ ASK Results 2007/2008

	% Part. Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Adv. Proficient General Ed	ALL	Total % Prof. General Ed	ALL
Language Arts	24.1	29.9	71.8	66.7	4.1	3.4	75.9	70.1
Mathematics	12.6	14.9	57.3	56.9	30.1	28.1	87.4	85.0

Grade 6 NJ ASK Results 2007/2008

	% Part. Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Adv. Proficient General Ed	ALL	Total % Prof. General Ed	ALL
Language Arts	23.3	32.9	74.4	65.2	2.3	1.9	76.7	67.1
Mathematics	8.3	12.1	61.7	27.2	30.1	27.2	91.8	87.9

Grade 7 NJ ASK Results 2007/2008

	% Part. Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Adv. Proficient General Ed	ALL	Total % Prof. General Ed	ALL
Language Arts	5.9	27.7	65.1	62.3	28.9	24.9	94.0	87.2
Mathematics	11.8	17.2	56.1	54.8	32.1	28.0	88.2	82.8

Grade 8 NJ ASK Summary Results 2007/2008

	% Part. Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Adv. Proficient General Ed	ALL	Total % Prof. General Ed	ALL
Language Arts	2.9	6.6	82.0	81.0	15.1	12.4	97.1	93.4
Mathematics	13.0	21.3	52.7	49.5	34.3	29.2	87.0	78.7
Science	5.9	8.3	47.7	51.9	46.4	39.8	94.1	91.7

Grade 11 HSPA Results (% passing): 2007/2008

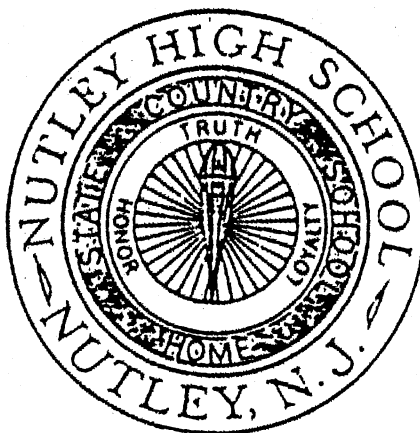
	% Part. Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Prof. General Ed	ALL	% Adv. Proficient General Ed	ALL	Total % Prof. General Ed	ALL
Language Arts								
Mathematics								

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NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL

NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL



2007 – 2008

ANNUAL REPORT

MR. GREGORY CATRAMBONE
PRINCIPAL

PRINCIPAL'S ANNUAL REPORT 2007~2008

As the 2007-2008 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 Stevens Institute, Hoboken, New Jersey. One hundred and seventy-five 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:

- Internally, the auditorium was renovated, new seats and flooring were installed and the walls were painted, which has made the auditorium a beautiful facility for all to enjoy. Additionally, the stage has been painted and a lighting upgrade completed in time for our musical, West Side Story.
- A Fine and Performing Arts Academy was implemented this year and has been very popular among the student body. Nutley High School was connected with the Channel One Network this year. Seventy-Two televisions were provided to our high school. A twelve minute news show is aired daily during homeroom. In addition, Channel One has become an integrated teaching resource offering free educational videos containing a correlation to core curricula in civics, language arts, literature, science, math, technology, and teen issues.

- Many of our students were honored for their academic and athletic accomplishments. Fourteen students were named Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars, five were named National Merit Commended Scholars, 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. Cooperative education and vocational-technical subjects were available in shared-time programs. Job shadowing was offered in conjunction with the School-To-Careers Program.
- 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 was 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, 560 in writing, and 590 in math; and the mean score was 499 in critical reading, 499 in writing, and 516 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 2008 successfully fulfilled this obligation. Our high expectations have assured that the Class of 2008 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 888 athletes competing in twenty varsity and sub-varsity sports during the year. Seventy-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 Boys and Girls Soccer teams, Girls Volleyball team, Boys Bowling team, Baseball and Softball teams and Boys Tennis team all qualified and completed in the NJSIAA State Tournament, and the Cheerleading squad and Crew team performed on a National level. The Boy's Bowling team, Baseball team and Softball team all captured N.N.J.I.L. titles, and the Boy's Bowling team captured Essex County and State Sectional titles. Glenn Cox bowled the first 300 game in Nutley history. The wrestling team sent two wrestlers to the State Tournament in Atlantic City and the Track team had numerous county and state qualifiers with Lou Riccardi winning three gold medals in the Meet of Champions. The Football team took us on an eighty-eight yard journey in less than two minutes that resulted in a last second Thanksgiving Day victory over cross-town rival Belleville providing us with one of the most exciting games in our school's history.
- Our students' educational experiences have included domestic and international travel. Students have traveled to England, France, and Italy. Our Concert Choir and Chamber Singers performed in Puerto Rico. The high school choirs performed together at Carnegie Hall in New York City. Our marching band, concert band, jazz band and orchestra and

winter guard competed in the tri-state area in numerous competitions and received excellent ratings. The wind ensemble will be performing in Sydney, Australia this July.

- The Class of 2008 has received acceptances from some of the top universities in our nation. Post high school plans: 73.3% – four year college; 15.8% – two year college/career preparatory; 1.4% – military; 6.1% – employment; and 3.4% – undecided.

A random drug testing program was conducted 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 and has expanded greatly this year.

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.

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

2007-2008 ANNUAL REPORT

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>STUDENTS ENROLLED</u>
9	316
10	354
11	312
12	<u>359</u>
	1341

STAFF

Classroom Teachers	89
Administrators	4
Athletic Director	1
Guidance Personnel	6
Department Coordinators/Chairpersons	9
AV Coordinator	1
Librarian	1
Nurse	1
Special Education Teachers	9
Work Experience Coordinator	1
Computer Network Technicians	4
Student Assistance Coordinator	1
Permanent Subs	5

ANNUAL REPORT
2007-2008
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 2007-08 school year:

Conferences/Workshops/ Field Trips

- Conference – NJ School Counselor Association
- Conference – NJ Association of College Admission Counselors
- Workshops – Essex County School Counselor Association (Berkeley College, Dover Business College, NJ City University, Huntington Learning Center)
- Counselor Breakfast Information Session – SUNY Binghamton, Clemson, Univ. or Colorado, University of Maryland, University of Miami-Ohio
- Workshop - NJ Higher Education Student Assistant Authority's Financial Aid
- Workshop – Steven's Institute: New Programs in Information Technology
- Workshop – NJIT
- Workshop – Suicide
- Workshop – Response Law
- Sage Day School, Boonton, NJ – Information session
- Rugg's College Admission Seminar

College Visits/Tours

- College visitations/evening programs: Fordham University, Manhattan College, Quinnipiac University, University of Scranton, Monmouth University, Stony Brook College, Bentley College
- Rhode Island College Tour
- Lehigh Valley College Tour

Other

- Graduate study
- Faculty Senate Meetings at NHS
- School-to-Careers Committee
- Junior/Senior Parents' Meeting
- College/Career Fair
- Career Speaker Program
- Freshman Parents' Meeting
- Financial Aid Seminar (FAFSA), Dir. of Financial Aid
- Standardized testing
- ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)
- Freshman Orientation, Class of 2012
- Board of Education Academic Awards Presentations
- Senior Scholastic Awards Program and reception
- Guidance Website Development and Maintenance
- Introduction to Naviance – Guidance Information Management System
- Planning Your Future – Power Point Presentation, college admission process
- Newsletter – five issues
- Guidance Internships (2)

NAVIANCE

Nutley High School began utilizing Naviance-TCCi Family Connection in September 2007. Naviance-TCCi stands for "The College Counselor Internet." Naviance Family Connection-TCCi enables our counseling office to offer a comprehensive website for parent and child use; it is designed to help in making decisions about colleges and careers. Counselors use Naviance-TCCi to track and analyze data concerning students' post-secondary plans.

Distinctions – Class of 2008

College Board National Merit Scholarship Program: Commended Students: 5
College Board National Hispanic Recognition Program: Scholars: 2
College Board National Merit Program Special Scholarship Corporate Sponsor:
ADP: Finalist: 1
College Board Advanced Placement Scholars: 10
Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars: 14

BUSINESS and CREATIVE ARTS DEPARTMENT
Nutley High School
YEARLY and FINAL REPORT
2007-2008

Mr. Kelly and the Radio/TV Broadcasting class joined our department.

Mr. Wormann - Cisco Program

Introduced new curriculum in Cisco I and IT to stay in sync with online offerings.

Presented Packet Tracer (simulation tool) at a Cisco workshop co-sponsored by the NJ Dept of Education at Cisco Regional Academy

Scheduled to share Best Practices for Cisco Annual Conference in Saratoga Spring this summer.

Mrs. Mullane Web Design class won the NJIT Web Design Competition Third Place in the Rapid Design Category winning \$100 for the team, \$100 for the school.

Mrs. Mullane - new Computer Applications Special Education was very successful.

Ms. Vander Have and Mrs. Lappostato – Art Dept.

Had two winners in the Congressional Art Show.

Sponsored the end of year Art Show at the Public Library

Entered a local Business Logo competition

Had a State winner the Google Logo competition.

Created numerous banners for the high school and middle school as well as the town.

Sponsored Set Design club and Art Club.

Decorations for the Junior Formal

Mrs. Lappostato proposed an AP Art class for next year. This was approved and will run in September.

Mrs. McDonnell – Computer Applications classes created brochures for the Chamber of Commerce and the Art Show.

Mrs. McDonnell proposed a Digital Photo II course for next year. This was approved and will run in September.

Mrs. Orenstein – Adv. Computer Applications created slide show for Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Huggins and Mr. Gulardo –

Chamber of Commerce luncheons

Rotary Club luncheons

Career Advisory luncheons

Mayor's events

EAN Catering and various other events
Iron Chef competition

Mr. Huggins – Advanced Culinary classes took National Occupational Competency Tests

Mrs. Piacentini – Personal Finance classes participated in Financial Literacy Challenge

Mr. Christadore - 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.

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.

The zero period Computer Applications class continued to run successfully. This year we expanded the online component.

Field trips included Guggenheim Museum (art), Berkeley College (business), Essex County Courthouse, Meadowlands Complex, New York Automobile Show, Price, Waterhouse, Cooper (business).

Mr. Christadore brought in many outside speakers for his classes from the prosecutor's office, CPA firms, and sports marketing corporations.

Mr. Tirrito – Construction class built and sold a shed.

2008 Annual Report

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

From: Ms. Cyndi DeBonis, 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 that 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 2008. Our passing score was 93.8%.

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. The research projects required for course study are designed to enhance and develop the necessary skills students will need to be successful in accomplishing these tasks. In addition, web quests, Internet scavenger hunts, and power point presentations are just a few examples of the ways in which the writing lab has enhanced student learning. The computer continues to be a strong tool for student writing.

The text *Scholastic Journalism*, English & Hach was supplemented with a copy for each student of *The Star Ledger*. Journalism II students designed and executed pages for all departments of the newspaper. Journalism II and Advanced Journalism students were required to complete a journalism project per marking period.

B. Creative Writing

The major objective of this course is to have students develop a sense of trust and respect for each other to facilitate presentation and criticism of writing. A variety of strategies for planning and revising work are explored. Ultimately, this course promotes growth in writing and encourages students to develop a willingness to experiment with form and subject.

C. Public Speaking

This course is designed to promote the art of public speaking and to offer the students a forum for a variety of public speaking activities. Many projects give students an opportunity to create speeches as well as explore famous speeches for content and delivery. Students are given a rubric to follow that enables them to monitor their progress throughout the year.

IV. Writing Contests

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

V. Staff Development

Several staff members attended workshops and seminars during the 2007-2008 school year and shared information and new ideas with members of the department. The majority of the English Department attended a conference at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, NYC on Saturday, January 12, 2008. The conference was entitled "Roman Art-A Conference for Educators". This was a most informative day with complimentary books for all that attended.

The Montclair State University for Educational Renewal accepted two members of the English Department as clinical faculty members. **Hannah Hungler and Jennifer Sabatelli** were accepted and can participate in a variety of professional development opportunities. Earlier this year Mrs. Sabatelli attended "English: A Tale of Two Languages"-Woodrow Wilson Teachers as Scholars Program at Montclair State. Mrs. Hungler attended the Young Adult Literature and Theory Workshop at Montclair State. This inspired them to apply for the clinical faculty status.

Hannah Hungler organized and conducted a trip to London in February 2008 that explored the architecture, history, and literature of Great Britain.

Cheryl Rossillo contributed greatly to the AP Humanities course by conducting field trips to The Cloisters and St. John the Divine Cathedral, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Lincoln Center for the opera *Carmen* and the ballet *The Nutcracker* all located in New York City. She is the Drama Club Advisor that produced the play *A Diary of Anne Frank* that was presented on June 6, 2008. The production was excellent and focused on characterization under the direction of student leadership. Mrs. Rossillo continues to serve as the leader of the Nutley High School Faculty Senate. This body of staff members meets regularly and their efforts to discuss a variety of school issues are greatly appreciated.

Marilyn Testa instituted a new club called the Future Educators Association. There were 33 members that participated. A number of projects were accomplished including regular meetings, fundraisers, field trips, a book drive, Toys for Tots book collection, Project Help, By-Laws Reorganization, and an end of the year dinner. This club is especially important for students that will be entering the teaching profession. The field trip to Montclair State University regarding teaching as a career was inspiring and gave the students a better understanding of the expectations of the teaching requirements.

Dennis Sasso continues his annual trip for English IV students to St. John the Divine Cathedral and The Cloisters in New York City. This trip inspires students to appreciate the artwork and culture relating to our English curriculum.

Hannah Hungler and Jennifer Sabatelli produced the first all-color yearbook at Nutley High School. The students were enthusiastic and worked diligently under their direction and guidance.

VI. Book Management

Books are stored in two bookrooms in the old wing of the third floor. 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.

VII. Concerns for the Future

Class size is still an issue at Nutley High School. The need for additional teachers in the English Department is imperative particularly in regards to the instruction of the writing process.

The creation of the drama/acting elective was done this year with hopes to implement it in the 2009-2010 school year.

Revision of the research projects in English II, III, and IV is a concern with the teachers making research a priority and providing some variation to these projects.

Continued emphasis on the skills needed for success on the HSPA and SAT is a top priority.

Professional development that relates to the course of study remains a concern for the department.

Revision of the entire English curriculum grades 9-12 needs to be addressed.

TO: Mr. Gregory Catrambone
 FROM: Toby D'Ambola
 Subject: Annual Report – Mathematics Department, High School
 Date: June 3, 2008

I. Staff

- A. Departmental statistics indicate that twelve teachers taught a total of 62 class sections. This included 18 regular subjects in addition to classes in the Basic Skills Improvement Program. As of May 2008, the average class size was 20.4 in the regular classes, which represented a small decrease from last year's average class size of 20.6, and there was an average of 18 students in the basic skills classes.
- B. In September 2007 Ms Takisha Ganesh, Ms. Jessica Mabel, Mr. Jon Olsen and Mr. Sean Fitzgerald joined the math staff here at Nutley High School. They replaced Mr. John Pinter, Mr. David Nycz, Mr. Michael McQuade and Mr. David Sorensen. Ms. Ganesh's schedule consisted of Basic Geometry, Transition Math and A.P. Statistics; Mr. Olsen taught Basic Geometry, Integrated Math and Math Analysis; Mr. Fitzgerald taught Basic Skills 11, Basic Algebra I and Algebra II and Ms. Mabel's schedule consisted of Basic Geometry and Algebra I. All first year math teachers will be returning for the 2008 – 2009 school year.

II. Testing

- A. The math portion of the High School Proficiency Assessment was administered on March 4th. 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. Those juniors who were not successful on the March assessment will have to attend a zero period remediation class in their senior year. This class is designed to reinforce those areas our students are still having difficulties with and prepare them to be successful on the retest of this assessment in October. Once the retest is completed, all students will begin the SRA process, which must be completed by March 31st and be submitted to the county superintendent's office.

- B. This year the TerraNova was administered to all ninth and tenth graders from March 4th to March 7th 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 Skills10 and one Basic Skills 11 class.
- C. This year we continued to provide a zero period remediation class for those seniors who failed the HSPA in March 2007. Ms. Martin, Ms. Gesumaria and Ms. Syme were its instructors and did an excellent job in preparing our students to retake the state assessment. The enrollment in this year's class was 35 seniors; this was slightly lower then last year's enrollment of 37 students. Based on the October 2nd retest results, it indicated that 24 of the 35 seniors tested were successful. The remaining 11 seniors continued to attend the zero period remediation class until they completed the student review assessment (SRA) process at the end of March. Since all SRA's projects submitted to the Essex County Department of Education were approved, these seniors will now be allowed to graduate with their class on June 24th.
- 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 a three 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. 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 Casio 300 MS 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 math resource room was shared this year during periods one and two with a very special group of students. Under the leadership of Mrs. Marino, this group worked hard each day setting an excellent example for those students who came in for extra help in mathematics. It was a pleasure sharing this room with these individuals.
- D. 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. Also this year we ran a 9-week zero period pilot SAT program in the fall and spring. When it was completed the staff members that who participated in the program met to discuss the overall program and suggested several changes to better meet the needs of next year's students. Tests from previous years were used in both the morning and evening sessions 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 2007, showed a mean mathematics score of 516. This score compares to 531 for the class of 2006, 525 for the class of 2005, 517 for the class of 2004, 522 for the class of 2003 and 534 for the class of 2001. The current state average for this test is 510. Over the past five years the mean score on the math part of the SAT's has decreased by 6% compared to a decrease of 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.

- E. This year two student teachers from Montclair State University worked under the direction of Ms. Syme and Mr. Picard. Ms. McGowan worked with Ms. Syme while Mr. Wrublevski's cooperating teacher was Mr. Picard. Both individuals were successful in completing their student teaching and will receive their provisional teaching certificates in mathematics from the state of New Jersey. These individuals graduated from Montclair State University in May and have accepted positions in other districts.

IV. FIELD TRIPS

On November 2nd, Mr. D'Ambola took a group of 20 students 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.

V. MATHEMATICS CONTESTS

The Math Club, sponsored by Leann Martin, 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

On May 21st, students from the following math subjects: Algebra I and II, Geometry, Pre Calculus, Statistics and Calculus, participated in the annual Essex County Math League contest. Our Algebra I team took third place and all teams placed seventh out of fourteen participating schools.

VI. 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 made a presentation at the annual AMTNJ conference held in October.

Jon Olsen attended the AMTNJ conference in October.

Donald Manfria participated in the American Red Cross CPR Training

All members of the math department attended workshops on bullying.

VII. DEPARTMENTAL GOALS FOR 2008 – 2009

- 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. This should be done in our Algebra I, Plane Geometry and Algebra II at the high school.
- 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. Monitor the new course B.C. Calculus.

MEMORANDUM

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

From: John Vitkovsky, Coordinator of Music

Re: **Principal's Report for the 2007 - 2008 School Year**

The following are activities of the 2007 - 2008 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 four 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 three marching band competitions this year. The highlight of the year for the Wind Ensemble was the Gold Medal received at the All North Jersey Region I Competition which the NHS Music Department hosted. At this competition, the Concert Band earned a Silver Medal and one of our students, Karl Gilbert received the Most Outstanding Performance Medal.
3. It was a fantastic year for the Orchestra. The Orchestra students worked very hard all year long and their efforts were rewarded with awesome performances at the NHS Yuletide Concert, the Spring Music Festival, and at the Orchestra Competition at Dorney Park in Allentown, PA. At this competition, the Orchestra received a first place trophy in the AA Orchestra Division and a first place trophy for the best Orchestra Overall. Continuing a long-standing tradition, the Orchestra and Band will jointly perform at the June 24th 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 Walker MS, the January performance at Carnegie Hall, and the NHS Spring Choral Music Festival. During the Spring Break, the Choralettes gave outstanding performances during the Puerto Rico Choir Tour

Music Dept. Annual Report – Nutley High School

5. Jazz Labs A and B performed at the NHS Open House, the Music Boosters Beefsteak Dinner, the Parkside Senior Center, and the NHS Spring Music Festival. Both Jazz Labs and both Jazz Bands performed at the NHS Yuletide Concert, the Music Boosters Café Night, and the Jazz Concert at *Trumpets* in Montclair, NJ. At the Belleville HS Jazz Festival Jazz Band A won a Gold Medal, Jazz Band B a Silver Medal, plus medals for the Best Saxophone Section, Best Rhythm Section, and Best Soloist.
6. The Concert Choir remained at 112 members. This group gave superior performances at the NJMEA Choral Festival, the Mayor's Tree Lighting, the NHS Yuletide Concert, the December concert at Walker MS, the NHS Spring Choral Music Festival, and the NHS Graduation. In January, the Concert Choir was invited to perform at Carnegie Hall, NYC. It was the ninth 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. Four Concert Choir students were selected (by audition) to the 2008 N.J. All State Chorus which will perform at the November 2008 NJEA Convention.
7. The NHS Chamber Music Singers had an exceptional year. For the second year 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 Venetian Night Dinner. Besides this, the Nutley High Chamber Singers went on an outstanding tour of Puerto Rico during the Spring Break. They performed to rave reviews at St. Jorge's Catholic Church and the University of Puerto Rico.
8. Professional Days: Mr. Vitkovsky and Mr. Maiello attended (during February Break) the 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 awesome Spring Musical, "West Side Story." The musical was so spectacular it has been nominated for several Paper mill Playhouse Rising Star Awards.
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: Because of last year's Championship Season our Winter Guard was "bumped up" into a more difficult division. Ms Aurilla Card and her students worked very hard to produce and execute a challenging routine. Unfortunately, they did not receive the scores from the judges that they truly deserved.

Music Dept. Annual Report – Nutley High School

12. This year the Nutley School District was designated one of the Best 100 Districts for Music Education in all of America. We received this honor because of the outstanding team we have in Nutley: the best Music Faculty, the best Administration, the best Board of Education, the best Music Students, and the best support from Parents through the Music Boosters and Friends of Nutley Singers.

