

ANNUAL REPORT  
TO THE  
NUTLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY  
SCHOOL YEAR 2009/2010

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**TO THE**  
**NUTLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY**  
**SCHOOL YEAR – 2009/2010**

**NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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Mr. David Sorensen	Yantacaw School
Mr. Paul Palozzola	Director of Special Services

# **NUTLEY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

## **Nutley, New Jersey**

**August 23, 2010**

**Members of the Board of Education:**

The 2009/2010 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 Scholarship Program
- 2010 AP Scholar Awards
- 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:**

- The Girls Cross Country team won the SEC Liberty Division Tournament
- Crew team won the Northern NJ Rowing Championship -Men's Varsity 8; Women's Varsity 4; and Women's Lightweight 4
- Boys Bowling team, Boys Track team and the Cheerleading Squad won First SEC Championship
- Girls Varsity Softball Team won the North 2 Group 3 SEC
  - Coach Gerald Ryan was awarded Worrall Publication's North Jersey Girls Cross Country Co-Coach of the year
  - Coach Luann Zullo was named Star Ledger State Coach of the Year.

### **Music Awards:**

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

The Nutley School District was designated one of the Best 100 Districts for Music Education in all of America for the third year in a row.



- The Jazz Labs A&B performed at the Jazz Concert at “Trumpets” in Montclair
- NHS Raider Band won first place trophies at three Marching Band competitions plus first place in the USSBA Northeast Championships
- All North Jersey Region I Concert Band Competition:
  - Concert Band -Silver Medal
  - Wind Ensemble -Gold Medal
- Jazz Band placed fifth in the NJ All State Jazz Band Competition
- Music in the Parks Competition:
  - Orchestra and Concert Band received a first place trophy
  - Wind Ensemble and Jazz Band received a first place trophy
- In the Parks Competition in Sandusky, Ohio, the orchestra received a first place trophy in the Orchestra Division
- At the Music in the Parks Competition, the Choralettes received a second place trophy and Concert Choir a first place trophy
- The Concert Choir performed at the NHS Yuletide Concert; Concert at St Mary’s; NHS Spring Music Festival; 9/11 Memorial Service and Veterans Day
- Five Concert Choir students have been selected to the 2010 NJ All State Chorus: Nicole Costa, Alexandra Gaynor, Karl Gilbert, David Joeng and Matthew O’Donnell
- “Into the Woods” – NHS Spring Musical, directed by Michael Cundari was featured in the September issue of the New Jersey Monthly Magazine

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 94 percent of students will be going on to higher education and that they have been offered a total of \$1,894,830 in scholarship awards. Our graduates continue to attend a diverse array of quality academic institutions throughout the nation.

**Curriculum Development occurred in all content areas aligning the District with New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards**

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

- Affirmative Action
- I&RS Workshop
- ITIP, Professional Development & EAN Workshop
- Multimedia Software Workshop
- 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
- 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 Special Education Program
- Alcohol/Tobacco/Drugs

As we begin the 2010/2011 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 2010**  
**August 4, 2010**

ENROLLMENT.....	344	
TOTAL APPLICANTS PURSUING HIGHER EDUCATION.....	325	
<b>% OF CLASS OF 2010</b>		
GOING ON TO POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION.....	94%	
Four-Year College/University.....	253	(73.5%)
Two-Year College.....	53	(15.4%)
Other Post-Secondary School.....	19	( 5.5%)
Military.....	2	( .6%)
Full-Time Employment.....	10	( 2.9%)
Undecided.....	7	( 2%)

**REPORT ON SCHOLASTIC AWARDS**  
**NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT**  
**CLASS OF 2010**

SCHOLARSHIPS	\$1,643,930	
GRANTS	250,900	
		\$1,894,830
OFFERS ACCEPTED	\$1,112,730	
OFFERS DECLINED	782,100	
		\$1,894,830