CONCERNS

1. There still 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 dire need for a full-time string teacher in the district. This teacher will be shared by the five elementary schools, Walker Middle, and Nutley High. This specialist will enable our string students to succeed more rapidly on their beautiful, but difficult to learn instruments.
3. Shelves need to be built along the walls in Room 104 so instruments and music can be stored more efficiently.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Purchase several additional computers and electric keyboards for the music department.
2. Hire a badly needed string specialist for the elementary schools and secondary schools.
3. Build wooden shelves along the walls in Room 104 (the Band/Orchestra Room).

NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL
300 Franklin Ave.
Nutley, NJ 07110

Department of
Health and Physical Education


Anna Melnyk
Department Chairperson

Phone: 973-661-8855
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To: Mr. Catrambone

Re: Annual Report, Health/Physical Education 2007-2008

Date: June 20, 2008

From: Anna Melnyk 

1. My keys were stolen. Master keys to the doors, "forked" master keys to the lights, master key to the men's physical education office, my closet in office, desk key, V-15 combination lock key, basketball backboard key to the main gym and the small gym, master key to the fitness room, master lock key to my file cabinets in office, AD's office key, the hex wrench key to the main doors. Keys were taken out of the girls locker room during the 5th period on March 28, 2008.
2. Driver Education – State Written Test is the heart of this program. Mr. Mitschow and I organize the retake of this test for all students who did not pass it the first time. Mrs. Romaglia coordinates the testing of any special education student for each marking period. Approximately 76 students have been re-tested.
3. DDR – Dance, Dance, Revolution – Mayor Joanne Cocchiola received a grant from Mountainside Hospital to initiate this program in the elementary schools and the high school. The physical education staff got an in-service lesson from Loren McKreech. The idea is a great one, however each mat needs a television for transmission. Only 6 students can participate at one time. Two students can be hooked up to one television. A lot of students must watch while others are on the mats, creating a lot of down time.
4. Comprehensive Health and Physical Education Survey was submitted to the State Department of Education. The curriculum needs to be revised to coincide with the State Core Curriculum Standards.
5. "Extreme Makeover" bid was submitted by Miss Melnyk to GOPHER for a contest to rebuild the boys' locker room. John Carlo, an 11th grader was instrumental in making the video for this contest. Sorry to say we did not win.

6. Bleachers have impeded a few activities during the year. When students are in class this is a major safety issue.

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. The senior year, class of 2008-2009 is the last class that will be using the combined grade for health and physical education. All other grades will have Health as a separate course. If failed they must repeat the course.

Nutley High School
Science Department
Annual Report
2007-2008

To: Mr. Gregory Catrambone
From: Mr. Michael Fetherman
Re: Principal's Report for the 2007-2008 Academic Year
Date: June 1, 2008

Members of the Nutley High School Science Department delighted and inspired our students with their knowledgeable, enthusiastic, creative and compassionate instruction. One highlight from this exceptional year of teaching and learning included the arrival of Jeremy Thornton, first year teacher out of the University of Syracuse. Students under Mr. Thornton's care benefited from dynamic and captivating explorations; we are pleased to report a favorable response to his efforts and look forward to many great contributions in the years to come.

Another noteworthy highlight sure to become an annual event was the pilgrimage taken to Sedge Island Natural Resource Education Center, located within New Jersey's first Marine Conservation Zone, just off Island Beach State Park in Barnegat Bay. It was here that Mr. Bania's AP Biology class explored both the natural and cultural history of the region using hands-on methods that included marsh walks, kayak tours, and conventional fishing, crabbing, and clamming techniques. Further investigation of the marine environment was done using nets, microscopes, field guides, and more. Whether seining near an eel grass bed to observe the importance of submerged aquatic vegetation or participation in a built-in anatomy lesson while cleaning and preparing a meal of fresh caught seafood, the activities offered provided first-hand insight into the wise use and management of New Jersey's natural resources as well as their importance. Students left the 3-day workshop with a deeper understanding of the entire ecosystem and experienced a weekend they will never forget!

Overall, the year progressed agreeably through the winter and spring months highlighted by visits from the Essex County CSI Unit and Reptile Guy as well as trips to the NYC Bodies Exhibit, Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, Lakota Wolf Preserve, Ramapo College Magic of Chemistry seminar, NJIT Virtual Bridge Competition and the Drew University Women in Science Day.

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 2007-2008 school year indicate that 14 dynamic teachers taught 18 different course selections offered within a balanced framework of entry-level, college prep and advanced placement options. Our diverse population of learners from all abilities had the opportunity to select courses germane to their interests in preparation for the next chapter in their young adult lives.

The following information represents a section-by-section review of the department's course offerings and includes the course and instructor names, enrollment, time allotted for classroom study and a synopsis of the topics covered.

AP Environmental Science – Teacher: Mr. Joseph Tagliareni

This year 49 students enrolled in *AP Environmental Science*. This Advanced Placement course meets six periods per week. Equivalent to an introductory college level environmental course, emphasis is placed on understanding the interrelationships of the natural world, identification and analysis of environmental problems and examination of risks and solution to the problems.

AP Biology – Teacher: Mr. Kent Bania.

This year 45 students enrolled in *AP Biology*. This Advanced Placement course meets six periods per week. Designed to meet the objectives of an introductory general biology course at the college level, students who successfully complete this course will possess knowledge of facts and principles of biology, understand how biological information is collected and interpreted, and be expected to formulate hypotheses and make appropriate scientific predictions.

AP Chemistry – Teacher: Ms. Christine Polk.

This year 16 students enrolled in *AP Chemistry*. This Advanced Placement course meets six periods per week and is to be taken only after successful completion of a first course in general chemistry. Areas of emphasis include atomic theory, states of matter, reaction types, stoichiometry, gas laws, equilibrium and thermodynamics.

AP Physics – Teacher: Mr. Crispulo Isiminger.

This year 14 students enrolled in *AP Physics*. This Advanced Placement course meets six periods per week and is to be taken only after successful completion of a first course in high school physics. This course offers a variety of laboratory experiences and independent learning activities as well as in-depth discussions of fundamental physics principles.

Accelerated Biology – Teacher: Ms. Kati Gratz

This year 94 students enrolled in *Honors Biology*. This course meets six periods per week and invites students to deal extensively with the abstract concepts of biology as it incorporates a more in-depth practice of higher level thinking skills, experimentation and processing skills than is found at the introductory level.

Chemistry Honors – Teacher: Dr. Peter Smith.

This year 94 students enrolled in *Honors Chemistry*. This course meets six periods per week and deals with the composition of matter in its various forms, including the change which matter undergoes. Class procedures place emphasis on understanding and application of principles and development of clarity in thinking and expression. Individual laboratory work, as well as teacher demonstration, provides a basis for development of the unifying principles of modern chemistry.

Physics Honors – Teacher: Mr. Crispulo Isiminger.

This year 15 students enrolled in *Honors Physics*. This course meets six periods per week and covers a wide variety of topics traditionally covered in a high school general physics class, albeit in greater depth and with emphasis on laboratory work.

Human Physiology Honors – Teachers: Mr. Kent Bania and Dr. Peter Smith

This year 52 students enrolled in *Honors Human Physiology*. This laboratory-oriented course meets six periods per week and involves detailed dissection, microscopy and in-depth investigation of cells, tissues, organs and systems of the human body.

Human Physiology – Teacher: Mr. Joseph Simko

This year 48 students enrolled in *Human Physiology*. This laboratory-oriented course meets five periods per week to present a systematic study of the human body, stressing structure and function.

Microbiology – Teacher: Mrs. Paula Kasner.

This year 10 students enrolled in *Microbiology*. This laboratory-oriented course meets five periods per week and is designed to introduce students to the study of bacteria, viruses and other microorganisms. Lab skills in microscopy, as well as slide, media, and solution preparation will be developed.

College Biology – Teachers: Mrs. Paula Kasner, Mrs. Jennifer Marcino and Mr. Joseph Simko.

This year 229 students enrolled in *College Biology*, a required course for all incoming ninth graders. Course objectives include facilitation of a broad understanding of basic biological principles as they relate to biochemistry, cytology, genetics, evolution, botany, zoology and ecology.

Biology for Living – Teacher: Mrs. Jennifer Marcino

This year 19 students enrolled in *Biology for Living*, an introductory course to the world of the living. Emphasis in this course is placed on the learning of basic life processes such as those associated with the cell, evolution, genetics, plants, animals and the environment.

College Chemistry – Teachers: Dr. Michael Naumoff, Ms. Christine Polk and Mr. Jeremy Thornton

This year 228 students enrolled in *College Chemistry*. This college preparatory class meets six periods per week and stresses the fundamental principles of elementary chemistry. Treatment of the subject is designed to appeal to those entering fields requiring general exposure to chemical principles, but not needing a highly sophisticated understanding of technical concepts.

College Physics – Teacher: Mr. Crispulo Isiminger.

This year 27 students enrolled in *College Physics*. This course meets six periods per week and focuses on the fundamental principles of elementary physics. Adequate introduction is provided for students preparing for college, as emphasis is placed on the collection, analysis and expression of data.

Earth/Space Science – Teachers: Mrs. Megan O'Hagan and Ms. Kerry Ferrara

This year 69 students enrolled in *Earth/Space Science*. This class meets five periods per week and deals with all facets of the planet earth and its relationship with the entire solar system including the composition, structure, history and dynamics of planet earth and its place in the universe.

Environmental Science – Teacher: Mr. Joseph Tagliareni

This year 74 students enrolled in *Environmental Science*, a course designed to provide students an overview of the structure of the environment, how organisms react with their environment and how human activities and natural phenomena affect the environment.

Forensic Science – Teacher: Mrs. Sandra Stark-Houck

This year 125 students enrolled in *Forensic Science*. This course consists of a comprehensive and challenging curriculum designed to give students a solid scientific foundation in the basic principles of forensic science. Topics range from basic measurement and scientific method to more complex concepts such as fingerprint analysis, enzyme testing and the role of DNA in criminal investigation.

II. Advanced Placement Testing

Advanced Placement testing was offered in four areas: *AP Biology*, *AP Chemistry*, *AP Environmental Science* and *AP Physics*. Effective for the 2007-08 school year, all students enrolled in an AP course sat for their respective exams.

III. Science Awards

Recognition and awards were distributed among well-deserving students of the sciences at Nutley High School. Members of the Junior and Senior classes were eligible to receive awards. Recipients' names appear below:

Erica Lachenauer - *Rensselaer Award*

Olivia Lombardi - *Dominick Di Cioccio Memorial Award*

IV. Staff Development

Staff members 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 and/or participated in by the staff. I commend all participants on a job well done!

Workshops and In-Services:

AP Chemistry Teacher Exchange

*Cyber Technology**Introduction to StudyWiz Spark*

Introduction to Photoshop

*Teaching Forensic Science**Race: Are We So Different?*

Response Law

*Right-to-Know - Lab Safety**Food Science: A Great Career Option (Rutgers University)**Suicide Prevention and Awareness*Other:

New Jersey Science Teachers Convention

Physics Day – Six Flags Great Adventure

The Faculty Senate

Middle States Steering Committee

Science Career Day, Drew University

Engineering Career Day, NJIT

Student Ambassador Teacher Leader

The Northeast Football Coaches Clinic

New Teacher Mentorship

CPR certification

Graduate study – Montclair State, Jersey City State, Drake University

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. New textbooks were purchased for the AP Biology program and additional copies of the *Forensic Science* textbook were secured to meet the needs of this popular course. Our efforts reflect the desire to maximize the usefulness and relevancy of the 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 several 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 to identify unnecessary gaps and repetitions and ensure compliance with state standards. In addition, opportunities created that promote dialogue between our diverse high school

educators (amongst the math and science staff, for instance) can reasonably be assumed to benefit the learning experiences of our youngsters.

VI. UMDNJ Partnership

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

A special thank you to Mrs. Rose Cioffi and Mrs. Sharon Romaglia for their continued support of the UMDNJ-Nutley High School program. Rose Cioffi taught the *Health Dynamics* course offered during zero period Tuesday mornings. Sharon Romaglia attended monthly meetings at the UMDNJ-Scotch Plains campus and acted as liaison between the UMDNJ community and Nutley High, as she coordinated numerous activities in which our students took part. 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 supervised by members of the science department:

- Biology Club Advisor – Mr. Bania
- Biology Club Advisor – Ms. Gratz
- GSA Club Advisor – Ms. Gratz
- C.A.T. Program – Mr. Simko
- Senior Class Advisor – Mr. Simko
- Anime Club Advisor – Mr. Isiminger
- C.L.A.W. Club Advisor – Mr. Joe Tagliareni
- Academic Team Advisor – Mrs. Marcino
- Health Careers Club Advisor – Mrs. Kasner
- Ski Club Advisor – Mr. Thornton
- Lacrosse coach (Montclair State University) – Mr. Bania
- Assistant Football Coach (NHS) – Dr. Smith
- Assistant Lacrosse Coach (NHS) – Dr. Smith

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 19, 2008

From: Mr. Robert O'Dell
Social Studies Coordinator

Subject: Principal's Report for 2007 - 2008 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 fifteen different courses that includes four honors courses and four advanced placement courses. Twelve teachers and the coordinator cover fifty-six sections, as well as one section of the interdisciplinary Humanities course. Total enrollment for all courses is currently 1224 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. These courses will be reviewed again in June to renew the approval 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 added an atlas program to the World History courses to further emphasis geography skills and knowledge.
- 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. The grant materials arrived six months late, postponing some of the in-service workshops to the following year.
- 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 2007 – 2008 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. Among these were *The Federalist and Anti-Federalist Papers* and W.E.B. DuBois's *The Souls of Black Folk*.
- 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. Workshops on the Amistad mandate
4. The New Jersey Council for the Social Studies Annual Fall Conference
5. New Jersey Social Studies Supervisors Association Spring Workshop. This focused on standards and assessment. Mr. O'Dell volunteered to serve on the Assessment Committee, which hopes to draft guidelines for state approved local assessments.
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), focusing on civic education.
12. NJASSP Student Activities Conference

B. Faculty members completed graduate courses through Montclair State University and Drake University Distance Learning. In addition, one faculty member completed the state mandated alternate route classes in Jersey City.

III. Enrichment

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

1. Legislation was drafted and submitted in the State Legislature. The students were able to gain valuable experience regarding the legislative process, testifying before Assembly and Senate committees and participating in the final Assembly vote.
2. New Jersey Canals project from the department's website.
3. Online video exchange with a class in the Ukraine as part of a program fostering the development of democracy.
4. Debates regarding the bombing of Hiroshima, affirmative action, federal funding of education and the arts, 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. Veteran's Day breakfast for students and veterans
8. Mock trials
9. Reenactments and role playing
10. Forbear Project
11. Political Personality Profiles and Voting Analyses
12. Guest Speakers
 - a. The Honorable Joanne Cocchiola, Mayor of Nutley
 - b. Social workers, Nutley Family Services
13. Internet Access Projects
14. Student and faculty generated PowerPoint presentations
15. 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
16. The posting of appropriate bulletin boards in the Annex hallway.
17. Re – enactment of the Convention of 1860
18. Mock Senate hearings
19. 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 Archaeology
- D. New textbooks were purchased for AP United States History and AP Human Geography.
- E. 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.
- F. The American history courses are due for review and possible revision. This will likely entail the purchase of new textbooks.

V. Social Studies Awards

Awards to graduating seniors:

- 1. Brian McGinley Award for Outstanding History Student – Katrina Youssef
- 2. Daughters of the American Revolution Medal in History, Yantacaw Chapter – Michael Melillo
- 3. League of Women Voters of Nutley – Giana Santelli
- 4. Nutley Post # 70, American Legion Auxiliary – Michael Rombola and Marina Casale
- 5. The Carmen A. Orechio Civic Association Award – Emily Patoray

VI. Items New to the Social Studies Department for 2007 - 2008

- A. Mr. Christopher Rosati was deployed to Afghanistan as part of his Naval Reserve unit. His courses were assumed by Mrs. David, Mrs. Stine, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Ryan, and Mr. O'Dell
- B. The department, with the assistance of the Young Democrats (sponsored by Mrs. Miller) and the Young Republicans (sponsored by Miss Lombard) conducted a Voter Registration drive that registered 200 students. The department hopes to make this an annual event.
- C. The basic wall maps were updated with current maps of the United States and the world, as well as a projection screen. The department wishes to thank Mr. Catrambone for making this possible.
- D. Three new teachers, Joseph Dwyer, Lori Ferrara, and Alicia Lombard were hired and mentored.
- E. 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.

- F. Each faculty member was given a MacBook laptop computer, and a LCD projector was mounted in the ceiling of each classroom in the department. This new technology received heavy usage.
- G. New software for the computers, including Microsoft Office 2008 and outlining programs capable of generating web pages, was purchased and utilized.
- H. The AP Human Geography course was implemented.
- I. 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. In order to enhance the effective use of computer applications and resources, the department would like to conduct additional in-service workshops regarding the available software.
- D. 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.
- E. In-service courses that are content-based and designed to enhance current instruction would be a welcome addition to the professional development program. Mr. O'Dell and the department staff are willing to conduct these workshops.

**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 – 2007-08

I. Statistical Data and Staff

1. Approximately 75% of the student population was enrolled in world language classes. (French, Italian, Latin and Spanish levels 1-5-AP), and three classes of ESL (Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced).
2. Ten staff members including the coordinator taught 44 sections of 22 course offerings of World Languages (one teacher was 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.
3. Mr. Violante continues to be also the **Coordinator of Project Acceleration** with Seton Hall University. During the academic year 2007-08, approximately 200 students signed up for Project Acceleration credits in the fall 2007 and Spring 2008 semesters. Many students earned approximately 20+ credits, which they transferred to a college of their choice.
4. District ESL Program – The district **has met** the Annual Measurable Achievement Objective (**AMAO**) for English Language Learners with 75% of students improving (the state required 65% improvement). For the next school year the state requires a 70% improvement.
5. One again Mr. Violante applied for **Title III Grant- NCLB**, as well as for **immigrant Student Aid Grant**. Together, the district was awarded more than \$32,000. This was the first time that the district was awarded this amount for FY 2008.
6. Mr. Violante applied for a grant from the Italian American Committee on Education (**IACE**) an expansion of the Italian Embassy in New York, and was awarded \$4,000.00, to be used for teaching material.
7. The World Language department celebrated **National World Language and Culture Week** in March with different activities planned throughout the week. Some of the activities were:
 - **Ethnic Pride** – banners were placed in the language hallway designating different parts of the world. The students were invited to sign their names and the countries that represented their ethnicity.

- **Announcements** – Each day, a student greeted the student body in another language before the general announcements in the morning.
- **Cultural Awareness Day** – Students were encouraged to wear something or bring something to their language class that demonstrated pride in their heritage.
- **I Only Speak My Second Language Day** – Students wore tags designating which language they would be speaking all day.
- **Learn a new language day** – selected students taught us a little of the languages they speak at home. We learned some Urdu, Arabic, Polish, Korean, Chinese, Rumanian and Portuguese.

II. Curriculum

1. The staff worked very diligently on the AP Audit in Italian, Spanish, French and Latin, which were all approved by AP Central..
2. New Italian text for level 1-5 was approved in December of 2007. The authors of the text from Italy gave a presentation to all Italian language teachers in November and again in May. The text will be in use for the 2008-09 school year.
3. Mrs. Rucinski and Mrs. Rhein mentored two students from Montclair State University doing their senior and junior practicum in Spanish.
4. Mrs. Rucinski also mentored Mr. Wdowiak, the new Spanish teacher hired through alternate rout.
5. 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.
6. 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 July.
5. With the help of Mr. Catrambone and approval of the Board of Education, for the 2007-08 school year, the department added honors courses in levels 2 and 3 in Spanish, Italian, French and Latin.
7. Mrs. Stepansky's Latin Honor Society students presented a program by exposing Latin and Roman Concepts relevant to today's times to all 6th grade students at the elementary schools. The students presented also a short skit on Julius Caesar's

assassination.

7. Mr. Cicchino took a group of upper levels Italian students to visit all five elementary schools to showcase the Italian language program at the high school to all 6th graders.
8. The Italian and Spanish classes in collaboration with the culinary arts teachers (Mr. Gallardo and Mr. Huggins) collaborated in preparing regional and authentic foods from Italy and various Spanish and Latin American countries.
9. Mrs. Frost-Guzzo, ESL teacher:
 - a. Infused technology into her lessons through frequent use of audio CDs, and LCD projector for viewing curriculum components CD-ROMs, curriculum components web-sites, and wide variety of Internet sites, maximizing comprehension for all English Language Learners (ELLs), and reinforcing listening/speaking, reading skills, and phonemic development.
 - b. She also arranged for installation of ESL-reserved computers in library, and in room 210, loaded with Oxford Interactive Picture Dictionary, which ELL students may use during a portion of their lunch periods to build English vocabulary.
 - c. Coordinated with Ms. DeBonis, Language Arts Coordinator, to ensure that all ELLs had Internet access to the State Assessment Preparation program, Study Island.
 - d. For a second year, she maintained a teacher's website posting assignments, reminders, and Internet web-site link useful/beneficial to ELLs.
10. Mr. Violante as district ESL coordinator, together with Mrs. Frost-Guzzo, ESL teacher were involved in the following as per Code **6A:15**.
 - Each marking period reviewed report cards of all ELLs current students to monitor progress of potential difficulties in content area classes, as well as those students exited from the ESL Program within the last two years. **6A:15-1.10**
 - Coordinated with guidance counselors and ELL parents to maximize participation in tutoring services available through NCLB and code **6A:15-1.7**
 - Determine the native language of each LEP student. Developed a screening process to determine the proficiency level and make appropriate recommendations to guidance. Maintain a census record. Report annually to the State Department of Education as part of the (Fall Report) fall LEP Enrollment Summary. **6A:15-1.3**

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 Operas: "Carmen" "Romeo and Juliet", at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City. Also, Mrs. Camarda as co-sponsor of the National Honor Society, helped raise money for Cancer research with "Relay for Life".
2. **The High School, specifically the Italian classes are continuing the sister town relationship with Contrada, and Forino, two towns in the province of Avellino in Italy. In October, 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 chaperoned a group of 20 students and parents on a trip to Italy during the spring vacations. During the tour of Venice, Florence, San Marino, Sorrento, Capri, Pompeii, Rome, and Sicily 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 9, 2008. 135 students were inducted into the National Italian, French, Spanish and Latin Honor Society.
5. The Italian club and classes under the supervision of Mrs. D'Urso, Mr. Cicchino and Mr. Violante, sponsored an "Una Serata in Piazza" "Italian Night" with Italian food, music and skits prepared and performed by the students in the school cafeteria. The "Italian Night" was attended by more than 200 parents, students, administrators and teachers.
6. Mr. Cicchino's Italian classes attended a performance of the Opera "Aida", and "Turandot", at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City.
7. Mrs. Stepansky's Latin, 3H, classes participated in the National/International Latin Exam. Many of the students received recognition (Gold and silver medals and certificates of merit). **Patrick Roche, Achal Shah, Brendan Striano, were awarded "Gold Medal/Summa Cum Laude". Cody Welch, Aubree Woods, James Nepa, Scott**

Kilianski, Seimi Rurup, Philip Lam, were awarded "**Silver Medal/ Maxima Cum Laude**". **Adam Dolan, Michael Cooper, Brandon Cresci, Ryan Connor** were awarded "**Magna 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.