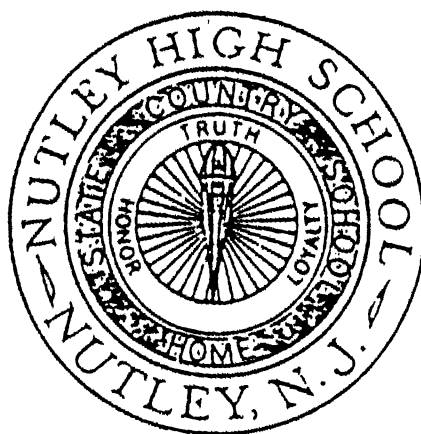
## CONTENTS

NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL REPORT.....	1 - 82
J.H. WALKER MIDDLE SCHOOL REPORT.....	83 -128
LINCOLN SCHOOL REPORT.....	129 -149
RADCLIFFE SCHOOL REPORT.....	150 -160
SPRING GARDEN SCHOOL REPORT.....	161 - 178
WASHINGTON SCHOOL REPORT.....	179 - 191
YANTACAW SCHOOL REPORT.....	192 - 204
SPECIAL SERVICES REPORT.....	205 - 205
STUDENT ASSISTANCE COUNSELORS.....	206 - 219
GIFTED AND TALENTED.....	220 - 221
SIXTH GRADE TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION.....	222 - 223

## **NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL**



# NUTLEY HIGH SCHOOL



**2009 – 2010**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

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

**CONTENTS**

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

**GUIDANCE**

**BUSINESS AND CREATIVE ARTS**

**ENGLISH**

**MATHEMATICS**

**MUSIC**

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

**SCIENCE**

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

**WORLD LANGUAGES**

**ATHLETICS**

**LIBRARY**

**MEDIA**

**SCHOOL-TO-CAREER PROGRAM**

**SAC COORDINATOR**

## PRINCIPAL'S ANNUAL REPORT 2009~2010

As the 2009-2010 school year comes to an end, I want to express my sincere thanks to Mr. Zarra, Superintendent of Schools, for his leadership as well as the Nutley Board of Education for their support of our school and our students. Also, our high school administrators, faculty, and support staff must be acknowledged for their dedication and commitment to our students.

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

We are very proud of our students and their accomplishments in many areas. They have distinguished themselves in academics, the arts, athletics, student activities, and community service. These accomplishments are a very positive reflection of the great working relationship and partnership that exists between the superintendent, board of education, administration, teachers, staff, parents, and the community. They have all contributed and share in the success of our students.

The year ended on a high note with a graduation program that was viewed by many as a wonderful ceremony that showcased the accomplished type of student we are producing in the Nutley Public Schools. Project Graduation was held at the Montclair State University Rec. & Fitness Center. Two hundred and nine students participated and enjoyed an evening of swimming, volleyball, 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 has been recognized for their own accomplishments in education.