8. Mrs. Stepansky's Latin 2H class visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art where they looked at Greek and Roman exhibits and special Poussin show on his paintings with mythological themes.
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. Three students received honorable mention.
10. Ms. Perrotta's Spanish 3-H classes visited the United Nations.
11. The Italian Club marched in the Columbus Day Parade with Mrs. D'Urso and Mr. Cicchino. The club also sponsored an "Italian Movie Night" at the High School cafeteria, by showing the movie "Divorce Italian Style.
12. Mrs. Rucinski and Mr. Wdowiak invited a former student class of 2000, as a guest speaker in her Spanish classes. Jean Rohe, Spoke about her experiences in Cuba, Afro-Cuban music and the importance of learning Spanish as a life skill and not merely as an academic pursuit.
13. Mr. Wdowiak was assistant director of the musical, "West Side Story". He also, together with Ms. Perrotta, chaperoned the trip to Puerto Rico with the NHS choir.
14. The French, Spanish and Latin National Honor Societies held fundraising events for Scholarships to benefit seniors going to College and study languages.
15. The Spanish Honor Society Sponsored by Mrs. Rhein had a flower sale for Valentine's Day, and various bake sales. The club raised over \$800.00. The money will be given out to four (4) graduating seniors as scholarships.
16. 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.

Some of the Conferences/workshops were:

- a. *World Languages Supervisor's Professional Development Institute.*
- 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*
- d. *Seton Hall University – Annual Project Acceleration Conference*
- e. *Facilitator training session for state ESL language proficiency testing "Access for ELLs".*

3. Mrs. Rucinski attended the: *Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages – AP Spanish Language Workshop o "Instructional Techniques and Assessment at the AP level"*
4. Mr. Cicchino attended the annual 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.
5. Mrs. Frost-Guzzo attended out of districts professional 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).* She attended five separate workshops.

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.
2. Revise the ESL Curricula and align the Standards with new State mandated World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) Standards as required by NJ ESL/Bilingual Code.
3. I would like to thank the administration and above all the principal Mr. Catrambone, without his full unconditional support the department would not have had all of the above mentioned accomplishments.

Respectfully submitted

Ciro Violante, Coordinator of World Languages and ESL

June 18, 2008

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: 6/17/08

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 privilege to be the Athletic Director for such an outstanding district. The 2007-2008 school year was another fantastic year and we continue to get better. Nutley had 888 athletes compete in 20 varsity and sub-varsity sports in 2007-2008. This year we added a Women's freshman Volleyball program.

The Boys and Girls Soccer teams, Girls Volleyball team, Boys Bowling team, Baseball and Softball teams and Boys Tennis team all qualified and competed in the NJSIAA State Tournament, and the Cheerleading squad and Crew team performed on a National level. The Boy's Bowling team, Baseball team and Softball team all captured N.N.J.I.L. titles, and the Boy's Bowling team captured Essex County and State Sectional titles. Glen Cox bowled the first 300 game in Nutley history. The wrestling team sent two wrestlers to the State Tournament in Atlantic City and the Track team had numerous county and state qualifiers with Lou Riccardi winning 3 gold medals in the Meet of Champions. The Football team took us on a 88 yard journey in less than two minutes that resulted in a last second thanksgiving day victory over cross-town rival Belleville providing us with one of the most exciting games in our schools history.

FALL SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

Boys Soccer: Played in the State Sectional Semi Finals of the NJSIAA State Tournament to complete a 14 win season, the most in NHS history. Coach Marra was chosen as the Essex County Coaches Association Coach of the Year

Girls Soccer: Played well into the State Tournament and competed in the Essex County Semi Finals for the third year in a row.

Volleyball: Qualified for the State Tournament for the first time in over ten years.

Individual Honors: See Attached Honors Sheet

GO RAIDERS!

WINTER SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

Anthony Cifelli captured his 100th career wrestling victory. Both Anthony Cifelli and Anthony Damico qualified for the state wrestling tournament in Atlantic City. The NHS Cheerleading squad captured 3 competition titles and qualified for the National competition in Pittsburgh, PA. They placed second in that competition. The Boy's Bowling team captured an NNJIL, Essex County and State Sectional Championships. They broke the pin count record in the Essex County Tournament. George Ackerman was named as the Star Ledger North Jersey Coach of the Year. Glenn Cox bowled the first 300 game in NHS history.

Individual Honors: See Attached Honors Sheet

SPRING SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

The Baseball team qualified for the state tournament, captured an NNJIL championship and finished with an 11-5 league record. The Softball team captured an NNJIL championship and finished with 25 wins, the most in school history. The crew team traveled to Tennessee where they qualified four boats to compete in the National Tournament. The women's senior four took second place. In Track, Lou Riccardi captured three gold medals in the Meet of Champions, and Craig Michaud placed sixth overall breaking the NHS high jump record.

Individual Honors: See Attached Honors Sheet

GO RAIDERS!

2007 FALL RECAP

**Congratulations to all of our fall athletes, the following award winners, and
to Coach Marcellino Marra for being named Essex County Coaches
Association Coach of the Year and All Area Coach of the Year!**

CROSS COUNTRY		
Dana Principe	2 nd Team NNJIL	
Jeffrey Lin	Hon. Mention NNJIL	
FOOTBALL – TBA		
BOYS SOCCER		
Mario Walker	1 st Team NNJIL	1 st Team Essex County Coaches Association
William Ball	1 st Team NNJIL	2 nd Team Essex County Coaches Association
Tudor Stefan	1 st Team NNJIL	2 nd Team Essex County Coaches Association
Kyle Greulich	1 st Team NNJIL	3 rd Team Essex County Coaches Association
Joseph Johnson	2 nd Team NNJIL	
Michael Ryder	2 nd Team NNJIL	
Steven Salerno	2 nd Team NNJIL	
Michael Cristantiello	Hon. Mention NNJIL	
GIRLS SOCCER		
Megan Ginter	1 st Team NNJIL	1 st Team Essex County Coaches Association
Olivia Giuliano	1 st Team NNJIL	1 st Team Essex County Coaches Association
Elizabeth Sardinsky	1 st Team NNJIL	1 st Team Essex County Coaches Association
Jillian Donatiello	1 st Team NNJIL	2 nd Team Essex County Coaches Association
Maria Perez	2 nd Team NNJIL	1 st Team Essex County Coaches Association
Shannon Feher	2 nd Team NNJIL	Hon. Mention Essex County Coaches Assoc.
Ashlee Mustardo	2 nd Team NNJIL	
Alyssa Diacheysn	Hon. Mention NNJIL	2 nd Team Essex County Coaches Assoc.
Sarah Cirigliano		Hon. Mention Essex County Coaches Assoc.
GIRLS TENNIS		
Harsha Amirthajothi	Honorable Mention 3 rd Singles NNJIL	
VOLLEYBALL		
Kaitlyn Marrero	1 st Team NNJIL	
Lexi Osetto	2 nd Team NNJIL	
Erica Lachenauer	Hon. Mention NNJIL	

2007-08 WINTER RECAP

Congratulations to all of our winter athletes, coaches and award winners!

BASKETBALL – GIRLS		
Megan Ginter	1 st Team All NNJIL	
Ashlee Mustardo	Hon. Mention All NNJIL	
BOWLING – TEAM RECEIVED NNJIL SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD		
Christopher Costa	Hon. Mention All NNJIL	
Glenn Cox	1 st Team All NNJIL	First in Nutley history to bowl a .300 game! (1-29-08)
Michael De Munno	1 st Team All NNJIL	
Matthew Gallo	1 st Team All NNJIL	22 nd – Individual Tournament of Champions 3 rd Team – All North Jersey (Star Ledger)
Daniel Penett	1 st Team All NNJIL	
Gabrielle Pereira	2 nd Team All NNJIL	
Erika Regalado	Hon. Mention All NNJIL	
Benjamin Sowizral	1 st Team All NNJIL	
Elise Trivett	2 nd Team All NNJIL	
ICE HOCKEY		
Kevin Tempsick	2 nd Team All NJIHL	
WINTER TRACK		
Jonathan Grueter	2 nd Team All NNJIL 4 x 800	
Scott Kilianski	2 nd Team All NNJIL 4 x 800	
Joseph Oliveri	2 nd Team All NNJIL Pole Vault	
Amarilis Padilla	2 nd Team All NNJIL Shot Put	
Anthony Rauco	2 nd Team All NNJIL 4 x 800	
Patrick Roche	2 nd Team All NNJIL 4 x 800	
WRESTLING		
Anthony Cifelli	1 st Team All NNJIL	Achieved 100 th win! (2-16-08)
Anthony Damico	1 st Team All NNJIL	
Nick Ritacco	1 st Team All NNJIL	
Dante Montes	2 nd Team All NNJIL	
Vincent Scuttaro	Hon. Mention All NNJIL	

2007-08 SPRING SPORTS RECAP

BASEBALL	
Team captured 2008 NNJIL Title!	
Anthony Bowens	1 st Team All NNJIL, 1 st Team All County
Glenn Cox	1 st Team All NNJIL
John Isabella	1 st Team All NNJIL
Giuseppe Papaccio	2 nd Team All NNJIL
Kyle Signorelli	2 nd Team All NNJIL
Michael Ryder	Hon. Mention All NNJIL
GOLF	
Louis Redmond	1 st Team All NNJIL
Matthew Barr	2 nd Team All NNJIL
John Carlo	Hon. Mention All NNJIL
LACROSSE	
Sam Pavlick	1 st Team All NJILL
Matthew McCann	2 nd Team All NJILL
Thomas Ring	2 nd Team All NJILL
Timothy Botti	Hon. Mention All NJILL
SOFTBALL	
Team captured 2008 NNJIL Title!	
Lauren Castano	1 st Team All NNJIL
Jillian Donatiello	1 st Team All NNJIL, 2 nd Team All County
Meghan McDevitt	1 st Team All NNJIL, 1 st Team All County
Tina De Falco	2 nd Team All NNJIL
Megan Ginter	2 nd Team All NNJIL
Lauren Iradi	2 nd Team All NNJIL, 2 nd Team All County
Jamie Donatiello	Hon. Mention All NNJIL
TENNIS	
Peter Pensuwan	Honorable Mention 1 st Singles All NNJIL
TRACK & FIELD	
Craig Michaud	1 st Team All NNJIL
Rose Stoffers	1 st Team All NNJIL
Khalif Burney	2 nd Team All NNJIL
Ariane Di Marco	2 nd Team All NNJIL
Joseph Oliveri	2 nd Team All NNJIL

Nutley High School

Library Media Center

Annual Report 2007-2008

June 17, 2008
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 25,295 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 series of databases from ABC-CLIO was added to the collection. These databases are particularly useful for research in the Social Sciences and current issues. Databases were much utilized by the students. For the year, almost 10,000 pages were viewed on the ABC-CLIO databases. There were over 50,000 pages viewed on the Facts on File databases. Students performed almost 9,000 searches on the Gale series of databases. Additionally, the District continued to provide 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 over 60 classes per month for the months of January through May. Although the majority of classes were from the English and Social Studies departments, we have also had classes from World Languages, Science, Culinary Arts, Mathematics, ESL, Special Education, and Physical Education. In addition to scheduled classes, students used the Library before and after school, and during lunch periods.

A collaborative project was begun to examine the space of the Library Media Center for a potential renovation project. A project with Mr. Ackerman's mechanical drawing class was undertaken. His students discussed space and school needs with the Principal and the Librarian in hopes of drafting preliminary plans.

Projects for the coming years include the introduction of eBooks for reference titles, specifically from Gale publishers.

Completed Projects in the Library include:

- Re-organization of paperback fiction collection. Books were cleaned, re-labeled and placed on new shelves for easier access.
- Migration to new circulation/cataloguing system – Destiny by Follett
- Update of Library Web Page.
- Continued weeding of books, particularly paperback fiction.

Projects for 2008-2009 include:

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

Statistics as of June 17, 2008:

Number of books checked out:	2863
Number of books added to collection:	419
Number of books lost:	24
Fine monies deposited:	\$500.00
Copier monies deposited:	\$316.45

COPY ACTIVITY

Series	Sep/Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Total
000s	3	0	1	3	2	1	1	2	13
100s	6	0	1	6	25	22	20	6	182
200s	52	20	4	7	5	5	0	3	96
300s	9	15	8	41	65	61	45	20	264
400s	2	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	5
500s	0	2	1	3	10	10	4	1	31
600s	1	1	8	23	33	17	22	13	118
700s	19	6	19	43	15	9	3	2	116
800s	16	12	22	49	15	71	44	81	310
900s	62	4	21	117	94	90	23	48	459
BIO	28	4	2	25	29	26	19	22	155
FIC	47	63	105	89	53	58	74	79	568
PB FIC	5	35	62	87	25	33	21	30	328
PBD FIC	29	13	35	26	9	10	7	13	142
REF	8	3	4	6	5	17	17	7	67
TEMP	6	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	9
GRAND TOTAL	293	179	324	525	418	464	333	327	2863

CLASSES SCHEDULED IN LIBRARY

Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	TOTAL
24	29	34	43	74	60	58	54	66	5	447

SUBSCRIPTION DATABASE USE

Database	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Total
ABC-CLIO Logins	224	288	29	80	273	329	275	263	263	2024
ABC-CLIO Page Views	1705	1797	128	566	1422	1753	1600	1026	1073	11070
Facts on File Logins	511	920	273	831	1774	1659	1346	819	925	9058
Facts on File Page Views	2514	5926	1820	9265	12678	12168	8140	4677	6159	60347
GALE Logins	20	54	38	111	837	492	387	281	107	2327
GALE Searches	272	187	143	478	2946	2129	1415	1253	536	9359
GALE Connect Time (minutes)	179	496	380	923	6748	4050	3082	2552	980	19390

MEDIA DEPARTMENT

YEAR END REPORT

2007-2008

June, 2008
Mr. James Kelly

2007-2008 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 tour of MSNBC studio Secaucus. Students observed live studio operations in covering world news. They received hands-on experience in news operations.
5. The Media staff has assisted the CAT program on a weekly basis. 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 School Talent Show and the Nutley High School graduation program. They also provided video production at Spring Garden School for students and faculty.
7. The Media Department taped and broadcasted Board of Education meetings on Cablevision (our cable television provider.)
8. The Media Department served as the liaison between Nutley Public Schools, New Jersey Public Television, and Cablevision.
9. Overnight taping of an education program requested by the High School staff was recorded by the Media Department.
10. Our audio-visual student assistants videotaped Public Service announcements for Mr. Capello and Ms. Hrubash classes at Walker Middle School.
11. The Television Studio, channel 77, is now housed in the audio-visual department. Radio/TV classes utilize the studio equipment for video production work. Students also produced live call-in shows and athletic college highlight videos.
12. Students in the audio/visual department were recognized by the Governor and Attorney General's office for work on public service announcement.

13. 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
 Channel ONE feeds/daily
 Curriculum feeds/as requested

I. Audio Visual Hardware Requests

Daily requests	350
Long term requests	101
TOTAL	461

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 district wide 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	\$ 250.00
Rentals	300.00
Software Purchases	1,500.00
Hardware Purchases	<u>7,500.00</u>
	\$ 9,500.00

Missing Software 2007-2008

None

Missing Hardware 2007-2008**Summer Loans 2008**

Chris Oseja

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

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 5, 2008

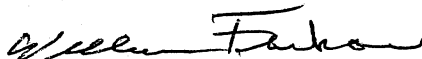
FACT SHEET

1. CIE Regular Program.
2. Began with 20 students and finished with 10 students.
3. The 10 Students break down as follows:
 - Two (2) will be going to four year colleges.
 - Three (3) will perform the same work they were trained for on the CIE program either on a full time or part time basis.
 - One (1) will go to vocational school, two years or less.
 - One (1) will go to the county college.
 - One (1) will go into apprenticeship programs.
 - One (1) will be entering the U.S. Marine Corps.
 - One (1) undecided.
4. Total earnings of these students during the 2007-2008 school year amounted to \$45,000.00.
5. One student will enter Local 447 apprenticeship program of the International Association of Machinist and Aerospace Workers
6. 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.

7. I had over 15 speakers from various vocational schools speak during my 3rd period class about the opportunities provided at their schools.
8. Finally, the Career Club I started eight 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

JOHN H. WALKER MIDDLE SCHOOL

325 FRANKLIN AVENUE
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

MR. JOHN CALICCHIO
Principal

TELEPHONE
(973) 661-8871

FAX
(973) 320-8478

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Joseph Zarra, Superintendent of Schools
FROM: John Calicchio, Principal of John H. Walker Middle School
RE: Principal's Annual Report for the 2007-2008 School Year
DATE: June 2, 2008

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 the Walker Middle School continues to be ongoing. Numerous meetings have taken place with the architect, staff and administration. The Walker Middle School staff has been included in the planning and has 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 Walker Middle 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 the Walker Middle 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 and language arts 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 the Walker Middle School were implemented and supervised. Lastly, the monitoring and evaluation of the entire Walker Middle 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 the Walker Middle School by Mr. John Schwarz, Mr. Ian Viemeister. 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 2007-2008 school year. Mrs. Francioso, Mrs. Clerico and Mr. Jones are to be commended for its content, presentation and direction.

The Walker Middle 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 Walker Middle 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 grades 7 and 8. Once again, the results of these standardized tests are above state and national averages in the various testing areas. Furthermore, the Walker Middle 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 690 with a top score in the verbal area of 610.

Student interest in clubs, intramurals, community and school service, music and arts festival remain high. Walker Middle 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 Walker Middle School setting. These activities enhance decision-making skills and positive social interaction at this critical age.

In addition to the normal teaching responsibilities, Walker Middle 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 2007-2008 School Year

Our School Level Objectives were implemented during the 2007-2008 school year. The following details the Walker Middle School:

OBJECTIVE I

By June of 2008, all students, excluding special education students will achieve the Language Arts Literacy benchmark of 76% during the 2008 administration of the NJ ASK 8. Special education students will increase their passing rate from 53.3% to 58% or better to achieve safe harbor.

Results: During the 2007-2008 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. An after school language arts enrichment program took place on 12 Tuesdays prior to the NJ ASK test. The attendance of those students targeted to attend was excellent. As of this time, the results of this year's NJ ASK have not returned to the building.

OBJECTIVE II

By June of 2008, all students, excluding special education students, will achieve the mathematics benchmark of 73% during the administration of

NJ ASK 8. Special education students will increase their passing rate from 42.6% to 48.3%, to achieve safe harbor.

Results: During the 2007-2008 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. An after school mathematics enrichment program took place on 12 Thursdays prior to the NJ ASK test. The attendance of those students targeted to attend was excellent. As of this time, the results of this year's NJ ASK have not returned to the building.

School Level Objectives for the 2008-2009 School Year

OBJECTIVE I

By June of 2009, 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 NJ ASK.

OBJECTIVE II

By June of 2009, 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 NJ ASK.

Principal's Priorities for the 2008-2009 School Year

The results of the Nutley Writing Test (grade 7), the NJASK (grade 7), and the NJ ASK (Grade 8) 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 2007-2008 school year was a very productive year with many students enjoying the Halloween Dance, the winter dance, 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 the Walker Middle 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 Walker Middle 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 2008-2009 School Year

Monitor all close out activities of the construction project so that they do not interfere with the educational process at the Walker Middle 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.

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 the Walker Middle School along with informing parents/guardians of all informational items through the school's website.

Develop an eighth grade public speaking class for the 2008-2009 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 2008-2009 school year to verify that WMS 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 and 8 and Nutley Writing Test.

Assist the staff in the implementation of the Core Curriculum Content Standards.

Underscore ITIP/Critical Thinking Methodology at Walker Middle 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 to all staff.

Develop instructional strategies that will assist the special education staff in increasing test scores so that the Walker Middle School will show adequate yearly progress in the NJ ASK.

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 the Walker Middle School.

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

Current duties and responsibilities of the Guidance Counselors at Walker Middle School

The counselors (Mrs. Wood and Mr. Cummings) are currently carrying a two-class total of 643 students. Within this total are 88 classified students and 34 504 students.

The counselors met with all students assigned to their respective grades in individual and small group sessions as to self-understanding and self-acceptance, academic concerns, all school and/or home issues, goals, life and career plans as well as character building and education.