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

- Internally, each English classroom has been equipped with LCD projectors and white boards. There are three remaining classrooms that still need this equipment. This project was funded by the Nutley Educational Foundation.
- Many of our students were honored for their academic and athletic accomplishments. Thirteen students were named Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars, three were named National Merit Commended Scholars, one was named National Merit Finalists, and seven were named AP Scholars. Additionally, our partnership with UMDNJ, Seton Hall, and Montclair State University continues to offer our students and staff outstanding educational opportunities. Vocational and 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 school year in the evening and zero period, as well as during the summer Princeton Review. A SAT class was offered to juniors and seniors for the 2009-2010 school year. Our SAT scores are consistent with the state and national averages for all percentiles. The seventy-fifth percentile scored 540 in critical reading, 550 in writing, and 560 in math; and the mean score was 496 in critical reading, 496 in writing, and 513 in math.
- In the area of state mandated testing, out of our general student population of two hundred and sixty-nine, 98.14% passed the Language Arts Literacy and 89.96% passed the Mathematics portion of the HSPA. Out of our total student population of three hundred twelve, 93.59% passed the Language Arts Literacy and 81.73% passed the Mathematics portion of the HSPA. We made safe harbor for both Language Arts and Mathematics. An action plan was developed to address those students in need of remediation. A “zero” period and specific junior math course that meets the HSPA requirements is being redesigned and will be implemented again in the fall. All graduating seniors in the Class of 2010 successfully passed the HSPA and/or ASHA. Our NJ Pass results show that our sophomores achieved average/above average in reading, language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies. In the same disciplines, the freshmen scores illustrate positive indicators of our students’ scholastic growth.
- The World Language staff is extremely proud of the success and achievements of many of our students who have distinguished themselves in various aspects of the foreign language experience. Our Latin classes participated in the National/International Latin Exam. Many of our students received recognition of gold and silver medals, as well as certificates of merit.
- Students from the Creative Arts and Business Departments were the recipients of numerous awards including the annual Rotary Art Competition, Representative Bill Pascrell’s U.S. House of Representatives “An Artistic Discovery” art competition (1<sup>st</sup> place), Fairleigh Dickenson Business Idea Competition (1<sup>st</sup> place), TEACH@15 Award, and Doodle 4 Google (state finalist).
- Our AP Biology students traveled to Sedge Island Natural Resource Educational Center located within New Jersey’s first Marine Conservation zone. The three day workshop gave students the opportunity to explore both the natural and cultural history of the region using hands-on methods that included marsh walks, kayak tours, fishing, crabbing, and clamming techniques. Further investigation of the marine environment was done using nets, microscopes, and field guides.
- The Social Studies Department continued their community outreach with projects and programs designed to address the veterans of foreign wars, voter registration, mock election, political debate, Black History Month, Women’s History Month, and the Holocaust and Genocide Education. Additionally, our elected officials on a local, state, and national level were invited to Nutley High School as guest speakers.
- Our students’ educational experiences have included domestic and international travel. Our choir performed in various historic venues throughout Paris, France. Our orchestra performed at Carnegie Hall in New York City. 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, plus first place in the USSBA Northeast Championships. Our Raider Marching Band has never won first place before at the championships. The highlight of the year was all the awards received by our department. At the All North Jersey Region I Concert Band Competition, which the NHS Music Department hosted, the Concert Band earned a Silver Medal and Wind Ensemble earned a Gold. Our Jazz Band placed fifth in the NJ All State Jazz Band Competition. At the Music In The Parks Competition, the Orchestra and Concert Band received a first place trophy. The Wind Ensemble and Jazz Band received a first place trophy with a superior rating plus an additional trophy for being the best Wind Ensemble and Best Jazz Band of the competition. For the third year in a row, the Nutley School District was designated one of the Best 100 Districts for Music Education in the United States.

- The Class of 2010 has received acceptances from some of the top universities in our nation. Post high school plans: 73.8% four year college; 15.5 % two year college; 1.7 other schools; 3.2% career education/apprenticeship program; 0.3% military; 2.9% employment; and 2.6% undecided/unknown.
- There were 889 athletes competing in forty-six varsity and sub-varsity sports during the year. The Football, Cross Country Team, Boys and Girls Soccer Teams, Girls Tennis Team, Girls Volleyball Team, Boys Bowling Team, Wrestling Team, Ice Hockey Team, Baseball and Softball Teams, Lacrosse Team, Track Team and Boys Tennis Team all qualified and competed in the NJSIAA State Tournament, and the Crew team performed on a National level, as well as winning the North Jersey Rowing Championship. The Girls Cross Country Team won the SEC Liberty Division Tournament. The Boys Bowling team, Boys Track Team, and the Cheerleading Squad won the first SEC Championship. The Boy's Bowling Team won its third straight North 2 Group 3 Title and the Softball Team also won a North 2 Group 3 title advancing to the Group 3 finals for the first time since 1995. The wrestling team sent two wrestlers to the State Tournament in Atlantic City, the Track team had numerous county and state qualifiers and we had various All League, County, and All State recipients. Ms. Luann Zullo was named Star Ledger State coach of the year.

A random drug testing program was conducted by the administration. Students participating in athletics and extra-curricular activities were randomly screened in the nurse's office this year. 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. Some of the most widely attended student activities included: a blood drive, Toys for Tots holiday program, Baby Ana Victoria – "Gift of Life", and Relay for Life.



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, career/job readiness, and a financial literacy education program. Some of the most relevant programs at Nutley High School included 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”
- Steven Benvenisti – “The Most Important Case of My Entire Career”
- Wake Up Parents!
- Cyberbullying Workshop
- Safe Homes
- Teen Dating Abuse Program
- Staff In-service and Training

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**

**2009-2010 ANNUAL REPORT**

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>STUDENTS ENROLLED</u>
9	348
10	291
11	309
12	<u>350</u>
	1298