The counselors are responsible for all scheduling matters for 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th grade course selections. Mrs. Wood and Mr. Cummings meet with all three classes in small groups for orientation of course selections. They then individually discuss selections with all students. The total number of students scheduled totals over 1,000 students. A parent orientation is also held for sixth grade parents.

Mrs. Wood and Mr. Cummings are responsible for all writing and implementation of 504 plans at the Middle School. The counselors act as a liaison between parents and teachers concerning all 504 modifications and accommodations.

The counselors have met weekly as part of the I&RS Committee since its inception to monitor all of their counselees that are not fulfilling their academic or behavioral requirements.

The counselors also collaborate with the SAC Counselor and School Psychologist concerning conflict resolution, social and academic concerns.

The administrative team meets daily with the counselors to apprise them of all current school issues.

To: Mr. John Calicchio

From: Mr. Christopher Chern

Re: 2007-20068 Annual Report- Health and Physical Education
Department

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

- Mr. Christopher Chern teaches two 8th grade health classes, two 8th grade physical education classes and two seventh grade physical education classes. He also acts as the department representative; duties include organizing the budget for the department and designing teacher schedules. Mr. Chern had a student teacher for the second half of the school year. Mr. Chern is also a member of the I & RS team.
- Mr. Thomas Grant teaches two 8th grade physical education classes, two 7th grade health class and two 7th grade physical education classes. Mr. Grant had a student teacher during the first half of the school year. Mr. Grant served varsity golf coach at Nutley High School this past year. Mr. Grant also sponsored the golf club at the middle school.
- Ms. Luanne Zullo teaches two 8th grade Physical education classes, two 7th grade physical education classes and two 8th grade health classes. She also is the freshman girl's volleyball coach, JV girl's basketball and head softball coach at Nutley High School. Ms. Zullo sponsors the softball club. Ms. Zullo also chaperones many extra-curricular activities at the middle school. Ms. Zullo also helped supervise the Central Detention program at the middle school.
- Mrs. Jennifer Citerella teaches two 8th grade physical education classes, two seventh grade physical education classes and two 7th grade health classes.

The physical education department was able to open up the school year in the new gym. Sheds were installed to help organize and keep

the physical education equipment safe in the storage room. The physical education curriculum was implemented by offering the students a choice in team-sport based activities or lifetime-based activities depending on the marking period and the weather (students were given a choice of two activities to participate in twice a marking period when possible, increasing participation and students attitude toward physical education). Fitness testing was administered to each student in the fall and spring.

Physical education classes were able to use the oval (weather permitting). The physical education teacher on the oval will have the walkie-talkie during the class so contact with the building will be available.

Health classes followed the health curriculum. Units that were covered included; mental health, substance use and abuse, growth and development, communicable disease, STD's and AIDS, fitness and nutrition.

Technology

Although there is no Smartboard in the health room the teachers were able to use the Smartboard in the library or in another classroom when needed. Teachers were able to use the computers in their office, health room and teachers lounge. In a subject area like health access to the Internet keeps information current and topical and allows the lessons to be interactive for the students. The physical education classes were able to use the Sony DDR program that was acquired for us by the mayor's office this past year. All of these tools had a tremendous impact in the classroom and in the gym.

Recommendations

- *Now that we are using the oval for physical education a better or quicker way of getting to the oval would help improve our use of the time allowed for physical education.*
- *The addition of a Smartboard in the health class would be a great addition to our program.*

John H. Walker Middle School
Media Center – Mrs. Christina Stendardi
Annual Report 2007-2008 School Year

Objectives: To serve the school community by helping provide the informational needs of the staff and students.

Goals of the media center:

- To purchase, evaluate and organize both print and technology materials for all grade levels and support the schools' curriculum.
- To offer services that facilitate the use of the library and the pursuit of knowledge. Encourage cooperative learning between the librarian and teachers.
- To maintain a friendly, clean and welcome library environment that is conducive to research and studying for both staff and students.

Basic Computer Skills

- Login and logoff the computer
- Saving their work to the appropriate folder on the computer network
- Open and close basic programs
- Manipulate desktop shortcuts to access programs
- Copy and paste information and/or graphics to a document
- Printing to the correct printer
- Identifying basic computer problems

Application of Computer Programs

- The Media Specialist sees all the 7-8th grade English classes, and 7-8th Social Studies classes throughout the year. Also included are all other subject areas and grade levels as assigned by the teacher. During this time, they are working on a various projects that involve the use of the basic Microsoft Windows programs.

Listed below is a breakdown of teacher/class usage:

English	Social Studies	Foreign Language	Science	Special Ed.	Math	Technology
380(classes)	110	10	70	15	48	120

** Lunch-study during various lunch periods allows students additional time to utilize the media center for research and quiet studying.

This includes:

- Creating a simple Excel spreadsheet to organize the data and interpret the information. (Using formulas if necessary)
- Setting up correct margins, spacing and font in Microsoft Word
- Creating newsletters, brochures and other publications in Microsoft Publisher
- Creating an electronic graphic organizer using Inspiration

- Designing a presentation using PowerPoint. They are also taught to use bullets for information, correct color, style and font technique, inserting images and animation usage.
- Hyper-linking websites or online video footage (United Streaming)
- Adding and downloading attachments to and from email
- Practicing use of Smartboard tools and software

Information Access and Research Skills

- Choosing appropriate information resources (both print, non-print and web resources) to support research
- Identifying Internet search engines and meta search engines
- Using Boolean and Advanced Searches
- Identifying appropriate URLs
- Instruction on the use of the on-line databases are library has access to
- Instruction on the use on the on-line card catalog system
- Teaching how to properly cite information both print, non-print and web resources.
- Evaluating the accuracy, relevance and appropriateness of on-line information

Social Aspects

- Each student must have their AUP and also a Student Responsibility Sheet signed before they are given their username and password for the computer network
- Explain the consequences of inappropriate use of technology both the physical computer, parts of the computer and Internet sites.
- Explain copyright rules, plagiarism and properly citing information
- Describe and practice Internet and email "etiquette".

By working independently and/or collaboratively to produce a final product for their teachers, each student is reinforcing and achieving the objectives set forth in the technology and library standards. In conjunction with the other Technology classes offered here, the students are getting a clear perspective on the usage and importance of technology in their daily lives.

Circulation Statistics:

This school year 1,368 books were checked out of the media center.

- A majority of these books were used to book reports for their English classes (booktalks were given to promote fiction books) or free reading.
- Overdue were written and fines were collected for lost or overdue materials.
- Themed book displays were created to promote new books or a certain genre.
- Visually appealing bulletin boards were created to display various aspects of reading and technology usage.

Date: May 13, 2008

To: Mr. John Calicchio

From: Erin Sheridan, Certified School Psychologist

Re: Annual Report- Child Study Team

As the school psychologist at John H. Walker Middle School, I am the case manager for 88 classified students (42 7th graders; 46 8th graders). I began working at the middle school on February 4th, 2008. Since this date I have held 41 IEP meetings and 18 reevaluation planning meetings. Of the 18 reevaluation meetings, 5 students were tested (psychological and educational components) to ensure that the program that they are currently placed in is, in fact, appropriate. I have also evaluated 3 students as part of initial referrals for child study team intervention. As the school psychologist, I have been working closely with the student assistance counselor, as needed, in the area of crisis intervention. I have been assisting the guidance department with course scheduling for the special education students, as well as, ensuring the appropriate modifications and accommodations were instituted during the NJ ASK testing.

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

MEMORANDUM

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

From: John Vitkovsky, Music Coordinator

Subject: Annual Music Report 2007 - 2008

The following are activities of the 2007 - 2008 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 WMS Debonaires, and the Chorale. Enrollment went up for the Band and the Orchestra. The projected enrollment for all vocal and instrumental groups will be even higher next year.
2. The Walker MS Concert Choir had an outstanding year. The concert schedule for the year included: the Mayor's Tree Lighting, the Walker School Holiday Concert and Assembly, the Spring Choral Festival at Nutley High, and the Northern N.J. Region I Choral Festival which Walker Middle School hosted. On the third weekend of May the Concert Choir participated at the Williamsburg, VA Choral Festival and received a second place trophy. The Concert Choir will bring its concert season to a close performing at the Walker MS Eighth Grade Promotion.
3. The Walker Chorale also had a fine year. Led by their director, Ms. Nicole San Giovanni, this group performed at the Walker School Holiday Concert and Assembly, plus the Spring Choral Festival.
4. This year, the Madrigal Singers were enthusiastically received at: the Mayor's Tree Lighting, the Walker School Holiday Concert and Assembly, the Venetian Feast Dinner which they co-hosted with the NHS Madrigal Singers, and the Spring Choral Festival. Also, in May the Madrigal Singers competed at the Williamsburg, VA Choral Competition. 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 - Walker Middle School

5. The Debonaires had an excellent year. This all girl chorus performed at the Walker School Holiday Concert, Holiday Assembly, the Spring Choral Festival, and the Northern N.J. Region I Choral Festival.
6. The Walker MS Concert Band, Jazz Band, and Orchestra gave excellent performances at the Walker Holiday Concert and Assembly and at the Spring Musicale. In December and for St. Patrick's Day the Walker Jazz Band performed for the senior citizens at the Parkside Manor. The WMS Jazz Band together with seven WMS instrumental ensembles performed at the Music Boosters Café Night. The WMS Concert Band earned a silver medal at the NJ Region I Concert Band Competition. The WMS Jazz Band won the first place trophy at the Belleville HS Jazz Festival, and the trophy for best jazz brass section (beating out several high schools for that trophy). At Dorney Park, Music In The Parks Competition, the Jazz Band was awarded a first place trophy and the WMS Concert Band received a second place trophy. This group received scores higher than several high school bands to achieve this honor. On May 19th the WMS Jazz Band performed (to rave reviews) at *Trumpets* Jazz Club in Montclair, NJ. Once again, the Combined Band and Orchestra (104 strong) 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 Conference 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 Walker 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.

BUSINESS and CREATIVE ARTS DEPARTMENT
Walker Middle School
YEARLY REPORT
2007-2008

1. Ms. Hill sponsored 8th grade Art League, 7th grade Artist Club, and the Animal Planet Club.
2. Ms. Hill supervised continuing exhibits in the main showcase and created lobby displays.
3. Ms. Hill organized the Art Fest exhibition for celebration of the Arts.
4. Ms. Hill continued to coordinate the applications process for 7th grade Fine Arts and 8th grade Advanced Art.
5. Ms. Hill continued to mentor Ms. Vander Have and Mrs. Lappostato, the non-tenure fine arts teachers at the high school.
6. Mrs. Dorfman displayed computer generated work in the main display case and at the Art Fest.
7. Mrs. Dorfman assisted with the Easy Grade Pro workshops.
8. Mrs. Dorfman was moved into a new computer lab with a new Smartboard and new textbooks.
9. Ms. Cleary was moved into a new computer lab with a new Smartboard.
10. Ms. Rush-Shohen developed the new engineering program writing curriculum for Introduction to Principles of Technology and Principles of Technology.
11. Ms. Rush-Shohen selected materials and equipment and designed the new engineering technology room.
12. Ms. Rush-Shohen displayed work at the Art Fest.

To: Mr. John Calicchio
 From: Toby D'Ambola
 Subject: Annual Report – Mathematics Department, Franklin School
 Date: June 1, 2008

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 7th grade level while Ms. Inguanti taught five math strategies classes, four at the 8th grade level and one at the 7th 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. One math teacher had an extended leave of absence. Mrs. Sarah Misner left on January 1st on a maternity leave and will be returning this September. Ms. Kristen Gumeny replaced Mrs. Misner and did an excellent job filling in for her. Ms. Gumeny is a hard-working individual who is highly dependable and enthusiastic. She accepted 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 in Mrs. Misner's classes to continue their education without interruption.

II. TESTING

- A. On May 1st all students in grade 8 took the NJ ASK 8 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 when entering the 9th grade at the high school.
- B. The NJ ASK 7 assessment was also given to 7th graders on May 1st. Results from this test will be used to 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 2007 - 2008 school year indicated the mean SAT score in mathematics achieved by all of our students was 468, an increase of 6 points over last year. The following 7th grade students received distinction and/or state awards from John Hopkins University Center for Talented Youth: Zachariah Callouri, Richard Grabowski, Kevin Li, Kevin R. Li, Kathleen Marano, Bernardine Rebutoc and Jaimie Sheppard. Eighth grade

students who participated and received awards are: Kimberly Lu and Nikhil Prasad.

III INSTRUCTION

- A. To insure that students were adequately prepared for the NJ ASK 7 & 8 assessments, supplementary materials were used in all classes 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.
- B. In October, a letter concerning the NJ Ask 8 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 mathematics teacher for extra help. Parents were requested to sign the letter and return it to their child's mathematics teacher.
- C. This year we continued our after school program to assist those students in levels 3 and 4 of our mathematics program. The classes met once a week on Tuesday afternoons from 3 P.M. to 4 P.M. starting in January and continuing through April. Class size was kept to a minimum so that each student could receive individualized attention. Instructors worked on test taking skills with a major emphasis on answering open-ended questions. At the end of these sessions a sample test was given to all students to evaluate their overall progress, preparing them to take the upcoming state assessments.
- D. In April a comprehensive test was given to all 7th and 8th grade classes as a pre-test to the state assessments given in May. This test was used to evaluate the students' progress and reinforce those areas that our students had difficulties with.
- E. 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 NJ ASK, 100 Casio 300MS scientific calculators were purchased for use in both the seventh and eighth grades. Calculators are issued to all 7th and 8th grade students in order to enhance daily lessons and to properly prepare them for the state assessment at each level.
- F. This year we continued to offer Algebra I at the seventh grade level. Those students who successfully complete this course will be placed in Accelerated Geometry next year. Because of the success of this program, the Geometry course will be offered for the first time next year at the middle school. This

program has been very successful with many parents commenting favorably about the challenge it offers their child.

III. MATHEMATICS CLUBS, CONTESTS

- A. This year, seventh and eighth grade vector students participated in the annual New Jersey Math League competition. Contests were held during regular vector classes. This was under the direction of Nancy Foglio and Jennifer Ambrose.
- 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

In October Nancy Foglio, Connie Inguanti and Denise Cleary attended the AMTNJ conference held in Somerset.

Frank Sasso, Deanna Fredricks, Nicole Ferraro and Connie Inguanti attended graduate school helping them to keep up to date with current trends in education and increasing their skills in the teaching of mathematics.

The entire math department attended a workshop at the high school on a Saturday morning in October given by David Glatzer so that they may improve their skills on teaching test taking techniques

V. DEPARTMENTAL GOALS FOR 2008 – 2009

- A. Continue to monitor the progress of those students in the Math Strategies classes and create a math strategies curriculum.
- 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.

***John H. Walker Middle School
Science Department
Annual Report
2007-2008***

To: Mr. John Calicchio

From: Mr. Michael Fetherman

Re: Principal's Report for the 2007-2008 Academic Year

Date: June 1, 2008

The John H. Walker Middle School Science Department experienced another great year of learning, inquiry and exploration. Mrs Lynn Zazzali, the newest member of our team, has had an immediate impact on our young learners her first year as a full-time educator. We extended congratulations and best wished for many healthy, happy years to Mrs. Alison Atkins (formerly Yacullo) on her marriage and offered support to witness the veterans of our department, Mr. Bertuzzi, Mrs. Love, Mr. Libert and Mr. Francia settle in nicely to their new teaching locations complete with Smartboards. We thank them all for providing their wisdom and passion for teaching science. Our kids are the better for having shared in their learning experiences!

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 Department

Departmental statistics for the 2007-2008 school year indicate that 6 diverse and dynamic teachers taught 7th and 8th 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 three sections of eighth grade science, two *vector* and one *regular education*, and two sections of seventh grade *regular education* science. A veteran teacher, Joe continues to add hands-on activities and outdoor learning experiences that enhance the relevancy of his popular courses.

Teacher: Mr. Frank Francia

Mr. Francia taught five sections of seventh grade science: two at the *vector* level, and three at the *regular education* level. Mr. Francia has added several new activities this year, including the construction of DNA models, sampling of the local 'Mud Hole' in search of microorganisms, as well as volcano construction and boat buoyancy projects.

Teacher: Mrs. Laura Love

Mrs. Love taught five sections of *regular* level eighth grade science this year, one of which was taught in the *inclusion setting*. A veteran teacher, Laura brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to her classroom.

Teacher: Mr. Frank Libert

Mr. Libert taught five sections of eighth grade science: one *vector*, two *regular education*, and two in the *inclusion setting*. A veteran teacher, Frank brings a wealth of content knowledge and enthusiasm to work everyday, infusing his classroom with experiences taken from the field kayaking and hiking as part of the National Geographic Society, NJ Audubon and Earthwatch Institutes and the Hackensack River Kayak and Canoe Club.

Teacher: Mrs. Alison Atkins

Mrs. Atkins taught three *vector* and two *regular education* seventh grade science sections, both of which were taught in the *inclusion setting*. Alison continues to add activities that bring greater relevancy to her classroom, and her work using 'smart notes' has helped capture the value of having Smartboards in our classrooms.

Teacher: Mrs. Lynn Zazzali

Mrs. Zazzali taught five sections of *regular* level seventh grade science this year, one of which was offered in the *inclusion setting*. Lynn has breathed new life into the seventh grade program, and enhanced the relevancy of her lessons by placing greater emphasis on the application of technology to deliver instruction.

II. Staff Development

Each and every staff member of the John H. Walker 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 the *JHWalker's Cooking Club*

Supervised *Meteorology and Sports Information Club*

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 *Owl Prowl* at the *Weiss Ecology Center*

Attended the *Hackensack Riverkeeper Eco-Cruise Program*

Studied volcanoes on the island of Hawaii
 Conducted stem length and diameter research on chili peppers
 Investigated the state of Maine's ecosystems via kayak
 Participated in the Response Law in-service seminar
 Participated in the Suicide Prevention in-service seminar
 Participated in Easy Grade Pro workshops
 Participated in the Cyber Technology workshop
 Participated in numerous Smartboard training in-service seminars
 Participated in the Introduction to Studywiz Spark seminar
 Served as the *Girls' Varsity Basketball Coach* (NHS)
 Served as *Head Varsity Baseball Coach* (Bergen Tech HS)

In addition to the aforementioned activities, several staff members displayed their students' science projects in the hallways and classrooms of the John H. Walker Middle School, reinforcing various components of our 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 begun some time ago have moved towards completion. With the arrival of Smartboards, staff and students, alike, are experiencing an exciting renewal of the delivery of instruction. And 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 embrace the challenges and 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.

Franklin Middle School

Principal's Report

2007 - 2008

To: Mr. John Calicchio, Principal

Date: June 1, 2008

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 343 seventh grade students and 271 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 new Apple laptop computers, new ceiling mounted LCD projectors, and wireless networking capabilities. Use of software such as *Inspiration!* and Microsoft Office 2008 was also realized.

The department completed the second year of implementing 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 continuation of discussions addressing the "essential questions" model and relevant concerns regarding the new course were conducted during the department meetings.

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. Amistad workshops.
2. Graduate courses at Caldwell College
3. New Jersey Network for Educational Renewal
4. Difficult Parents / School Security 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. Academic Booster Club History Fair
- H. World Religions projects
- I. Internet - Based Projects Concerning the Constitution and the Bill of Rights
- J. Analysis and Creation of Political Cartoons
- K. 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 and Office 2008
- 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. Therefore, it is recommended that John Walker Middle School investigate age-appropriate subscription services, such as Facts-On-File and ABC-CLIO. In addition, the department would like to increase the number of grade - appropriate supplemental readings available for the students, as well as current atlases and wall maps. The current wall maps are primary level maps, and should be upgraded to at least intermediate level maps. 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, Principal of John H. Walker Middle School
From: Ms. Cyndi DeBonis, Coordinator of Language Arts K-12
Date: June 2, 2008

I. Testing

- A. Seventh and eighth grade students take the NJ Ask Assessment in April and preparation for this test is a priority of the English Department.
- B. Seventh and eighth grade students are given reading and writing samples beginning in September that reinforce skills tested on the NJ Ask. Essays and open-ended questions are graded following the holistic scoring rubrics recommended by the Department of Education.
- C. For the first time this year, students that scored a 77 or lower in their English class were recommended for a NJ Ask Enrichment class that met on Thursdays after school for the 12 weeks prior to the test. Each student was scheduled with a different teacher than they had for English during the day.
- D. The change from picture prompt to speculative prompt on the NJ Ask was emphasized in all English classes as recommended by the Department of Education.

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. Research is conducted in the library using various sources and individual assistance is given.

Seventh and eighth grade students are encouraged to write in their journals on a regular basis. Some entries are literature based and others are selected by the students. Spontaneous writing is encouraged daily. Writing as a process is also a major element of the instruction each week.

The teaching of the novel with all of the elements of the plot diagram remains a priority in seventh and eighth grade. The various literary terms are emphasized with guided reading and class discussions on each chapter.

Vocabulary development and grammar skills remain a top priority. Teachers use the Daily Language Workouts and Do Now activities to accomplish this goal.

The elective offered to seventh graders is the Writing Workshop. 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.

The elective offered to eighth graders is Journalism, which also produces the school newspaper. Students are encouraged to be reporters and write stories that will be of interest to the entire school. The production of the newspaper includes computer skills, writing skills, photography, and accurate reporting.

The basic skills curriculum provides at-risk students the opportunity to refine their skills in reading and writing. It correlates to the regular English curriculum and gives the students an extra period each day to receive individual assistance in these areas.

III. Staff Development

Many issues pertinent to the success of the English department were discussed throughout the year at department meetings. The adoption of Study Island focused on the skills necessary for success on the NJ Ask. In addition, the revision of the grades 5-8 curriculum was accomplished on Saturdays throughout the year. This revision committee gave the teachers the opportunity to coordinate and articulate with each other to create a smooth transition for the students entering each grade.

IV. Articulation between Walker Middle School and NHS

Writing folders are sent to the high school at the end of eighth grade. This is a collection of a variety of writing assignments including the eighth grade research paper.