**STAFF**

Classroom Teachers	84
Administrators	3
Athletic Director	1
Guidance Personnel	6
Department Coordinators/Chairpersons	7
Lead Teacher	1
AV Coordinator	1
Librarian	1
Nurse	1
Special Education Teachers	10
School-To-Career Transition Coordinator	1
Student Assistance Coordinator	1
Computer Network Coordinator	1
Computer Network Technicians	3
Permanent Subs	5

**ANNUAL REPORT  
2009-10  
GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT  
Jill Divilio, Lead Counselor**

**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, NJ PASS, 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 2009-10 school year:

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

- Workshop – Boston College & Dartmouth
- Workshop – UMDNJ Admissions Process for Joint Degree Programs & Tour
- Workshop – Kean University
- Workshop – William Paterson University
- Workshop – University of Connecticut
- Workshop – Fairleigh Dickinson University & EOF Presentation
- Workshop – Suicide Prevention Presentation and Discussion - “Sticks & Stones”
- Workshop – School Law session on ethics and legal obligations presented by Tom Johnston of Porzio, Bromberg & Newman
- Counselor Breakfast – Brown, MIT, & Yale
- Counselor Breakfast – U Mass Amherst
- Conference – New York University
- NJIT - “Engineering Career Day”
- NJ Association of College Admission Counselors – “How to Host a Successful On-site Admissions Event”
- NJ Association of College Admission Counselors – “How to Develop a College List for Students Who Don’t Know What They Want”
- Instant Decision Days at NHS – Kean University, William Paterson University, Caldwell College, Fairleigh Dickinson University, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Rutgers University (Newark), Felician College, New Jersey City University, Seton Hall University, Essex County College
- Essex County School Counselor Association Meetings – Berkeley College

#### **College Visits/Tours**

Spring 2010 Guidance Counselor Tour of Rhode Island – (5 day tour) New England Institute of Technology, University of Rhode Island, Salve Regina University, Providence College, Bryant University, Johnson & Whales University, Roger Williams University, Brown University

#### **Other**

Curriculum Development and Presentation to the Board of Education  
 Graduate study & Doctoral dissertation work  
 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  
 Standardized testing  
 ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery)  
 Freshman Orientation, Class of 2014  
 Board of Education Academic Awards Presentations  
 Senior Scholastic Awards Program and reception  
 Naviance – Guidance Information Management System  
 Planning Your Future – Power Point Presentation, college admission process  
 Newsletter – five issues  
 Supervisor – Full year – Guidance intern, Montclair State University  
 Supervisor – Half year – Guidance intern, Montclair State University

### **NAVIANCE**

The Guidance Department continues to expand the use of Naviance, an internet-based student information system. The system is used as a college and career search tool, and counselors continue to introduce students to the career and personality assessment module, "Do What You Are." The information gathered will be used to assist with career and college planning. This year we expanded the use within the office and use the data base to generate reports on college acceptances, career plans, and awarded scholarships. In an attempt to reduce the paper used within the department we added links in Naviance to assist with the junior conferences and allow us to provide students and parents with important information and website links.

### **Distinctions – Class of 2010**

- College Board National Merit Scholarship Program:
  - Finalists: 1
  - Commended Students: 3
- College Board Advanced Placement Scholars: 7
- Garden State Scholarship Program
  - Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars: 13



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

**BUSINESS & CREATIVE ARTS DEPARTMENT**

**George M. Ackerman  
Coordinator  
Business & Creative Arts**

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

**May 27, 2010**

**TO: Mr. Gregory Catrambone**  
**FROM: Mr. George M. Ackerman**  
**RE: Annual Report 2009-2010 School Year**

The following activities summary/highlights of the Academic Year, 2009-2010 are being submitted for your review.

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

Various members of this department were involved in workshops and professional day visitations, including, but not limited to: Financial Literacy Workshop, Cablevision Access Cable Training Workshop, Rider University Pass Program Teacher Seminar, College Board Studio Art AP Conference, Art Educators of New Jersey Annual Conference, Cisco Network Academy Professional Development Workshop, (YTTW) Stage Technicians Consortium Meetings, 24<sup>th</sup> Annual NJTEA Conference & Expo 2010, NJ Educational Computer Cooperative Workshop, NJTEA Fall Northern Area Meeting and Workshop STEM Connections. Staff also furthered their education by attending classes at local post-secondary institutions such as: Kean University, Montclair State University, NJ City University, and Rowan University.

**2. FIELD TRIPS**

Classes and clubs visited various sites this year including FBLA Pep Rally Business Week at Great Adventure, DeVry University, Turtle Back Zoo, PDN Photography Show, Bronx Zoo, Yantacaw School, John H. Walker Middle School, NY Trade Show, International Business Practice Firm Trade Show at the Javits Center, NJ Key Club Fall Pep Rally at Great Adventure, The Guggenheim Museum, New York Metropolitan Museum, and the Nutley Public Library.

### **3. GUEST SPEAKERS**

Trade and Technical schools such as Art Institute/Rhode Island School of Design, The Pennsylvania Art Institute, representative from The March of Dimes, Danielle Mark from DeVry University, Johnson & Whales University, Mr. Fred Gianfrancesco, owner, Bell Paese Pizzeria, and Peter Busacca, YTTW Grant Coordinator from the Stage Technicians Union sent representatives to speak to our students about their school and careers in related fields.

NBC News Producer- Roberta Spring, U-Miami Student Graduate BA Broadcast Communication, Nutley former TV/Broadcasting student-Denis Atlic, Sports Agent and Nutley Alumnus Jimmy Murray.

Mr. Christadore brought it many speakers from various fields including but not limited to: County prosecutor's office, CPA firms, and sports marketing corporations.

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

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

The staff participated in the following school and community service projects: served as members of the Faculty Senate, member of the Vocational and School-to-Work Advisory Committee, Coordinator – Intervention & Referral Services, Class Advisors for Senior and Freshman Classes, Head Coach Boys and Girls Varsity and JV Bowling Teams, Head Coach Girl's Varsity Soccer Team, designed and produced Awards Certificates for various School Departments, Art Club Advisor, Photography Club Advisor, Video Production Club Advisor, FBLA Club Advisor, and Key Club Co-Advisor. In addition staff were members of the Professional Development Committee and all members of the Department were members of the QSAC Curriculum Revision Committee.

The Business and Creative Arts Department and its student population produced numerous school visuals (Webcasts, Public Service Announcements, bulletin boards, administrative signs, program covers, business cards, assemblies banners, spirit week banners, yearbook, honor society book, etc.), town visuals (festivals, parades, etc.), various pieces of art work, Fundraisers (March of Dimes, Relay for Life, Skills USA, Community Food Drive, Boys for Tots, UNICEF, Red Cross Blood Drive), yearbook pictures, taught in Nutley's C.A.T. program, Let's Learn, and produced Arts Fest "10".



Our Digital Photography II again partnered with students from one of our Elementary Schools (Yantacaw School) to produced flip page picture books featuring student images which can be interchanged.

The Culinary Staff and students catered many activities for both the school and community including but not limited to: Annual Staff Bar-B- Q, Career Advisory Council Luncheons, Junior Formal, Class Ring Breakfast, Breakfast for distinguished visitors to the school, dinners for numerous club/class activities, etc. Mr. Huggins also taught adult Healthy Living Culinary Classes for Community members.

## **5. AWARDS / SCHOLARSHIPS**

Students from the Creative Arts Department were the recipients of numerous awards including Annual Rotary Art Competition, Representative Bill Pascrell's U.S. House of Representatives "An Artistic Discovery" Art Competition (1<sup>st</sup> place by Inae Rurup, traditional, and Justin Francisco, non-traditional), Farleigh Dickinson Business Idea Competition (1<sup>st</sup> place Tori Fazio), TEACH @15 Award, and Doodle 4 Google (NJ State Finalist Julianna Boniello), Nutley Chamber of Commerce 5K Fun Run race logo.

Scholarships were awarded in varying amounts to our Art and Business students from many institutions.

Our newly re-created FBLA Club awarded a \$100 Best Buy Card in the category of Most Successful Business. Our Digital Photography students won TEACH @15 contest and were awarded with a \$1500 Best Buy Card.

Seniors in our TV/Radio Production classes earned 3 credits from Rider University PASS program. Two students were recognized by the Public Affairs Department for their video documentary "Mayor Cocchiola's Weight Loss Challenge"

Scholarships were also awarded in varying amounts to students in the Trade and Technical Program including Gisela Widersich Academic Booster Club, UNICO, Israel & Celia Sonenshein Memorial Award, and Nutley Rotary.