Summer reading lists are given to both the seventh and eighth grade students. Students are required to read three books from these lists. Upon returning to school in September, they are asked to demonstrate their knowledge of these books, which will count as three homework assignments.

This year the middle school and high school English departments met for the December meeting. This was an informal exchange that was very productive. It is a priority for next year to meet more often at department meetings or for articulation day.

V. Concerns for the Future

Continued teacher training for skills relating to the NJ Ask.

Consideration of a double English period so that students will have 80 minutes of Language Arts study.

Continued participation in the Montclair State University Renewal Program, which provides meaningful workshops, and conferences that relate to the study of Language Arts.

**FRANKLIN MIDDLE SCHOOL
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY
WORLD LANGUAGES and ESL DEPARTMENTS**

TO: Mr. John Calicchio, Principal of John H. Walker Middle School

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

SUBJECT: Annual Report, 2007-08

I. Statistical Data

1. Approximately 40%, seventh graders were enrolled in Latin, Spanish, and Italian level 1A. Approximately 42%, eighth graders were enrolled in Latin IB, Italian IB, Spanish IB,
2. Three World Languages and one ESL staff members of whom is itinerant taught 16 sections of 3 course offerings of Italian, Spanish, and Latin, levels 1A and 1B, and ESL.
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 6th graders.
4. Mrs. Frost-Guzzo, the ESL teacher continues to work very diligently with interdepartmental teachers the administration and guidance department to test LEP students for entrance/exiting, reinforce academics and track the ESL students in and out of the program. She continues to revamp 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.
5. Mrs. Muniz went on maternity leave for three months. She was replaced by Ms. Karelia Tejada.

III. Accomplishments, Achievements, Cultural Events and Workshops.

1. Mrs. Schiavone's Italian classes attended a dress rehearsal performance of the Opera "Madame Butterfly" at the Metropolitan Opera, Lincoln center, New York City.

2. The Italian club held a bake sale during lunch periods. It included brownies and Italian pastries. The profits from the sale financed the student's annual field trip to a local Italian restaurant.
3. Mrs. Schiavone, sponsors of the club, took a group of students during lunch time to authentic Italian restaurants/café to taste traditional regional cuisine and gelato.
4. The Italian club accompanied by the sponsor Mrs. Schiavone, marched in the Nutley Columbus Day Parade.
5. The Latin club sponsored by Mr. Di Cristo, learned to sew using Roman techniques. The members made hats based on Roman patterns, tunics and togas. Also, they created articles of Roman clothing. To demonstrate the convergence of language and science, the students reenacted a Taorobilium style feast, and attempted to make scale models of Roman engineering projects, including ballistae, onagri, and load bearing arches. The students used craft sticks and glue in place of wood and concrete to facilitate quick assembly.
6. Mr. Violante as district ESL coordinator, together with Mrs. Frost-Guzzo, ESL teacher were involved in the following: Code **6A:15**.
 - Each marking period reviewed report cards of all ELLs current students to monitor progress of potential difficulties in content area classes, as well as those students exited from the ESL Program within the last two years. **6A:15-1.10**
 - Coordinated with guidance counselors and ELL parents to maximize participation in tutoring services available through NCLB and code **6A:15-1.7**
 - Determine the native language of each LEP student. Developed a screening process to determine the proficiency level and make appropriate recommendations to guidance. Maintain a census record. Report annually to the State Department of Education as part of the (Fall Report) fall LEP Enrollment Summary. **6A:15-1.3**
5. Mrs. Frost-Guzzo attended out of districts professional 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).* She attended five separate workshops.
7. Mrs. Frost-Guzzo, ESL teacher:
 - a. Infused technology into her lessons through frequent use of audio CDs, and LCD projector for viewing curriculum components CD-ROMs, curriculum components web-sites, and wide variety of Internet sites, maximizing comprehension for all ELLs, and reinforcing listening/speaking, reading skills, and phonemic development.
 - b. She also arranged for installation of ESL-reserved computers in library, loaded with Oxford Interactive Picture Dictionary, which ELL students may use during a portion of their lunch periods to build English vocabulary.

- c. Coordinated with Ms. DeBonis, Language Arts Coordinator, to ensure that all ELLs had Internet access to the State Assessment Preparation program, Study Island.
- d. For a second year, she maintained a teacher's website posting assignments, reminders, and Internet web-site link useful/beneficial to ELLs.

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.

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 30, 2008
FROM: Lorraine Restel, Principal Lincoln School
SUBJECT: Principal's Annual Report – School Year 2007-2008

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

District Curriculum Priorities

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

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
- 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
- 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
- Suicide Prevention
- Autistic Program

Curriculum development occurred in the following areas:

- Language Arts Literacy
- Curriculum Mapping and Testing in Math Grades 5 & 6
- Math and Reading Strategies Program
- Social Studies Curriculum Revision Grades 3 & 4

Testing

The results of the Nutley Math mid-term and final Tests, the 2008 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 2007 – 2008

Students in grades kindergarten through two (K-2) showed appropriate proficiency using computer applications and technology tools by producing a word processing document and creating a multimedia presentation. This objective was assessed during the months of March and May. More than 93% of the students in Lincoln School achieved a combined score of 80% or higher on teacher-developed assessments.

Students in grades three through six (3-6) showed appropriate proficiency using computer applications and technology tools by producing a word processing document and creating a multimedia presentation. This objective was assessed during the months of March and May. More than 94% of the students achieved a combined score of 80% or higher on teacher-developed assessments.

The students of Lincoln School successfully met the 2007-2008 School-level Objectives.

School Level Objectives 2008 -2009

By June 2009, the students in grades kindergarten through second (K-2) will demonstrate proficiency in science, targeting the area of earth science utilizing the scientific method. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% or higher on a teacher-developed assessment. A rubric will be used to score the activity.

By June 2009, the students in grades three through six will demonstrate proficiency in language arts, targeting reading strategies utilizing Study Island. Students will be assessed using a pretest in November. By May, a minimum of 80 % of the students will achieve a 70% or higher on the topics covered by Study Island in the area of reading strategies.

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 development opportunities the Lincoln School Staff participated in during the 2007 – 2008 year.

- January Advance at Montclair State University
- Strategies for Mentoring and Coaching
- Critical Thinking in the Elementary Classroom
- Culturally Responsive Teaching
- Suicide Prevention
- Response Law
- Cyber Technology – Power Point & Kidspiration
- Math Workshop with Joyce and Dave Glatzer
- Affirmative Action
- NJASK Preparation Workshop
- Study Island Training
- MSUNER Teacher Study Group – Literature in the Classroom
- Priorities Report
- Teaching Reading Comprehension Through Novel Study
- Challenging Students and Challenging Behaviors
- 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:

Read Across America

Lincoln School was much honored this year to host some very important guests for our celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday and Read Across America. Governor Jon Corzine, Joyce Powell, President of NJEA, and Lucille Davey, NJ Commissioner of Education visited Lincoln School and read the Berenstain Bear's *The Trouble with Money* to the entire school population gathered in the auditorium. Many children and teachers dressed in red, white, and black for the visit in honor of The Cat in the Hat, who also attended the event. The visit was covered by both the local newspapers and television.

Lincoln School Animal Club

The children of the Lincoln School Animal Club and its facilitators, Mrs. Valerie Martin and Ms. Florence Meyers donated \$1,900 to the Essex County Sheriff's Department this year for the construction of an agility course for its canine unit. The club, formed fifteen years ago, raised the money through bake sales and a pen sale throughout the year. Several children in the club also held a lemon aide stand one weekend to raise additional money for the donation. The club and its sponsors were invited to the facility's dedication ceremony in June. They were given a tour of the facility and were able to see several dogs in action. The facility has a sign in front of it recognizing the Lincoln School Animal Club as the sole supporter of the facility. The dedication ceremony was covered by local newspaper and television stations.

Jump for Heart

The children and staff of Lincoln School, once again, participated in Jump for Heart, through the American Heart Association. Led by Mr. Gargiulo, the children raised over \$5,000 to be donated to the American Heart Association. A field-day program coordinated by Mr. Gargiulo allowed the children the opportunity to see the benefits of physical activity in their lives while making a difference in the lives of others.

Author Visit

This spring the students in grades 4 - 6 were delighted to meet Rave Martin, famed author and storyteller. Many of the children purchased his books which he was gracious enough to autograph for each child.

Multi-Media Game Show

The children in Grades K- 6 were treated to an exciting and interactive Game Show assembly produced through Unique Entertainment and sponsored through the PTO. The format of the show allowed for each child in the audience to have a turn competing and kept the children engaged throughout.

Arithmetickles Assembly

The Lincoln School PTO sponsored its third assembly program this year by inviting The Children's Theatre Center of New Jersey to present an assembly centered on math – *Arithmetickles*. The format of the show enabled each child to participate by dividing the classes into teams and working with their teammates to solve math challenges. The program was entertaining and engaging for all.

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.

4th 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.

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 April. Under the direction of Ms. Mary Pagana, approximately 100 students had their artwork displayed in the show. It was well received and attended by close to one thousand visitors including the parents, children, and many dignitaries from our town and others. As a result of the art show, several pieces of the students' art were selected to be displayed in Wynona's House, a facility in Newark for women and children of battered and abusive homes. The artwork, donated by the selected students was chosen by the directors of Wynona's House to decorate the facility and bring joy to the people who visit the center.

Musicales

Mrs. Carol Bender provided the students of Lincoln School with an opportunity to participate in several productions this year. Students in grades five and six along with the Lincolnaires entertained their parents in December with a variety of holiday tunes. Grades 1 & 2 entertained us with a program entitled "Disney Magic" in April, and the third and fourth grades along with the instrumentalists and Lincolnaires entertained us with several songs and sections in May. The Lincolnaires performed beautifully at the Holiday concert as well as at the All Elementary Concert in March. 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 – Literature in the Classroom

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 use of literature and specifically literature circles in the classroom. The decision was made to purchase literature units for each grade level from grades 2 – 6 in order to expand what we currently have. The group presented their ideas at the Summer Conference at Montclair State University held in June.

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. The program will continue during the 2008-2009 school year. Due to budgetary cutbacks, however, the teachers have decided to choose their own collection of books from those we already have in stock and create our own "Lincoln School Battle of the Books Program."

Grants

NBATE

Several members of our staff received grants from the Nutley Business People for the Advancement of Technology in Education (NBATE). Among the awards received at Lincoln School were a digital camera and photo printer awarded to Mrs. Marchese, Eggspert, awarded to Mrs. Nolasco, and Words around Me – Interactive Vocabulary Program awarded to Mrs. Wolf. We are honored to receive these grants that will increase technology in the classroom.

Teacher Incentive Grant (MSUNER)

Several teachers in Lincoln School were awarded \$100 Teacher Incentive Grants from Montclair State University. The teachers used the money to purchase books and materials for use in their classrooms.

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 2007 -2008 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.

St. Baldrick's Day Celebration

With the help of the Lincoln School Student Council, facilitated by Mrs. Nolasco and Mrs. Batson, the students raised a total of \$175. The money was donated to the St. Baldrick's Foundation.

National Wear Red Day

During the month of February, the staff of Lincoln School supported the Go Red for Women Movement and participated in the National Wear Red Day. As a result, Lincoln School contributed \$123 to the American Heart Association.

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.

2007 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.

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.

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.

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 Ms. April Hauer 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 screenings 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 \$5,000 that was donated to the American Heart Association.

Relay For Life

The staff of Lincoln School formed two teams for Bonnie's Buddies and participated in Nutley's second 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.

Class Trips

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

- Kindergarten - Montclair State University, New York Aquarium, Liberty State Park, Nutley Police and Fire Departments, Van Saun Park, and the Bergen County Zoo.
- First Grade – The Williams Center, Heaven Hills Farm

- Second Grade – Montclair State University, Madison Museum of Early Trades and Crafts, Newark Museum.
- Third Grade – Jenkinson’s Aquarium, Nutley Public Library.
- Fourth Grade – State House, Trenton, NJ.
- Fifth Grade – Liberty Science Center.
- Sixth Grade – Fairview Lake YMCA Camp, The Williams Center, Richard Cody Arena, Cibelos Restaurant, Lyndhurst, NJ.
- SLD Classes – In addition to the trips attended with their “buddy classes,” students also visited the Sun High Orchard Farm, The Williams Center, Turtle Back Zoo, and Booth Park.

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 2008 History Fair
- Nutley Elks Lodge No. 1290 Essay Contest
- Lion’s Club Peace Poster Contest
- Lion’s Club Spelling Bee
- ABC Poetry Festival

Clubs at Lincoln School

The following is a list of clubs offered at Lincoln School during the 2007 -2008 school year:

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.

Video Yearbook 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.

Crochet – 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 among 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 (cancelled due to school closing)
- Sixth Grade activities and dance
- Bowling
- Plant sale for Mother's Day
- Staff Appreciation Luncheon
- Olympic shirts and pizza
- Author Visit
- Arithmetickles Assembly
- Game Show Assembly
- Bake Sales

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
- Several rugs for classrooms
- Giant Cumfy Pillows
- Smart Board
- Electric Pencil Sharpeners for each classroom
- Hands-on Math centers
- Student Thesaurus books
- Refrigerators
- Henry & Mudge books
- Horseshoe shaped table
- Big Book Activity Center
- Privacy Shields
- Pre-School Calendar Math
- Califone Spirit Bass Boost Systems
- Classroom Election Kit
- Patriotic Symbols Set
- Know Your Government Set
- Radio Flyer Scooter
- Little Red Scooter
- Deluxe Cassette Player/recorder
- 8-Position Listening Center with head phones

Concerns

Lincoln School continues to need attention due to its age and its ever increasing population. Our playground blacktop needs to be resurfaced and repitched in certain areas in order to promote proper drainage in storms and 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 ongoing support throughout this year as I served as the principal of Lincoln School. There is never a time that I question 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, is an integral part of what makes Lincoln School function so smoothly. 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 has provided a pleasant office environment for the staff, the students, the parents, and me.

Mr. Phil Nicolette, the Manager of Buildings and Grounds continues to be a great resource to me with my many questions regarding the 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, Mr. Paul Palozzola, 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 Mr. Jerry Del Tufo and Mr. Angelo Frannicola, our Lincoln School Board of Education Representatives. Their attendance at our PTO meetings added valuable insight to our meetings and events. I appreciate all of their help and guidance.

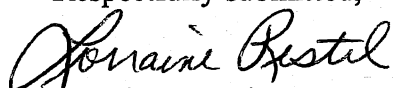
I would be remiss if I didn't thank my administrative colleagues, especially Rosemary Clerico, for her continued help and guidance. Their patience and humor helped to make my year successful and enjoyable.

Mr. Robert Green and Mr. Michael DeVita should be commended for their patience and understanding with helping me plan and maintain 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 2008 – 2009 school year and for many years to come.

Respectfully submitted,



Lorraine Restel
Principal, Lincoln School
June 30, 2008

RADCLIFFE SCHOOL

TO: Mr. Joseph Zarra DATE: June 30, 2008

FROM: Michael J. Kearney, Principal, Radcliffe School

RE: **Principal's Annual Report - School Year 2007/2008**

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 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
- Core Curriculum Content Standards

Continued In-Service was provided in the following areas:

- Autistic Program – Special Learners
- Instructional Theory into Practice
- Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS) and 504
- Designing Technology Integrated Lessons
- Character Education
- Elementary Assessment –New Jersey ASK 3, 4, 5 & 6
- Mentoring Program
- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Procedures
- Affirmative Action Policies
- Introduction to Differentiated Instruction: Managing the Differentiated Classroom
- Suicide Prevention

Curriculum Development occurred in the following areas:

- Language Arts Literacy K - 3
- Curriculum Mapping and Testing in Math – Grades 5 & 6
- Gifted and Talented (Gr. 3 & 4 pull-out) – Class programs, field trip events, Law Fair
- Math and Reading Strategies Skills' Program

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

Results of School Level Objectives – 2007-2008 School Year

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

By June 2008, students in grades three through six (3-6) demonstrated 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 was assessed during the months of February and May. More than 80% of the students achieved a score of 80% on the teacher-developed assessments. A rubric was used to score the word-processing document and multimedia presentation.

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 2008-2009 school year:

By June 2009, students in grades kindergarten through two (K – 2) will demonstrate proficiency in science, targeting the area of earth science, utilizing the scientific method. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teach-developed assessment. A rubric will be used to score each assignment.

By June 2009, students in grades in three through six (3 – 6) will demonstrate proficiency in language arts, targeting reading strategies, utilizing Study Island. By May, a minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a 70% or higher on the topics covered by Study Island in the area of reading strategies.

School Activities

Dance for Health Week – Monday, October 1 – Friday, October 5

An assembly was held in the gymnasium on Monday, October 1 for grades 3 through 6. This assembly well received by the student population.

The Mayor's Wellness Campaign – this initiative was in its second year and was township-wide through the Mayor's office. Radcliffe School walked to school with Mayor Cocchiola on Wednesday, October 3, 2007, from the corner of Beech St. and Bloomfield Ave., which coincided with National Walk to School Day. Also, part of the Wellness Campaign was the "Dance, Dance, Revolution set up this year in the physical education classes.

PTO Open House – Tuesday, September 25, 2007

Our annual open house was September 25, 2007. The teachers were in attendance, along with Mr. James Viola, our board representative.

New Parent Meeting – Tuesday, September 25, 2007

The New Parent Meeting was held before the open house.

Fire Prevention Week – October 9 – 12, 2007

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 1 – 5, 2007

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

Red Ribbon Week – October 20 – 31, 2007

Red Ribbon Week began on Saturday, October 20, 2007, and went through the following week, ending on Halloween, Wednesday, October 31, 2007.

Lyons Club Vision Screening – Wednesday, October 24, 2007

The Lyons Club conducted the annual vision screening for fourth graders on Wednesday, October 24.

Parent Visitation Day – Friday, November 16, 2007

Parent Visitation Day was Friday, November 16, for Kindergarten through Sixth Grades for the American Education Week festivities.

Character Education Initiative

Character Education has been ongoing and is in its seventh year at Radcliffe School. The program was successfully shared with the other elementary schools, under the guidance of Mrs. Alisa Gennace, SAC.

Autism Awareness – month of April – Spirit Week – April 7 – 11, 2008

April 2, 2008 was Autism Awareness Day across the country. Radcliffe honored this cause by having the Autistic Staff visit the regular education classes to raise student, faculty and staff awareness. An "Autism Acceptance Booklet" was used during the visits. During Spirit week the students wore the colors of the Autistic ribbon. On several walls of the building, students posted their autism facts and artwork designed on puzzle pieces, signifying the puzzle of Autism. The faculty and staff participated in two Autism walks: October 2007 and June 2008.

American Education Week – November 12 – 16, 2007

American Education Week was celebrated the week of November 12, 2007, with Parent Visitation Day held on Friday, November 16. Parent conferences were held on Tuesday, November 13 and Thursday, November 15.

Holiday Music Program – Wednesday, 12, 2007

Our holiday music program was held on Wednesday, December 12, 2007, 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. The musicale included performances from grades one and two, with fourth grade strings, and fifth and sixth grades instrumentalists. This was well received again this year.

Read Across America – March 3 – March 7, 2008

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, Monday, March 3. Again this year, Miss Danine Osetto and Miss Danielle Pappalardo, Strategy Skills teachers coordinated this program, along with Mrs. Michele Crisantiello, coordinator for the entire district. Many new and innovative activities were introduced and it was truly a success again this year, thanks to these three teachers.

Kindergarten Registration – week of March 3 – 7, 2008

Registration for our kindergarten students for the year 2008/09 was the week of March 3 - 7, 2008. Kindergarten orientation was held for the new kindergarten parents on Monday, April 14, 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. An open house for the new kindergartners was held simultaneously in the kindergarten classroom.

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 Strategy Skills teachers.

Women in History – Assembly – Thursday, March 27, 2008

This year's assembly was held on Thursday, March 27, 2008, with women dignitaries from the town of Nutley coming to speak to the fifth and sixth graders.

Spring Musicale – Wednesday, April 9, 2008 - grades 5 & 6

The annual musicale for grades five and six was held on Wednesday, April 9, 2008, under the direction of the choral director, Mrs. Marie Sanders. It was an entertaining and enjoyable evening.

Spring Musicale – Monday, May 19, 2008 - grades 3 & 4,

On Monday, May 19, 2008, Mrs. Marie Sanders led grades three and four in their Spring Musicale, along with the fourth grade recorders. The fifth and sixth grades orchestra and band performed under the direction of Mr. Raymonde. This musicale was a complete success.

Clubs

Algebra Club – Mrs. Nancy Szura, Sponsor
Animal Kindness Club – Mrs. Linda Moscaritola, Sponsor
Around the World Club – Miss Emanuel Fierro, Sponsor
Battle of the Books – Mrs. Maria Strumolo, Sponsor
Bully Blockers – Mrs. Alisa Gennace/Miss Courtney Jousset, Sponsors
Chess Club – Miss Alicia Coppola/Mrs. Stephanie Lennon, Sponsors
Chorale – Mrs. Marie Sanders, Sponsor
Human Relations Club – Miss Carla Cullari/Mrs. Holly Jasnowitz, Sponsors
Peer Tutoring Club – Mrs. Gail Kahn/Mrs. Nancy Szura, Sponsors
Recorder Club – Mrs. Marie Sanders, Sponsor
Safety Patrols – Mrs. Nancy Szura, Sponsor
School Spirit Club – Miss Danielle Pappalardo, Sponsor
Scrapbook Club – Miss Alicia Coppola/Mrs. Stephanie Lennon, Sponsors
Student Council – Miss Jainine Gambaro, Sponsor
Wildlife Club – Mrs. Gail Kahn, Sponsor
Window Club – Mr. Peter Behrens/Miss Natalie Gatto, Sponsors

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:

Pre-Kindergarten – Miss Shaw – Autism Awareness Workshop
Dr. More's Response Law

Pre-Kindergarten – Mrs. Zaros – Autism Awareness Workshop
Dr. More's Response Law

Kindergarten – Miss O’Carroll – Autism Awareness Workshop
Dr. More’s Response Law

Kindergarten – H.Jasnowitz, Fourth Grade Family Science, Autism Awareness Workshop, Language Arts Curriculum Revision and Workshops, “Pennies for Patients”, Dr. More’s Response Law

First Grade – S.Neri – Autism Awareness Workshop, Dr. More's Response Law

First Grade - M. Cristantiello – “Read Across America” for the entire district, Autism Awareness Workshop, Dr. More’s Response Law

Second Grade – S. Lennon – Fourth Grade Family Science, Autism Awareness Workshop, Dr. More’s Response Law

Second Grade – G. Kahn – Affirmative Action, Autism Awareness Workshop
Dr. More’s Response Law

Second Grade -L. Moscaritola ,Glatzer Workshop, Dr. More’s Response Law

Third Grade– M. Strumolo – Battle of the Books, Dr. More’s Response Law

Third Grade - S. Hagert– Superintendent’s Advisory, Dr. More’s Response Law

Third Grade – P. Conry – Glatzer Workshop, Dr. More’s Response Law

Fourth Grade - C. Perrone- Glatzer Workshop, Language Arts Workshops
Star Lab coordinator, Dr. More’s Response Law

Fourth Grade – V. Sautter – Glatzer Workshop, Language Arts Workshops
Dr. More’s Response Law

Fifth Grade – D. Pappalardo – Reach Across American, Third Half Club
Dr. More’s Response Law

Fifth Grade – C. Cullari – Fourth Grade Family Math, Language Arts
Curriculum Revision and Workshops, “Pennies for Patients”
Dr. More’s Response Law

Sixth Grade – N. Gatto – Language Arts Workshops, Glatzer Workshop
Read-a-thon, Dr. More’s Response Law

Sixth Grade – C. Jousset – Bully Blockers, Language Arts Workshops
Dr. More’s Response Law

Sixth Grade - N. Szura – Language Arts Workshops,
Dr. More Response Law

Library – J. Gambaro – Student Council, Autism Awareness Workshop
Recycling Coordinator for school, Star Lab Coordinator
Dr. More’s Response Law

SAC – A. Gennace – Bully Blockers, Dr. More’s Response Law

Physical Education - J. Alessio – Physical Education workshops
Dr. More’s Response Law

Strategy Skills – D. Osetto – Read Across America, Third Half Club
Dr. More’s Response Law

Strategy Skills – J. Farro – Autism Awareness Workshop
Dr. More’s Response Law

Strategy Skills – S. Mozeika – Autism Awareness Workshop, Language
Arts Workshops, Dr. More’s Response Law

Special Programs

Kindergarten	The Kindergarten Promotion was held on Wednesday, June 19, 2008. The students presented a tropical theme for the promotion program.
Grades 1 - 2	Holiday Musicale - held on Wednesday, December 12, 2007 and was conducted by Mrs. Sanders, with the fourth grade strings. The 5 th & 6 th grade-Band students also performed under the directions of Mr. Raymonde.
Grade 3	"Are You Smarter Than a Third Grader?" – Parents & Third Grade students – held on Thursday, May 19, 2008, under the direction of Mrs. Maria Strumolo, along with Mrs. Pamela Conry and Ms. Suzanne Hagert
Grades 3 - 4	Spring Musicale - held on Wednesday, April 9, 2008 and was conducted by Mrs. Marie Sanders.
Grades 4 – 6	Star Lab – conducted by Miss Jainine Gambaro and Mrs. Carole Perrone
Grades 5 – 6	Spring Musicale – held on Monday, May 19, 2008, 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	"Battle of the Books" – under the direction of Mrs. Maria Strumolo
Grade 6	Sixth Grade vs. Radcliffe Faculty Softball Game
Grade 6	Roller Skating Party

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

Pre-K & Kindergarten-Autistic Classes – Liberty Science Center	
Kindergarten	Kindergarten Picnic
First Grade	Outragesss Pets
Second Grade	Newark Museum & Nutley Public Library
Third Grade	Nutley Museum / Franklin Reformed Cemetery, Nutley Public Library
Fourth Grade	Franklin Mineral Mines
Fifth Grade	Ocean Institute at Sandy Hook, NJ
Sixth Grade	The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, PA
Animal Club	Camden, NJ Aquarium
Safety Patrols	Patrol Picnic
Wildlife Club	Camden, NJ Aquarium
Spanish Class – 6 th	Grade – Spanish Restaurant – La Cibeles, Lyndhurst, NJ

Student Council

The Radcliffe School Student Council, under the direction of Miss Jainine Gambaro and Miss Danielle Pappalardo was active and participated in fund drives during the course of the 2007/08 school year, such as the Red Cross food drive, 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 was held for Dr. Seuss Day Birthday.

Recycling for the building was conducted for the second year in a row, in conjunction with the Township, and under the direction of Miss Gambaro.

Elections for the new school year 2008/09 were held at the conclusion of the school year. Four officers were elected by the student body, with two representatives from each class in grades 4 - 6.

Awards Program

An awards program was held on June 16, 2008 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 for physical fitness (President's Challenge.) 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. Mariana Francioso, on Monday, June 16, 2008, 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 Monday, June 16, 2008. The criteria for achievement of these awards is ranked in the top 25% of the class, and honors / high honors for final grade.

P.T.O.

Radcliffe School would like to thanks Mrs. Toni Ann Sullivan, who led the organization through this school year – 2007-08 - very successfully

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

John H. Walker Middle School – Latin Club
 John H. Walker Middle School – S.T.A.N.D
 Dance for Health
 Chris Poulous's World Champion Bicyclist – Character Building
 Piccirillo Scienetelling Dragons & Demons - Scientific
 Lenape Museum Show
 Sharon Romaglia's Dental Assembly – First Grade
 Squeaky Clean Rock & Roll Band – Unity, Healing, Cooperation

P.T.O. Activities / Meetings

Sept.	Innisbrook Gift Wrap
Sept.	Open House
Sept.	Picture Perfect Portrait Day
October	Pumpkin Patch
October	80's Night
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 2007/08 school year proved to be another successful P.T.O. year, with numerous meetings and assemblies.

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

The Family 80's Night was a first this year and very 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 Talent Show was held at the John H. Walker Middle School and was a fun event for all students who participated.

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.

The Gertrude Hawks' 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 fifth 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 fifth 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
- continued monitoring of the successful first year 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, Mr. Paul Palozzola, Director of Special Services, Mr. Michael DeVita, Acting Business Administrator, and Mr. Philip Nicolette, and to my colleagues for their support, advice, and guidance during my first year as principal of Radcliffe School.

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.

This year, in particular, Radcliffe School was honored to have the new Autistic program (Special Learners) in the building. The program had three classes (two Pre-Kindergarten and one Kindergarten.) The students in these classes participated in all the specials that were provided to the regular education students (Art, Physical Education, Music and Library.) Also, we had a Learning Consultant, an Occupational Therapist, a Physical Therapist, a Speech Therapist and a Behavior Specialist on hand for the Autistic students. These teachers and staff members were professionals and fully contributed to making this program successful this first year.

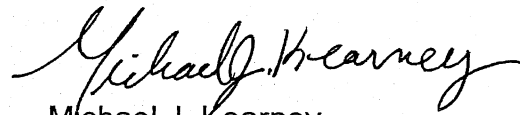
Our secretary, Mrs. Beverly Cullari, is to be highly commended on her continued efforts on behalf of Radcliffe School. She brings a strong work ethic, caring and warmth in dealing with all connected to our school, and the ability to manage the office with efficiency and vision. She is greatly appreciated.

As part of her responsibilities, Mrs. Cullari oversees the Radcliffe School aides, Mrs. Cappetta, Mrs. Pavlisko, and Mrs. Puccio, along with substitute aides, Mrs. DeToma and Mrs. Juhirden. 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 Parent / Teacher Organization for their hard work and support on behalf of Radcliffe School.

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

Respectfully submitted,


Michael J. Kearney
Principal

SPRING GARDEN SCHOOL

TO: Mr. Joseph Zarra

FROM: Rosemary Clerico, Principal

DATE: June 30, 2008

SUBJECT: Principal's Annual Report
School Year 2007/2008

This is a summary of programs, events, and activities that have taken place at Spring Garden School during the 2007-2008 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
- 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
- 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
- Suicide Prevention
- Autistic Program

Curriculum development occurred in the following areas:

- Language Arts Literacy
- Curriculum Mapping and Testing in Math Grades 5 & 6
- Math and Reading Strategies Program

Workshops Attended by Staff:

MSUNER- January Advance 2008

Math Workshop- David & Joyce Glatzer Grade 5 & 6

Kid Pix/Kidspiration Workshop

Destiny Training

Workshop to Help Integrate "SMARTboard techniques into the Curriculum"

American Association of School Librarians National Conference

IPM Training

Response Law

Powerpoint Workshop

Results of School Level Objectives - 2007/08 School Year

During the 2007-2008 school year, students in grades kindergarten through sixth (K-6) demonstrated proficiency in using computer applications and technology tools to produce a word processing document and multimedia presentation.

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 2008-2009 school year.

School Level Objectives - 2008/09 School Year

By June 2009, the students in grades kindergarten through second (K-2) will demonstrate proficiency in science, targeting the area of life science utilizing the scientific method. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assessment. A rubric will be used to score the activity.

By June 2009, the students in grades three through six will demonstrate proficiency in language arts, targeting reading strategies utilizing Study Island. Students will be assessed using a pretest in September. By May, a minimum of 80 % of the students will achieve a 70% or higher on the topics covered by Study Island in the area of reading strategies.

Programs

C.A.T. Program

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 12, 2008, was a wonderful culminating activity. The students' work was highlighted and enjoyed by all.

Character Education

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.

Gifted and Talented Program

The Gifted and Talented Program consisted of three main components:

1. Enrichment: Activities in a variety of subject areas were offered for students in grades five and six. Participation was based on the interests of the students and was voluntary. Some activities were: Forensics Tournament (Interpretive Reading), Debate, Math Challenge 24 Game, and Academically Speaking.

2. Whole Class Lessons: Lessons were conducted in the classroom as support to the classroom teacher, as well as to afford the gifted and talented teachers the opportunity to observe students in higher-level activities. Programs such as Primary Education Thinking Skills, DeBono's Thinking Hats, Philosophy for Children and Logic for Critical Thinkers were delivered to students in grades kindergarten through six grade.

3. Identified Program: Third and fourth graders were identified based on multiple criteria. Classes were offered twice a week to those students who qualified.

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 organized an assembly for grades five and six for Women's History Month. A panel discussion was conducted to expose the fifth and sixth graders to various careers held by women. The students asked many questions and were very engaged in the program.

Read Across America

On March 2, 2008, students from Nutley High School's Young Educators of America Club, Nutley High School Spanish Club, and other visitors read to 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 3, 2008, the fifth graders participated in "Law Day, 2008," a program sponsored by the American Bar Association. Law Day focused on the Fourth Amendment. 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.

In order to prepare for this event, the students studied a fact pattern, which focused on the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. The students held a mock case: New Jersey v. T.L.O. 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 Mauro Tucci and Michelle Mikelberg. 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. This initiative helped students achieve the goal to walk twenty-six point two miles.

Montclair State University Teacher Study Group: Utilization of the SMARTboard

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 thirteen staff members who met during lunchtime to exchange ideas and strategies. This year the focus of our group was the utilization of the SMARTboard.

In today's society it is a continuing challenge to engage students in daily lessons. Now Spring Garden School has nine SMARTboards, an exciting educational tool, which has exposed students to a more global learning experience. This interactive whiteboard has a large interactive screen on which the teacher and students explored websites, given science presentations, and taken virtual field trips. It improved motivation and performance by making inquiry-based learning a dynamic classroom experience.

The SMARTboard meets the needs of both visual and kinesthetic learners. Students see large, vibrant images and physically interact with material by moving letters, numbers, words and pictures with their fingers. Students with special needs can see, read and manipulate information more easily.

With the interactive whiteboard, teachers and students benefited from the software, which included curriculum-specific clip art and templates that supported math, literacy and science. This fantastic educational tool has increased student achievement and success.

Teacher Incentive Grants: Montclair State University Network for Educational Renewal

Three 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.

NEA Foundation Grant: \$5,000

The NEA Foundation grant for the Wilson Program was successfully implemented this year at Spring Garden School.

The Wilson Language Program is a multi-sensory reading system that uses a controlled vocabulary to teach reading. This type of program was needed due to the increasing number of at-risk students that struggle with the decoding and encoding of words. Students were able to focus on higher-level critical reading skills because they spent less time struggling with the decoding of words.

The pilot program was implemented and conducted by Mrs. Hutcheson, and assisted by Valerie Piacenza. Mrs. Hutcheson met with kindergarten through third grade teachers and provided 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. The staff noted significant improvement with students' performance.

Lands' End Teacher Award

Mrs. Doreen Holland was recognized by Lands' End as an outstanding educator helping to "Light the Way" for her students, school and community. She was nominated by Sheryl Holly in the 2008 Lands' End Teachers Light The Way Awards. The judging panel agreed that Mrs. Holland truly is a bright light in education. Her dedication to helping our troops all over the world has earned her this special award.

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.

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**Red Ribbon Week**

Once again Violence Awareness and Red Ribbon Week was observed in the Nutley Schools. As part of the health curriculum, staff reviewed healthy and positive behaviors with their students. The theme was "We Pledge to be Drug and Violence Free. Each homeroom submitted a poster pledge, which was displayed throughout the school.

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

American 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 NJ ASK 4 skills. A variety of hands-on activities were used to build confidence for success in mathematics and to demystify science. The programs have created a unique partnership between home and school.

Bears Around the World

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

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

National Geographic Bee 2008

On January 10, 2008, 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, Luca Farrel. The students enjoyed this activity very much.

Battle of the Books

Once again this year we implemented Battle of the Books with our fifth and sixth grade students. 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

The Spring Garden School students participated in their annual St. Jude Math-A-Thon. Mr. Adubato 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 \$9,153.38. This raised Spring Garden's total donations up to \$20,639.77.

Enrichment Clusters K-6

The staff of Spring Garden Elementary School conducted Enrichment Clusters for the entire school under the direction of Mrs. Clerico. This exciting program based upon student interests began on May 22, 2008. Interest surveys were conducted in all of the grades during class time. The top five interests of students in grades K-3 were tallied and the top seven interests of the students in grades 4-6 were tallied. These selections were then used to form enrichment clusters. Facilitators, including teachers, support staff, parents and community volunteers were then surveyed as to their interests. A four-week program was then developed, which was student-driven. The students met with their facilitators one afternoon a week. The idea of enrichment clusters was first started at the University of Connecticut under the leadership of Dr. Joe Renzulli, a renowned person in the field of gifted and talented. Some clusters included science experiments, virtual field trips, Monet mural, gardening, stock market, folk tales, and many other exciting clusters. The students were very excited and looked forward to cultivating their interests.

CLUBS

Journalism Club

The newspaper club met every other Monday under the supervision of Miss Antoinette Frannicola and Ms. Josephine Tucci. 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 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

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.

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, "Free to be You and Me." The children and parents enjoyed the play.

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.

Military Fan Mail Club

The students became aware of the sacrifices made by members of the U. S. Military and to acknowledge our appreciation of such by making and sending cards to troops stationed around the world. This year Mrs. Holland, her assistant, Ms. Holler, and the Military Fan Mail Club received the distinct honor from the *Fan Mail for the Troops Campaign* for their Christmas and Valentine Day mailing. Spring Garden School was the number one elementary school in the nation for the Christmas mailing and Valentine mailing. Mrs. Holland, Ms. Holler, and the students should be commended on a job well done.

Do Something Club

The Do Something Club helped students to develop leadership, good citizenship, and character. This year this club was very busy helping to turn Spring Garden School "Green." The students made "turn the lights off" signs, conducted garbage free lunch days, and helped with the St. Jude Math-A-Thon. The students participated with great enthusiasm.

Assembly Programs

- October 1 Township of Nutley Mayor's Wellness Campaign
"Dance for Health Program"
- 10 Gr. K-6 Nutley Fire Dept. Assembly Program
- 12 PTO Assembly entitled, "Liberty Science Center" (K-6)
- November 15 Gr. 4-6 NHS Marching Band
- Gr. 4-6 Veteran's Day Assembly – Military Fan Mail Club
- 17 K-3 PTO Assembly, "The New Kid"
- December 11 Gr. 4-6 FMS Choir – Holiday Caroling
- PTO Assembly – "School House Rock"
- January 29 PTO Assembly, "Arithmatickles"
- February Gr. 4-6 FMS – Jazz Band
- April 15 K-6 PTO Assembly, "Endangered Species"
- May 9 Gr. 4-6 PTO Assembly, "Jeopardy Game Show"
- 13 Gr. 4-6 NHS Raiders Sports Camp Assembly
- 29 Gr. 4 – "Tobacco Prevention" assembly

FIELD TRIPS:

- Kindergarten . Turtle Back Zoo
- . Environmental Center - Newark
- Grade 1 . Montclair State University Memorial Auditorium
- "Charlotte's Web"
- Grade 2 . Yogi Berra Stadium Museum
- . Green Meadows Children's Farm
- . Nutley Public Library
- . Newark Museum
- . AMC Theatre – "Horton Hears a Whoo"
- Grade 3 . Nutley Public Library
- . Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum
- . Maze Quest Corn Maze

- Grade 4 . Bronx Zoo
 . AMC Theater, "The Chronicles of Narnia"
- Grade 5 . West Point Academy, New York
 . AMC Theater, "The Chronicles of Narnia"
- 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
 . LaCibeles Restaurant for lunch with Spanish Class

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 History Fair - Devon Reed – 1st Place

Grade 1:

ABC History Fair

Grade 2:

ABC History Fair – Kyle Miskovich – 1st Place

Grade 3:

ABC History Fair– Stephanie Calluori – 1st Place

Grade 4:

ABC History Fair

Elks Poster Contest

American Legion Coloring Contest – Rachel Allessandra Cordasco – Honorable Mention

Nutley Family Essay Contest – "What My Family Means to Me."

Winners: Marlena Cugliari

Matthew White

Grade 5:

ABC History Fair

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

American Legion Coloring Contest

Nutley Elks Americanism Essay Contest - "Why I'm Proud to be an American"

Nutley Veterans Council Poster Contest, "Freedom Is Not Free"

Lions Club Spelling Bee

Grade 6:

ABC History Fair

Nutley Lions Club Spelling Bee

Nutley Elks Americanism Essay Contest "Why I'm Proud To Be an American"

Nutley Elks Peace Poster Contest, Molly Spector Williams

Free Throw

AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary - "My Favorite American Hero" First Place: Patrick Dudasik
and Second Place: Rachel Collucci

Nutley Family Essay Contest - "What My Family Means to Me."

Winners: Melissa Hollfelder

Sarah Popkowski

Stephen Scuttaro

Grade 5 & 6

Third-half Club Basketball Tournament

Hoop Shoot ChampsGr. 4 - Michael Sliwoski
Claudia MartinGr. 5 - Peter DeCilla
Molly DemgardGr. 6 - Louise Callanta
Cara Michels**Free Throw Contest:**

First Place - Cara Michels

Second Place - Molly Demgard and Claudia Martin

Regional Champion & State Finalist - Cara Michels

CONCLUSION:

In closing, I would like to thank Mr. Joseph Zarra, Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Mariana Francioso, Mr. Paul Palozzola and the Nutley Board of Education, especially Mr. Moscaritola our representative. A special thanks to the Child Study Team who aids us with our special education children and their programs, and Mr. Michael DeVita and Phil Nicolette, 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
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Douglas T. Jones
Principal

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June 27, 2008

TO: Mr. Joseph Zarra
FROM: Douglas T. Jones
RE: Principal's Annual Report – School Year 2007-2008

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

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
- Intervention and Referral Services
- 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 Training
- Implementation of Language Arts Literacy New Strategies

Continuing Priorities

- 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
- 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
- Instructional Strategies for Differentiated Instruction: Managing the Differentiated Classroom
- Instructional Leveled Spelling Training and Evaluation
- Suicide Prevention
- Autistic Program

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. Lunch time programming continued and was well utilized by the entire staff.

Ms. Cynthia De Bonis, Language Arts Coordinator, has assisted classroom teachers with strategies and methodologies for Language Arts curriculum revision. She continues to train our teachers, develop projects and classroom implementation concepts. Lunch time programming continued and was well utilized by the entire staff.

Results of School Level Objectives – 2007-2008 School Year

During the 2007-2008 school year, students in grades kindergarten to two demonstrated age appropriate proficiency using computer applications and technology tools to produce a word processing document and create a multi-media presentation. The students successfully met the goals set for the school year.

During the 2007-2008 school year, students in grades three to six demonstrated 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.

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 2008-2009 school year:

By June 2009, the students in grades kindergarten through second (K-2) will demonstrate proficiency in science, targeting the area of earth science utilizing the scientific method. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assessment. A rubric will be used to score the activity.

By June 2009, the students in grades three through six will demonstrate proficiency in language arts, targeting reading strategies utilizing Study Island. Students will be assessed using a pretest in November. By May, a minimum of 80 % of the students will achieve a 70% or higher on the topics covered by Study Island in the area of reading strategies.

Testing

The results of the **TerraNova Test** (grades 1-2) were carefully reviewed. Information about the tests was evaluated and strategies were developed and implemented for the year. The information and results have not been obtained for the 2007-2008 school year testing and will be utilized in a similar manner when the results are available.

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 for grades three and four were reviewed and showed an increase in many areas. Plans for improved instruction are being developed for the 2008-2009 school year. Washington School students continue to fare well.

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:

I&RS Training
 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, strategies, 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.

I&RS Team 2007-2008

During the 2007-2008 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 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.