## **6. STAFF**

At the High School the Creative Arts Department is composed of one Department Coordinator (Residential Architectural Design), two Culinary Arts instructors (Culinary Arts, Adv Culinary Arts, Culinary Arts IS), two Art instructors (Art Fundamentals, Art I, II, Advanced, AP Studio Art), two Photography instructors (Digital Photography I, Advanced Digital Photography) and two Technology instructors ( Woodworking,

Carpentry, Furniture Fabrication, Metalworking, Metal Fabrication, and Advanced Metalworking, Electricity, Electronics, and Advanced Electronics).

Business Education courses offered and taught by our six certified Business instructors are: Computer Applications, Computer Applications SE, Business Law, Sports Marketing, AP Accounting, Web Design, International Business Practice Firm, and Personal Finance.

We have one staff member teaching our CISCO sequence (IT Essentials, Cisco I, and Cisco II) and one staff member teaching our Broadcasting sequence (Radio/TV Broadcast Technology I, Radio/TV Broadcast Technology II, and Radio/TV Broadcast Technology III).

The High School Art Department was responsible for one student teacher from Montclair State University.

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

Our number one short term goal is to successfully implement our new state mandated half year Financial Literacy course during the 2010-2011 school year and to provide a smooth transition from full year Computer Applications to half year offering and eventually a viable full year Advanced Computer Applications offering.

Digital photography is currently one of the most popular course offerings in the school. New equipment, in particular digital cameras, is needed to afford each student the opportunity to fully experience all this course has to offer. In the future we would also like to offer half year digital photography classes in animation and computer graphics.

In our Computer Applications classes students are instructed in acceptable formats for reports (MLA) and presentations. It is our goal for all Departments to adopt and require students to use these formats.

To improve the overall appearance and ensure a safe working environment of the multi-purpose wood/metal room (A121) machinery needs to be repaired. In some cases this requires outside trained repairmen. In some cases this requires parts purchased and installed by our teachers.

In order to take our Cisco Classes to the next level, Room A125 would need to have their own dedicated server and access to the internet.

## 8. GOAL(S) LONG RANGE

To increase student (male and female) awareness, interest, and enrollment in Business and Creative Arts Courses at the High School level in particular Cisco and Mechanical Drawing classes.

During the 2009-2010 school year the Business and Creative Arts Department worked tirelessly on the Quality Single Accountability Continuum (QSAC) Curriculum review, revision, and alignment. This task provided the opportunity for our staff from all grade levels to meet, interact, review existing curriculum, and coordinate curriculum. Judging by the success of this effort, future inter-department meetings can become a regular practice.

This year the Simple Assessment Test for student technology literacy was administered to our 8<sup>th</sup> grade Keyboarding classes. The results were reviewed and will affect future modifications in our curriculum.

The Business Education Department offered International Business Practice Firm for the first time this year. This offering proved to be a success. Mr. Fred Gianfrancesco of Bell Paese Pizzeria acted as our mentor and provided real life business experiences. It is our hope that this class meets continued success.

It is imperative that we continue to monitor our curriculum in order to remain consistent with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards.

## 8. NOTEWORTHY

Inventor was successfully integrated into our Technical Design classes. Increased use of Inventor and Solid Works in conjunction with our Dimension 3-D modeling machine has made these programs integral parts of our curriculum.

Mrs. Cindy Bravaco joined our staff this year as a Computer Applications teacher and has proven to be a valuable addition to our staff. Her work during Articulation Day committee meetings, and on her own time, in particular, the development of our new Financial Literacy curriculum, will benefit students for years to come. In addition, Mrs. Bravaco has resurrected our FBLA club, and, now is one of the most active clubs in the school.

## 9. CONCERNS

Maintenance of Woods/Metals area by staff members on a daily and weekly basis is

needed in order to protect and preserve our very expensive equipment and to insure student safety.

Due to the retirement of Denise Cleary from the Middle School, we will be supplying a staff member to teach 7<sup>th</sup> grade Computer Applications next year. This is a very important class that must be staffed. Unfortunately this situation puts a burden on our Business Education Department at the High School by eliminating two Computer Application teaching slots.