The Washington School classroom teachers referred twenty-one students to the committee. Of those students, six were then referred to the Child Study Team for testing. In addition, three students who came before the I&RS committee were recommended for retention. Also, four speech referrals came before the team.

The remaining students made adequate progress in learning due to the accommodations put in place by the I&RS committee. These accommodations will continue on into the next school year. The cases will then be reviewed in the beginning of the 2008/2009 school year. If necessary, at that time, referrals to the Child Study Team can be made.

In addition, the I&RS team held a lunchtime workshop and training sessions focusing on proper protocol for teachers and staff to follow when referring a student to the committee, as well as how to implement accommodations put in place by the committee. A power point program was developed and shared with other schools. Any new staff will be in-serviced in the following year as necessary.

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, Fifty-seven permission slips for services were sent home with students. Of these students, many 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 the counselor on situational needs basis (i.e. conflict resolution, grief and loss behavior). Ongoing contact with parents was made and twelve students were referred to outside counseling.

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 Thanksgiving Food drive, Holiday Treasure Chest and appropriate arrangements were made for these families. 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.

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

- ◆ **Walk to School Wednesdays**
Students participated in a program to increase health and exercise and to eliminate traffic issues one day per month by walking to school. Mayor Cocchilola joined students from a designated area and walk to school for fitness.
- ◆ **Washington School Picnic**
All Washington School families are invited to attend a picnic held at a local park. Over three hundred attended and was very successful.
- ◆ **New Parent Tea**
All first time and new parents were invited to attend a welcome tea to discuss a plethora of school issues and concerns. Many parents took this opportunity to become familiar with school policies and procedures.
- ◆ **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:
- ◆ **School Talent Show**
Under the direction of Ms. Cafone and Ms. Hollywood, Seventy children participated in performances for students and parents. The program provided an opportunity for students to show case their talents ranging from dance to recitation.
- ◆ **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.

◆ **Musicales**

Mrs. Tirri, Mr. Kinne our instrumental music instructors, 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 Woman in History panel discussion during which women from the community spoke about opportunities for women. A question and answer period followed.

◆ **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 History Fair**

Washington School students participated in the Nutley History 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. Through the efforts of the Social Studies teachers, Washington School had the most participants with over 45 entries.

◆ **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. The children truly enjoy this event.

◆ **Assembly Programs**

Fire Safety Assembly

Mayor Cocchiola Government Assembly

Awards Assembly

Character Education

Science Telling Assembly

NJ Transit

Jazz Band

Read Across America – Dr. Seuss Day

Rock And Roll Environment Show

Prismatic Laser Show

Latin Honors and Italian Club presentations

Jump Rope For Heart (American Heart Association)

FMS Brass Ensemble

Tobacco Prevention

Nutley Library

Women in History Panel Discussion

Essex County Canine Police

Sports Camp Presentation

Passaic Valley Sewage Commission

Peer Mediators Presentation

Lions Club Assemblies

Garden State Percussion Trio

Author Visit (Elizabeth Levy) Children's Author
 Talent Show Grades K-6
 Four Grade Play Rumpelstiltskin
 Fifth Grade Social Studies Play

◆ Student Awards

JOHN H. WALKER MEMORIAL FOUNDATION AWARD

Michael La
 Julia Seremba

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

MS. DELORENZO

Joshua O'Neill
 Alexis Orr

MRS. MONTEROSA

Alexa Arias
 Lara Carnovale
 Lauren Costello
 Abhishek Dixit
 Rocco Galasso
 Noah Ibasitas
 James Juat
 Eric Long
 Cassidy LoRe
 Christopher Rodas
 Steven Sorrentino
 Emek Tasdemir
 Nicholas Vanderberk
 Aaliyah Vega
 Samantha Yoon

MS. PUZIO

Joseph Ambrosone
 Jack Christman
 Julia Polewka
 Debamita Saha
 Caleb Shi

MRS. CARNEVALE

Rauf Ural

MRS. CRISSON

Sam Coulson
Samantha DaCostaLobo
Ellie McCreesh

MRS. SUTER

Michael Alvarez
Nicole Giordano
Eduardo Machado
Pooja Mehta
Anna Rosinski

MRS. ANDREULA

Maggie McCreesh
Jake McEwan
Hazal Tasdemir
Averill Wong

MRS. MOSIOR

Nicholas Napolitano
Conor Jackman

MISS PAVLECKA

Thomas Boniello
Avkash Patel
Michael Rodrigues

MS. CERNIGLIA

Dante Vocaturo

MRS. TIBALDO

Brendan Ruiz

MRS. HEALY

Dante Intindola

MRS. BECKMEYER

Sarah Berroa

MRS. ROSSI

Kaitlyn O'Neill
Hasnan Shah
Bhargav Sonani

MS. CAFONE

Jason Dorr

MRS. LENIK

Michael Foster

MRS. ISABELLA

Sherein Abdelhady

MR. SMYTH

Hye-Jo Ahn

Jonathon Caycho

Daniel Cimafranca

Mary Grandinetti

PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Tyler Grisanti – K-PM

Noah Ibasitas – 1M

James Juat – 1M

Aaliyah Vega – 1M

Alejandra Vasquez – 2CR

Averill Wong – 3A

Peter Wang – 3M

Camila Concul – 3P

Aash Patel – 3P

Harsh Patel – 4C

Danielle Mannino – 4H

Matthew Ibasitas – 4T

Robert Remuszka – 4T

Haddy Abdelhady – 5B

Monica Hanna – 5B

Jason Dorr – 5C

Nikayla Goldenberg – 5C

Bhargav Sonani – 5R

Zohaeb Atiq – 6I

Sherein Abdelhady – 6I

Mark Carnevale – 6L

Nicole Ran – 6L

Olivia Tran – 6L

Mary Grandinetti – 6S

Jennifer Pereira – 6S

HISTORY FAIRAva Intindola – 2nd PlaceNicole Giordano, Victoria Likos & Scott Pfefferly – 3rd PlaceJanhvi Kharawala & Maggie McCreesh – 3rd PlaceDante Intindola – 3rd PlaceBrandon Valentin – 3rd PlaceKaitlyn Quinn – 3rd Place

ESSAY CONTEST – WHAT MY FAMILY MEANS TO ME – RUNNER-UP

Sherein Abdelhady

MY HERO ESSAY – HONORABLE MENTION

Daniel Alvarez

LION'S CLUB SPELLING BEE – 3rd GRADE

Janhvi Kharawala

Maggie McCreesh

4TH GRADE BATTLE OF THE BOOKS WINNERS

Fady Beshara

Henry Long

Kayla Torres

NUTLEY DEBATE DAY

Julia Seremba – 4th Place

PRESIDENTIAL PHYSICAL FITNESS AWARDS

Sherein Abdelhady

Ariel Bueno

Jason Castellanos

DONATION TO BLOOMFIELD ANIMAL SHELTER

Julie Tiene and Ashley LeSoine had a lemonade stand and the money raised was donated to the Bloomfield Animal Shelter.

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. She trained staff and personnel for the inclusion of a new diabetic student. She assisted the counselor in developing programs for at-risk students. She additionally participated in the I&RS team meetings.

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 focused on science and math curricula and were enjoyed by all who attended.

Newark Conservancy

Camp Bernie

Newark Museum

Liberty Science Center

Seeing Eye Institute

Turtle Back Zoo

Trenton State House

La Cibeles Restaurant

Montclair State University

Outraghiss Pets

Williams Center Productions

Sandy Hook Environmental Center

WASHINGTON SCHOOL CLUBS

Art Club
 Challenge 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 Dance Club
 G&T Clubs
 Student Counsel

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
 Market Day
 Tricky Tray
 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.

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, Mr. Paul Palozzola, Director of Special Services, Mr. Robert Green, Mr. Mike DeVita, A special thank you to retiring Principal Mary Lou Dowse who always was available to assist me. And the Principals of all other schools for their collected assistance and support in making the past year my personal best at Washington School.

Finally, 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 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. Pat Defrank, Mrs. Carolyn Drago, Mrs. Janet Fenwick, Mrs. Linda Ritacco, and Mrs. Diane Guarino and their efforts should be lauded.

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 25, 2008

SUBJECT: Principal's Annual Report – School Year 2007/2008

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
- 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
- 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
- Math and Reading Strategies Program

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 labs. We have two mobile labs that comprise of twenty-five laptops each. These laptops 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 – 2007-2008 School Year

During the 2007-2008 school year, students in grades kindergarten through six demonstrated proficiency using computer applications and technology tools by producing word processing documents and creating a multi-media presentation. 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 to discuss the school level objectives. The members of the team proposed the following school level objectives for the 2008-2009 school year:

By June 2009, students in grades kindergarten through two (K-2) will demonstrate in science, targeting the area of life science utilizing the scientific method. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assessment.

By June 2009, students in grades three through six (3-6) will demonstrate proficiency in language arts, targeting reading strategies utilizing Study Island. Students will be assessed using a pretest in September. By May, a minimum of

80% of the students will achieve a score of 70% or higher on the topics covered by Study Island in the area of reading strategies.

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:

NJAKE Workshop – Let's Rock & Roll Ice Cream
 Designing technology – Integrating lessons
 CPR Training
 Smart Board training
 NJ ASK 3-6 Workshops
 Math Curriculum Workshop
 Cyber Technology Workshop
 Wilson Training
 Social Studies Curriculum – grades 3-4
 Language Arts Workshop
 Singapore Math
 Response Law Workshop
 Mary Grove College MAT Program
 Epi-Pen Training
 Suicide Awareness Prevention Workshop
 Odd Girl Out Workshop
 Study Island training
 Science and Literature Connections
 The Caring Classroom
 Social Skills for Students in Elementary Schools
 Parent/Teacher Conferences
 Barnes & Noble Educator's Night
 Montclair Art Museum Educator's Evenings
 Multimedia Software Workshop
 Mentoring and Coaching
 Critical Thinking
 Bullying Prevention Workshop
 NJ Chemistry Council 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

♦ **Library Make-over**

The Yantacaw community entered the Literacy For Life Library makeover contest. Yantacaw won \$25,000 to be put toward the renovation of our library and \$15,000 in books! We are in the process of updating our library and look forward to seeing the final product.

♦ **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:

Katie Brodowski won first place in the Memorial Day poster contest.

Katie Brodowski won honorable mention in the AMVETS essay contest.

Chiara St. Amant won first place in the flag-coloring contest.

Erin Toye won fourth place in the Essex County Debate contest.

Ava Tucci won third place in the Essex County Forensics tournament.

Ava Tucci and Emily Burleson were second place team winners in the Essex County Forensics Tournament.

Dana Rebutoc was a finalist in the Essex County Challenge 24 contest.

♦ **The John Walker Memorial Basketball Tournament**

The basketball team was selected after several weeks of try-outs. The team was made up of fifth and sixth graders who competed during the 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, and Mr. Kinne, instrumental instructors, 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.

♦ **Picturing America Grant**

The fifth grade teachers received the National Endowment of the Humanities Initiative Picturing America Grant. The students were able to participate in an author (Andrew Clements) visit through video conferencing.

◆ **Pod casting**

Our sixth grade created pod casts on famous women during Women in History month.

◆ **Assembly Programs**

Fire Safety Assembly
 Awards Assembly
 This Land is Your Land
 Dance For Health
 NY Giants
 Concert Choir
 Opera Works
 Tobacco Prevention
 Holly Rock
 Women in History Panel Discussion
 NJ State Mock Trial – Law Day
 50's Rock-n-Roll Environmental Magic Show
 Law Fair
 Latin Presentation
 Sports Camp Presentation
 Vocal and Instrumental Musicales
 Peer Mediators Presentation

◆ **Parent Volunteers**

Once again, Yantacaw School had many parent volunteers come in to assist in many areas. The Yantacaw staff continues to welcome them into our building and greatly appreciates the time and effort they give to our youngsters.

◆ **Battle of the Books**

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

◆ **ABC History Fair**

Yantacaw students participated in the science fair. Six Yantacaw students received first place awards, four received second place awards and three 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 12. Parent conferences were held during this week and parents were invited to visit their child's classroom.

♦ **Family Math and Family Science**

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

♦ **Read Across America**

In celebration of Dr. Suess' birthday, students from Nutley High School's Future Teachers of America Club 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. Two students achieved state distinction.

♦ **Field Day**

Our seventh annual field day was held on June 16. The entire student body competed in "Olympic-style" events. At the end of the competitions the PTO treated everyone to hot dogs, drinks, popcorn and ice cream. 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 Strange Science, Gardening, Card making with Stamps, Fishing, Italian, Irish Dancing, Scrap booking, Yoga, Candy Making, Brain Games, Drama, and much more. The children were engaged in many hands-on experiences that were both fun and educational. The Curiosity Shop met after school on Thursdays and Fridays during the month of March.

Health and Safety Programs

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 – Morris Museum

Grade 1 – Outrageous Pets Museum
 Grade 2 – Liberty Science Center
 Grade 3 – Morris Museum, Nutley Library
 Grade 4 – Montclair State University
 The Seeing Eye Institute
 Grade 5 – Philadelphia Zoo
 Shea Center for Performing Arts
 Grade 6 – Fairview Lakes Campgrounds
 La Cibeles Restaurant 8
 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.

♦ **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. Pontrella, Mrs. Pate**

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.

♦ **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. 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.

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 the Book of the Month Club 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.

I would also like to thank our Board of Education representative, Dr. Philip Casale. It has been a pleasure working with you throughout most of my years at Yantacaw. You have always been supportive of my endeavors. For all your efforts, I am eternally grateful.

Some of the PTO activities included:

Wrapping Paper Sale

Pumpkin Patch

Welcome Back Dance

Tricky Tray

Holiday Pizza Party

Holiday Boutique

Holiday Luncheon

Scholastic Book Fair

Curiosity Shop

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 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

As my time at Yantacaw comes to an end, 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 eight wonderful years. Without their efforts it would not be possible to achieve the high academic excellence that is indicative of this school. Leading them has been a pleasure, but joining them has been my good fortune. I would also like to thank my parent community and all of our students, who constantly strive to achieve more. I will miss my daily interactions with them.

My sincere thanks goes to our 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. Their work ethic is above reproach as they constantly go that extra mile. 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 is to be commended not only for her excellence in secretarial matters, but also for all those ways she goes above and beyond her duties. There are not enough words to thank her for all she has done for me. One thing is certain, I am leaving Yantacaw School in excellent hands. 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.

I would also like to express my gratitude to Mr. Michael DeVita, acting Secretary/Business Administrator for his assistance and guidance with school finances and also with the many maintenance projects at Yantacaw School.

My sincere thanks goes out to my friend and mentor, Mrs. Mariana Francioso, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, for her guidance and support throughout our years together in Nutley. We have shared many memories as teachers, coaches, and finally, as administrators. I have been 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. We are fortunate to have such an outstanding administrative team in Nutley.

My heartfelt thanks is extended to you, Mr. Zarra, for your continued support and guidance during this school year. You are the consummate professional, always trying to do what's best for the children in our district. Your warmth and caring have made it a pleasure to work in this school system.

Finally, I would like to end this report with my appreciation to the Nutley Board of Education for giving me the opportunity to spend the last thirty-five years in this exceptional district. It has been an honor and a privilege that I will cherish forever.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "MaryLou Dowse". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

MaryLou Dowse
Principal

SPECIAL SERVICES

July 10, 2008

TO: Mr. Joseph Zarra

FROM: Paul Palozzola

RE: Special Services Annual Report - 2007/2008

<u>NEW REFERRALS</u>	<u>2005/2006</u>	<u>2007/2008</u>
Nutley High School	13	15
Middle School	5	4
Yantacaw	20	5
Lincoln	39	11
Radcliffe	12	7
Spring Garden	8	12
Washington	17	4
Preschool Handicapped	14	12
New Referrals	128	70
<u>NEW CLASSIFICATIONS</u>		
Auditorily Handicapped (Deaf)	0	0
Autistic	1	3
Cognitively Impaired	0	1
Communication Impaired	0	3
Emotionally Disturbed	2	3
Multiply Disabled	0	8
Orthopedically Impaired	0	0
Other Health Impaired	9	8
Preschool Disabled	23	18
Socially Maladjustment	0	0
Specific Learning Disabilities	50	36
Traumatic Brain Injury	0	0
Visually Impaired	0	0
TOTAL	85	80
Students Graduated	45	40
Students Dropped Out	6	1
Students Declassified	9	30
Day Placements	56	56
Residentials	0	2
Received From Other Districts	4	4
Eligible for Speech/Language Services (Public)	45	31
Non-Public Classified	42	14
Vocational (Full-time)	0	0
(Part-time)	6	2
Home Programs	1	2

The following special services priorities were addressed in a positive manner during the 2007-2008 school year.

1. Classes for students with autism continue to address student needs.
2. The Behavior Specialist continues to create behavior plans and staff with parents.
3. Parents of students with autism formed a parent group. District personnel participate in monthly meetings.
4. Resource center services were expanded at the elementary level.
5. Physical and occupational therapy room at Radcliffe School is operational.
6. Related services have been increased to meet student needs.
7. The Homebound Instruction Committee created district procedures for home instruction. The new procedure was successfully implemented this school year.
8. In-class support opportunities were increased at all levels due to student need.
9. In-service training for Special Services personnel was continued.
10. Speech therapists created forms to be used district-wide for ESLS referrals.
11. Health policies and procedures were reviewed.
12. Nurses were proactive to provide parents with information relative to health related issues.
13. Planning for an inclusive preschool program continued.
14. Continue to complete New Jersey Self-Assessment document and prepare for on-site monitoring in the 2008-2009 school year.

STUDENT ASSISTANCE COUNSELORS

ANNUAL REPORT

2007 - 2008

To: Mr. Paul Palozzola, Director of Special Services
 From: **Lisa Cassilli**, Student Assistance Coordinator
 Date: June 10, 2008
 Re: **High School SAC Annual Report**

This annual report provides a summary of responsibilities and services provided by the high school SAC for the 2007-2008 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.

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.

❖ STUDENT INTERVENTIONS

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

❖ 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 SACs at each level sit on a multitude of community and statewide committees, representing the Nutley School District in a positive manner. Some of the most relevant activities at the high school level include the following:

- **Violence Awareness Week Activities (SADD)**
- **Alcohol Awareness/Red Ribbon Week Activities (SADD)**
- **DR. MICHAEL FOWLIN – “You don’t know me until you know me”** focuses on treating others with respect and not judging others based on pre-conceived stereotypes.
- **JESSE’S JOURNEY** – The effects of substance abuse from a mother’s perspective
- **STEVEN BENVENISTI** – “The Most Important Case of My Entire Career” – the effects of drunk driving
- **NOT MY KID** – see below
- **Staff Inservice and Trainings** offered at faculty meetings, department meetings, and after-school.

❖ “NOT MY KID”

The Third Annual “NOT MY KID” parent presentation was facilitated by the high school SAC in November 2007. Due to several incidents that occurred in our community this year and the increasing population of students involved in opiate use, the focus this year was opiates.

The program consisted of several components including a guest speaker, Joan Macmullen whose son died from a heroin overdose 10 years ago in Nutley. Parents were educated on the signs/symptoms of substance abuse and what to do about it. They were encouraged to utilize the school SACs and the police to gain support and receive confidential assistance. The policy was handed out and described *in detail* by the high school SAC. Important terms were explained such as confidentiality, civil immunity, and medical leave for positive substance screens. Many different educational handouts were provided which were posted on the Nutley High School website immediately following the program. Parents were encouraged to reproduce the handouts and share with other parents.

Probably the most significant component of the program was a panel discussion. The panel consisted of the Superintendent, the President of the Board of Education, the High School Principal, Natty Ferrara, Joan MacMullen, representatives from the Nutley Police Department, the school Social Worker and a doctor specializing in addiction. The

discussion was moderated by the high school SAC. Parents were afforded the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback in an open forum. This dynamic discussion was taped and played on the Nutley TV station for several weeks. A parent network was established by the high school SAC as a result of this program. Parents currently experiencing problems with their child can call each other in confidence and share their problems in a safe forum. This support network was advertised by the Nutley Sun and is utilized as a resource for parents in the community. In addition, parents have utilized this network to support each other in attending self-help meetings.

❖ **COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON RESPONSIBILITIES**

The high school SAC served as **Chairperson** for two Committees within the school: **The Homebound Policy Committee** and the **Elementary SAC Curriculum Committee**.

The Homebound Policy Committee researched and developed a new Homebound Instruction Policy consistent with State Law. This policy and procedures was implemented during the 2007-2008 school year and has proven to be a significant deterrent to the former "open-door" policy for home instruction. Students who receive home instruction must now go through proper protocols with their own physicians and the school physician to assure appropriate implementation of this service. Home instructors are now responsible for logging hours with students. Students must be re-assessed every 30 days to determine eligibility for home instruction.

The Elementary SAC Curriculum Committee developed a K-6 Resource Guide for faculty to use throughout the school year. This guide is designated by month with relevant themes coordinated with the Pillars of Character Education. The high school SAC presented this curriculum to the Academic Committee of the Board of Education for review. The Academic Committee approved this program for the school district.

❖ **SUPERVISED INTERNSHIP**

The high school SAC supervised a master's level intern throughout the 2007-2008 school year. This intern learned how to provide assessments, facilitate individual and group counseling, as well as organize assemblies/parent programs. The SAC also trained this intern in techniques for substance abuse counseling specific to a school district. Under the supervision of the SAC, the intern facilitated a four-week focus group for adolescent girls on healthy relationships. An evaluation of this focus group through a survey yielded positive feedback. The intern effectively developed positive relationships with many students, parents

and staff. In addition, she also participated in all trainings and committees with the SAC. This student is appropriately trained to work as a counselor in a school and would be an asset to our district if approved by the Board.

❖ GRANT-WRITING

The SAC participated in a federal grant-writing project with the District grant writer, Susan Scavone, to adopt an incentive program under the Random Drug Testing Policy. This endeavor, as directed by the SAC, would involve merchant participation in offering coupons/rewards to clean students in the District.