#### **10. MADLINE HUNTER**

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

#### **11. ARTS FEST "2010"**

On May 13, 2010 the Creative Arts Department set-up and displayed hundreds of examples of our student's creative, talented works. The display, returned to the High School for the first time last year was again set up in the School Lobby. The Arts Fest was open during the school hours and received visitors from Ms. Hill's John H. Walker's Middle School Art Classes. We re-opened again during the evening hours immediately before during intermission at the annual Music Festival to afford parents and the community an opportunity to attend this wonderful exhibit. Enthusiasm by the participants, staff, and visitors was evident. Attendance by both parents and students in the evening was encouraging. This proved to be a very rewarding experience for both the staff and student exhibitors. Anyone who missed this exhibit truly missed a wonderful presentation. On Friday, May 14, the exhibit re-opened for the students of Nutley High School. Hopefully next year we can arrange for the Elementary Schools to visit. I suggest that next year the show day and hours again be expanded and coordinated with the Elementary Schools and transportation department to afford the 6<sup>th</sup> students the opportunity to view our displays. This would not only increase our exposure but also serve as a feeder for our program. We have, and continue to, grow in size every year. With Mr. Catrambone's approval, we will be moving our exhibit to the gymnasium next year in hopes of putting more of our student's amazing Art Work on display.

## 2010 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 269 general education students who took the HSPA in March 2010. Our passing score was 98.14%.

The NJ PASS 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.

## B. Literature Requirements

Students are required to read a fiction or non-fiction book each marking period as part of the supplemental reading program. Literary circles have been successful in enhancing independent reading. Students are given a summer reading list and asked to read three books during their vacation. Students are asked to demonstrate their knowledge of these books when they return in September.

## C. Basic Skills Reading/Writing

There were nine classes of basic skills reading and writing classes this year. Classes were comprised of students that did not pass the NJ ASK as eighth graders in the spring of 2009, and ninth and tenth grade students who did not pass the NJ Pass administered to all freshmen and sophomores. Students entering our school who had not taken the NJ ASK and who had not met the standard in the testing at their former school were also placed in the basic skills class.

Students either take a final exam for this course or complete a final writing project, which gives the students an opportunity to select, revise, and edit their favorite piece of writing for a class publication. This end of the year project enables students to see their work in print and to share their work with students in the entire basic skills program.

# III. English Electives

## A. Journalism Program

Nine issues of the school newspaper, *The Maroon and Gray*, ranging from 4 to 16 pages, were produced. All issues were written and prepared in class, using In Design for desktop publishing, Photoshop, and other peripheral programs, including scanning and special graphics software. Photography was either digital or scanned photos, all taken and processed by students. All issues were sent, camera-ready, to an outside printer and distributed in homeroom by the students.

Journalism I students learned the principles of journalistic writing, layout and design and computer operation, along with software applications.

The text *Scholastic Journalism*, English & Hach was supplemented with *The Star Ledger*, *Nutley Sun*, and other regional publications. Newspaper Writing I and II students designed and executed pages for all departments of the newspaper.

#### 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 2009-2010 school year and shared information and new ideas with members of the department. Our main concern this year was the revision of the language arts curriculum, which was accomplished at monthly articulation days from September 2009 to March 2010. A presentation to the Board of Education was done on May 24, 2010, at the regular BOE meeting.

**Marilyn Testa** continued with a third year of the Future Educators of America. A number of projects were accomplished including regular meetings, fundraisers, field trips, a book drive, Toys for Tots book collection, Project Help, 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** and **Diane La Pierre** continued the 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 another all-color yearbook at Nutley High School. The students were enthusiastic and worked diligently under their direction and guidance.

**Laura Reilly** had a second successful year as the advisor of the school newspaper, *The Maroon and Gray*. The newspaper staff published nine issues throughout the year. This student-produced publication has been well received by the entire student body and has generated interest in many school activities.

## VI. Book Management and Secretarial Duties

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.

Other important duties include preparing purchase orders, budget preparation, copies for elementary lunch and learn and NJ ASK training, copy machine issues, supply orders, and assisting teachers with the daily concerns of the English department.



## 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 regard to the instruction of the writing process and the creation of new electives. There was some progress made in this area with one additional teacher added this year. Unfortunately this year, we are losing that position due to a retirement that is not being replaced. This large class size also has an impact on the English Inclusion classes that are striving to accomplish the skills necessary for the HSPA preparation. The recommended national class size should be no larger than 22. In many cases, we have classes closer to 30 or more students. We accomplished our goal for the 2010 HSPA and would like to move toward making AYP in 2011.