❖ GRADUATE COURSES/CONFERENCES/TRAININGS

The SAC attended many professional conferences including the following:

- High Focus- all day training “Current Trends in Substance Abuse and Self-Mutilation”
- Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse – all day training on Random Drug Testing and Prevention Planning.
- “Working Effectively with Resistant and Burned Out Parents” – all day training
- “Traumatic Loss Coalition” Training – all day training
- Association for Student Assistance Professionals (ASAP): two-day conference on substance abuse/mental health treatment
- I & RS Training – two-day State sponsored training for Chairpersons & Teams

❖ MEETINGS/ ORGANIZATIONS

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

- **Intervention and Referral Services – member (daily attendance)**
- **CHAMP Committee member- Mayor’s Office - monthly**
- **Municipal Alliance Committee member – monthly**
- **Juvenile Conference Committee member – monthly**
- **Association for Student Assistance Professionals (ASAP) – Subcommittee Chair - Planning and Organizing a subcommittee that is actively coordinating**

a statewide Conference for administrators and counselors throughout NJ in coordination with NJPSA.

- **SADD-** Actively coordinates speakers and assemblies as a consultant to the SADD group (Students Against Destructive Decisions).

❖ **OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED**

- **INTERVENTION AND REFERRAL SERVICES (I & RS):** a **minimum of one period each day** is dedicated to this team as well as providing case management for students in need.
***This team received, processed and monitored more than 100 students this year alone.** More members are necessary to continue to provide quality services to regular education services to students in need of assistance.
- **POLICY:** continual revision and updates to the substance abuse policy and procedures including the newly implemented Random Drug Testing Policy. Served on **Substance Abuse Ad-Hoc Committee of the Board of Education** for two years. Each year the policy is condensed and distributed to every student and teacher in Nutley High School.
- **“LUNCH FOR SUCCESS”** – The high school SAC and a guidance counselor developed and coordinated a program to assist 9th grade 504 students in getting acclimated to the high school. Four successful seniors were invited to speak to these freshmen and field questions at a pizza luncheon in the fall. Inside tips and teacher recommendations were provided.
- **HANDBOOK COMMITTEE** – The high school SAC served on the Handbook Committee and attended many evening meetings to develop a handbook for NHS.
- **FACULTY IN-SERVICE:** provides research-based presenters for Articulation Day, I & RS, and faculty training on substance abuse.
- **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
 - Montclair Counseling Center, Montclair
 - The Center for Creative Lifestyles, Caldwell

-High Focus Centers, Paramus
-The Bridge, Caldwell

- **SAFE AND DRUG FREE SCHOOLS REPORT:** annually completes Title IV requirements for the Improving America's Schools Act (IASA) to maintain federal funding.
- **BROCHURE** – SACs distributed the Student Assistance brochure to parents at evening events (i.e. Open Houses, Health Fair, etc.) throughout the district.

Joseph Cappello
Student Assistance Coordinator

June 17, 2008

SAC Summary **2007-2008 School Year**

As the Student Assistance Coordinator of the Nutley Public Schools, my primary responsibility is to provide support services to students of John H. Walker Middle School. 190 students were provided services throughout the course of the 2007-2008 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.
 - Two WMS 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 the Walker Middle School's Intervention and Referral Service Team.
- Served on the Elementary Student Assistance Curriculum Committee.
- Conducted a seventh and eighth grade orientation on September 6, 2007 in each lunch study to introduce self as well as services offered through the Student Assistance Program.
- Introduced self and services to new faculty and staff on September 4, 2007 with particular focus on procedures for reporting a student suspected of being under the influence.
- Presented at FMS' faculty meeting on October 1, 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) referral process.

- Distributed monthly edition of the Nutley Student Assistance Newsletter: *Helping Hand* to faculty and staff.
- Club advisor for S.T.A.N.D. (Students Taking a New Direction). Members of S.T.A.N.D. met weekly to coordinate school and community activities focused on drug, alcohol, and violence prevention.
 - Members assisted in coordinating *National Red Ribbon Week* (October 23-31) activities by:
 - 1) decorating John H. Walker Middle School with red ribbons, posters, balloons, and banners.
 - 2) promoting and participating in the *Three Theme Days*:
 - Wear Red Day* – students wore red clothing to kick off Red Ribbon Week and to show their commitment to be drug-free.
 - Team Up Against Drugs Day* – students wore their favorite sports team clothing to team up for the fight against drugs.
 - Put a Cap on Drugs Day* – students wore a hat or visor to show their Red Ribbon Week spirit.
 - 3) distributing – “*Smarties Don’t Use Drugs*”, “*Don’t Get Twisted Into Drugs*” (twizzlers), and “*Don’t Be a Sucker for Drugs*” (lollipops)” – to students participating in the *Three Theme Days*.
 - 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 overseen by the Comprehensive Tobacco Control Program of New Jersey (CTCPNJ).
 - Awarded a \$3,000 grant to fund tobacco prevention programs.
 - Attended *REBEL/REBEL2* Essex County Advisor Meetings on November 14, January 9, March 5, and May 7.
 - Attended the Fifth Annual REBEL2 Veteran Summit on April 9, 2008 at the Crown Plaza Monroe in Jamesburg, New Jersey with five students. Students engaged in workshops to increase their knowledge and skills of facilitating interactive presentations at the elementary and middle schools.
 - Eight members of REBEL2 developed an anti-tobacco Public Service Announcement (PSA) that highlighted the myths of tobacco use and its deadly consequences. The PSA was broadcasted on Channel 77, the local public access channel. Mr. Kelly and students from his Radio and TV Broadcasting Technology Course assisted in taping and editing the PSA.
 - Members of REBEL2 conducted interactive outreach presentations to fourth grade classes in each elementary school on May 29 and May 30. The presentation focused on the deceitful advertising of tobacco

companies, the harmful effects of smoking, the toxic ingredients of a cigarette, myths of smoking and ways to remain smoke-free. In a show of solidarity, students wore their REBEL2 t-shirts.

- Attended the 2008 Newark Bears Drug Awareness Day on Thursday, May 22 at Riverfront Stadium.

- The following activities were held for School Violence Awareness Week (October 15-19, 2007):
 - presented in each seventh grade health class on October 16 regarding harassment / bullying.
 - assisted Ms. Hrubash coordinate the October 17th internet safety presentations by Detective Gould of the Essex County Prosecutor's Office in each Introduction to Computer Theory class.
- Celebrated Red Ribbon Week (October 23-31, 2007) through the following activities:
 - Coordinated the two presentations of *Jesse's Journey* on October 25, 2007. The presentations delivered a powerful and moving message that reached students and staff with the realities and consequences of substance abuse. Group discussions were held during lunch periods for students willing to process. The program was sponsored by the Nutley Municipal Alliance.
 - Decorated John H. Walker Middle School with red ribbons, posters, balloons, and banners.
 - Promoted and participated in the *Three Theme Days*:
 - Wear Red Day* – students wore red clothing to kick off Red Ribbon Week and to show their commitment to be drug-free.
 - Team Up Against Drugs Day* – students wore their favorite sports team clothing to team up for the fight against drugs.
 - Put a Cap on Drugs Day* – students wore a hat or visor to show their Red Ribbon Week spirit.
 - Distributed – “*Smarties Don't Use Drugs*” (Smarties), “*Don't Get Twisted into Drugs*” (Twizzlers), and “*Don't Be a Sucker for Drugs*” (Lollipops)” – to students participating in the *Three Theme Days*.
 - Teenagers from Newark Renaissance House spoke with seventh and eighth grade students during their physical education / health classes in the auditorium. These presentations focused on the consequences of teenage drug and alcohol use. Newark Renaissance House is a specialized therapeutic community designed to meet the unique needs of adolescents who are suffering from the affects of substance abuse.
 - The Nutley Municipal Alliance Committee sponsored a poster contest. The theme focused on highlighting the benefits of a lifestyle free of alcohol and drugs.
 - 1st Place – Yuko Okabe \$100 Visa gift card
 - 2nd Place – Dana Kutzleb \$50 Visa gift card
 - 3rd Place - Brianna Cataldo \$25 Visa gift card

- Observed the American Cancer Society's Great American Smokeout on November 15, 2007. This annual event held on the third Thursday in November encourages adults and young adults to remain smoke-free, and current smokers to quit. Members of STAND organized an anti-tobacco information table with pamphlets and exhibits in the cafeteria during each lunch period. Educational posters and banners were displayed to raise awareness of the harmful consequences of tobacco use. A tobacco fact was read over the PA system at the beginning of each period.
- Coordinated the May 1, 2008 seventh grade assembly on internet safety by Eddie Rivera, Informational Technology Specialist, of the Essex County Prosecutor's Office.
- Organized the Eighth Grade Wellness Day scheduled for Friday, June 13th. Due to inclement weather, Wellness Day was cancelled. Students were to attend the following workshops:

- 1) *Hip Hop Dancing* by Katharina Marks of Starlight Dance Center
- 2) *Transitions and Other Like Skills* by Victor Peterson of the Montclair Counseling Center
- 3) *Sun Safety* by Dan Geltrude of The Mike Geltrude Foundation
Nutrition by Allison Atkins, Science Teacher at Walker Middle School
- 4) *Self Defense* by Jerry Jones of Jerry Jones Ultimate Martial Arts
- 5) *Total Fitness* by Joe Ojeda of Xcel Fitness Studio

All of the presenters volunteered their services for the day.

- 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 alcohol awareness presentations in each eighth grade health class. The Nutley School District Substance Abuse Policy was also reviewed.
- 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. A resource booklet was developed to assist families access services.

- Acted as FMS liaison for the Department of Public Safety's **S.O.S. (Shovel Out Seniors) Program**. Students were assigned to shovel the front sidewalk and front door area of seniors' homes during inclement weather. Through this program, students were able to fulfill community service project hours.
- Volunteered to serve as a trained member of the Nutley Juvenile Justice Committee. The committee met as needed 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)*.
 - Attended monthly Essex County *ASAP* meetings.
 - Member of the planning subcommittee for the October 3, 2008 administrator conference entitled *The 3 Cs of Safe & Drug-Free Schools: Compliance, Compassion and Community*. The conference will address the following: the role of administrators regarding school safety, the Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials, and the regulations and implementation of random drug testing.
- 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*:
 - Bencivenne Institute for Behavioral Health, L.L.C. in Bloomfield
- Assisted in monitoring Central and Saturday detentions.
- Advisor for Walker Middle School's Ski and Snowboard Club. Four trips were taken in collaboration with the Nutley Department of Recreation.
 - December 21, 2007 – Shawnee Mountain
 - January 21, 2008 – Elk Mountain
 - February 15, 2008 – Shawnee Mountain
- Attended the following workshops:
 - *REBEL/REBEL2 School Advisor Training* by the Comprehensive Tobacco Control Program of New Jersey (CTCPNJ) on October 1, 2007.
 - *Facing the Challenges, Overcoming the Obstacles* by High Focus Centers on November 16, 2007. The conference focused on:
 - 1) Violent, Suicidal and Self-Harming Adolescents: A Collaborative Strength-Based Approach
 - 2) Addiction as a Brain Disease and Current Trends in Addiction

Medicine

- *Essex County Gang Awareness Training* by the NJ Department of Education on February 11, 2008.
- *Current Drug Trends* by the North Jersey Higher Education Consortium on Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention and Education on May 8, 2008.
- Attended the *World Against Violence Youth Conference* on May 16, 2008 at New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) with 11 seventh graders. The conference offered by the Essex County Prosecutor's Office and NJIT's PreCollege TriO Program focused on the following subjects:
 - a) Alcohol and Drug Awareness
 - b) Bullying - Peer Pressure
 - c) Internet Safety
 - d) The consequences of gun violence
- Community speaking engagements:
 - March 27, 2008 - Yantacaw Cub Scout Pack 141
Topic - harmful effects of tobacco use
 - April 17, 2008 – Nutley Junior Police Academy
Topic – alcohol awareness activity

Alisa Gennace
Student Assistance Coordinator

June 16, 2008

SAC Summary **2007-2008 School Year**

As the Student Assistance Coordinator of the Nutley Public Schools, my primary responsibility is to provide support services to students of Radcliffe Elementary School and Washington Elementary School. Students in all grade levels were provided services throughout the course of the 2007-2008 school year. Case management duties have included counseling and 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 for services were received from administrators, teachers, Child Study Team, parents, and myself.

The following list includes duties and activities throughout the 2007-2008 school year:

- Attended Nutley Township's Newcomer's Night
 - Distributed information to the community in reference to our Student Assistance Program.
- Member of Radcliffe School's Intervention and Referral Service Team.
- Coordinator of Washington School's Intervention and Referral Service Team.
- Created a power point presentation for the purpose of training the staff of Washington School in proper protocol for referring students to the Intervention and Referral Service team
 - Facilitated the lunch and learn workshop for the staff
- Member of the Student Assistance Coordinators' curriculum committee.
 - Committee members met throughout the school year.
 - A thematic resource guide was created for teachers in each elementary school to utilize as a reference of activities. The teachers should infuse these activities into their classrooms throughout the school year.
 - This resource guide was presented for consideration to the Nutley School District's Academic Committee.
- Attended "Not My Kid" presentation at Nutley High School.
- Member of the Gifted and Talented steering committee.
- Acted as a liaison between designated elementary schools and DYFS.
 - Accompanied students while they were interviewed by DYFS workers
 - Completed follow-up paper work for submission to DYFS

- Assisted in preparing and distributing quarterly editions of the Elementary Counseling Newsletter to students and staff.
 - The Newsletter is also posted on the Nutley Schools website.
- Club sponsor for Radcliffe School's Bully Blockers (peer mediation group).
 - Members are trained in peer mediation procedures
 - Members target problematic situation that occur on the playground and during lunchtime throughout the school year and brainstorm ways to resolve these issues.
 - Members rotate turns patrolling the playground during lunchtime recess in order to assist the younger students in conflict resolution.
- Facilitated a Social Skills group for Washington School students
- The following activities were held for School Violence Awareness and Red Ribbon Week (October 23-31, 2007):
 - A memo was distributed to all classroom teachers discussing the year's theme of "We Pledge to be Drug and Violence Free".
 - A packet of sample lessons and projects related to this theme was distributed to all teachers.
 - Prepared bulletin board displays of poster pledges created by each classroom that went along with the theme of "We Pledge to be Drug and Violence Free".
 - Presented a power point presentation to students in grades 4-6 on the subject of bullying and harassment.
 - Coordinated the *Three Theme Days: Wear Red Day, Put a Cap on Drugs Day and Team Up Against Drugs*.
 - Distributed "Say No to Drugs" wristbands to all students. Funding for this was provided by the Nutley Municipal Alliance.
- Served as a member of Nutley's Municipal Alliance Committee.
- Assisted in coordinating Nutley's Holiday Treasure Chest.
 - Identified families in need in each of my designated schools
 - Collected information from identified families
 - Notified families of pick up times and identification procedures
- Distributed donated Easter baskets to specified students at Washington School.
- Attended a Girl Scout meeting for Washington School's Troop 502.
 - Facilitated a presentation on respecting each other and being a good friend
- Facilitated lessons in third grade classes on getting along

- Led discussions with fourth and fifth grade girls on being kind to each other.
- Attended a professional seminar on 10/16 - East Orange General Hospital Crisis Intervention Unit presents: "Focusing on Children's Mental Health Issues".
- Attended a workshop on 10/19 at Sage Day – Understanding Cutting & Self-injurious Behavior in Children and Adolescents.
- Collaborated with Nancy Thunell (*SAC*) throughout the school year on various issues that arose in each of our schools.

Nancy Thunell
Student Assistance Coordinator

June 2, 2008

SAC Summary **2007-2008 School Year**

As the Student Assistance Coordinator of the Nutley Public Schools, my primary responsibility is to provide support services to students of Lincoln Elementary School and Spring Garden Elementary School. Case management duties have included counseling and 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 for services were received from administrators, teachers, Child Study Team, parents, and me.

The following list includes duties and activities throughout the 2007-2008 school year:

- Attended Nutley Township's Newcomer's Night
 - Distributed information to the community in reference to our Student Assistance Program.
- Member of Lincoln and Spring Garden's Intervention and Referral Service Team.
- Member of the Student Assistance Coordinators' curriculum committee.
 - Committee members met throughout the school year.
 - A thematic resource guide was created for teachers in each elementary school to utilize as a reference of activities. The teachers should infuse these activities into their classrooms throughout the school year.
 - This resource guide was presented for consideration to the Nutley School District's Academic Committee.
- Attended "Not My Kid" presentation at Nutley High School.
- Acted as a liaison between designated elementary schools and DYFS.
 - Accompanied students while they were interviewed by DYFS workers
 - Completed follow-up paper work for submission to DYFS
- Assisted in preparing and distributing quarterly editions of the Elementary Counseling Newsletter to students and staff.
 - The Newsletter is also posted on the Nutley Schools website.
- Club sponsor for Spring Garden Problem Solvers (peer mediation group).
 - Members are trained in peer mediation procedures
 - Members target problematic situations that occur on the playground and during lunchtime throughout the school year and brainstorm ways to resolve these issues. They write and rehearse skits with mediators in club dealing with such situations.

- The members role play in classrooms and field questions from younger students on handling these situations.
- Facilitated a Social Skills group for Lincoln School students
- Club Sponsor For Spring Garden Color A Smile Club
- Member of the "CHAMP" Community Health and Mentoring Program Committee, a community based program geared to providing an array of services to at-risk youth and families
- Member of the Juvenile Conference Committee trained and appointed by the Essex County Courts. The committee met on a monthly basis to hear cases of first time juvenile offenders.
- The following activities were held for School Violence Awareness and Red Ribbon Week (October 23-31, 2007):
 - A memo was distributed to all classroom teachers discussing the year's theme of "We Pledge to be Drug and Violence Free".
 - A packet of sample lessons and projects related to this theme was distributed to all teachers.
 - Prepared bulletin board displays of poster pledges created by each classroom that went along with the theme of "We Pledge to be Drug and Violence Free".
 - Presented a PowerPoint presentation to students in grades 4-6 on the subject of bullying and harassment.
 - Coordinated the *Three Theme Days: Wear Red Day, Put a Cap on Drugs Day and Team Up Against Drugs*.
 - Distributed "Say No to Drugs" wristbands to all students. Funding for this was provided by the Municipal Alliance.
- Served as a member of Nutley's Municipal Alliance Committee.
- Coordinated Thanksgiving meals for families in need with Geltrude & Company
- Nutley's Holiday Treasure Chest Committee member
 - Identified families in need in each of the designated schools
 - Collected information from identified families
 - Notified families of pick up times and identification procedures
- Distributed donated Easter baskets to specified students at Lincoln School, made by Girl Scout Troops at Lincoln School.
- Attended a Girl Scout meeting for Washington School's Troop 502 with Alisa Gennace.
 - Participated in presentation on respecting each other and being a good friend

- Facilitated lessons at request of teachers dealing with conflict resolution
- Attended a professional seminar on 10/16 - East Orange General Hospital Crisis Intervention Unit presents: "Focusing on Children's Mental Health Issues".
- Attended a workshop on 10/19 at Sage Day – Understanding Cutting & Self-injurious Behavior in Children and Adolescents.
- Collaborated with Alisa Gennace (*SAC*) throughout the school year on various issues that arose in each of our schools.

GIFTED AND TALENTED

Academically Gifted and Talented Program
Nutley Public Schools
2007-08 Overview

Identified Program

Oct./Nov. - 57 students in Grades 3 and 4 were identified out of 106 tested.

Jan. 8 – Parent orientation

Jan. - GT program began with identified students meeting with the GT teacher twice a week for 40 minutes each meeting. The purpose of the classes were to give students the opportunity to study a topic of interest above and beyond the regular curriculum, as well as to interact with students of similar ability.

Jan. – May – Courses continue for GT students twice a week.

May/June – Identification process for students who will be in Grades 3,4 and 5 next year.

Recommendations for next year

- 1) Expand the Identified Program to include Grades 3, 4, and 5
- 2) Offer two semesters of courses; Sept.-Jan. and Feb.-May

Enrichment Program

Oct.- Nov. – Forensics Interpretive Reading Program was offered to all students in Grades 5 and 6. Approximately 80 students district-wide participated in school tournaments. The Nutley District team won second place in the Essex County Tournament. Individual students won first, third, and fourth place.

Nov.-Jan. – Law Fair was offered to all students in Grades 3 and 4. Approximately 120 students district-wide participated, writing original cases to be submitted to the NJ State Bar Association. All students performed in mock trials at their schools. Two 3rd Grade cases won Honorable Mention in the state competition. On May 1, the winning students will perform their cases at the NJ Law Center in New Brunswick.

Jan-Feb. – Challenge 24 Math was offered to all students in Grades 5 and 6. Approximately 130 students district-wide participated at the school level. Six students were selected to attend the Essex County Challenge 24 Tournament.

March – 12 students in Grades 5 and 6 were selected to be members of the Nutley Academically Speaking teams. After practicing together, the two teams will compete at the county level against other districts, on Wed. evenings during April and May.

April/May – Debate was offered to all students in Grades 5 and 6. School Debate teams will participate in the Nutley District Debate to be held on Friday, May 9, at 9:30AM at Spring Garden School. After debating against each other, eight students will be selected to attend the Essex County Debate at MSU on May 16.

Recommendations for next year

- 1) Philosophy
- 2) Knowledge Master Open

In- Class Support

Lessons were offered to students at a variety of grade levels. The objectives of the lessons were to:

- 1) Support academic goals related to core curricular standards and standardized testing.
- 2) Introduce enrichment activities with a demo lesson.
- 3) Pilot primary thinking skills programs.

Recommendations for next year

Work with the classroom teachers to develop lessons and activities in which the GT teacher and the classroom teacher can work together to offer special projects that relate to the curriculum.