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 and student learning remains a concern for the department. This may be realized when the school based professional development committees meet next year.

Each classroom on the third floor has been equipped with LCD projectors and white boards. The remaining classrooms that still need this equipment are rooms 311 and 315. Room A321 (home of *The Maroon and Gray*) needs the same equipment as A325 (the yearbook room) that has a Smart board with an LCD projector. This will enhance the production of the school newspaper. Rooms A331 and 307 have been used for self-contained special education classes. These rooms also need the LCD projectors and white boards. It is imperative that the special education classes receive the same level of instruction that the regular English classes in order to reach our goal of AYP in 2011. Therefore, using technology of the 21<sup>st</sup> century will promote student achievement.



TO: Mr. Gregory Catrambone  
FROM: Toby D'Ambola  
Subject: Annual Report – Mathematics Department, High School  
Date: June 1, 2010

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 2010, the average class size was 21.6 in the regular classes, which was the same as last year's class average. There was an average of 18 students in the basic skills classes.
- B. This year Mrs. Turro was transferred from the middle school to the high school math department.

II. Testing

- A. The math portion of the High School Proficiency Assessment was administered on March 2nd. A preparation program, implemented in early September, was carefully designed to provide practice in solving HSPA type problems and to familiarize students with the actual test format. Teacher prepared materials, publisher workbooks, and a practice test given to us by the State of New Jersey, 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 by having them attend a zero period, HSPA Prep class from January through March. 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 to be administered in October. Once the retest is completed, all students will continue to attend the morning HSPA class until December when results will be sent to us. Those students who are not successful will then be required to go through the AHSA process that will be administered in January. Also those students not successful on the October assessment will be retested one more time in March. This year's success rate for all students was 81.73%, an increase of 7.76% from last year. General education students' rate went from 85.34% to 89.96% this year.
- B. This year the NJ Pass assessment was administered to all ninth and tenth graders from March 3<sup>rd</sup> to March 6<sup>th</sup> in order to satisfy standardized testing requirements mandated by the state. Results of these tests will be used to identify students who are at risk of failing the eleventh grade HSPA. Students who fall below the MLP for mathematics will be placed in a remediation program. In addition, results will also be used to test students out of the

Basic Skills improvement program. This year we had one Basic 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 2009. Ms. Martin, Mrs. Drexler and Ms. Mabel were the instructors and did an excellent job in preparing our students to retake the state assessment, which was given during the week of October 6th. This year's enrollment was 48 seniors compared to last year's enrollment of 37 students. Based on the retest results, it indicated that 34 of the 48 seniors tested were successful. The remaining14 seniors continued to attend the zero period remediation class until they went through the AHSA process administered in January. These seniors were also tested a third time in March of this school year. All seniors this year satisfied the state requirement by either passing the HSPA or the AHSA.
- D. For the first time an EOC assessment in Algebra I was administered on May 24<sup>th</sup>. Results will not be known until July.
- E. 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 of the day, a math teacher provides individualized instruction for those students who are in need of help to improve their understanding of the concepts of mathematics.
- B. In order to implement current recommendations for increased use of calculator technology in the classroom, and to satisfy state requirements, 200 additional Casio 300 ES scientific calculators were purchased this year. Calculators are 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 available to all students in our AP Calculus, PreCalculus, Advanced Math and Accelerated Algebra II classes. At the request of Seton Hall University, calculators were not issued to students in the Calculus Honors class.
- C. The SAT preparation program continues to serve our students preparing to enter college. Jessica Mabel taught two evening sessions while Takisha Sanchez instructed the morning sessions. Seniors attend this course in the fall semester while juniors attend it in the spring. Tests from previous years

were used providing practice for the students in test taking skills. The course also offered a review of key concepts in mathematics.

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 prior year showed that 89% of the class of 2009 took the SAT and showed a mean mathematics score of 504. This score compares to 500 for the class of 2008 and 516 for the class of 2007. The current state average for this test is 513. More importantly the top 75% of the graduating class, those students who will most likely attend a 4-year college, had a mean score of 560.

- D. This year Mark Picard and Don Manfria each mentored a junior practicum student. Both individuals have requested to do their student teaching here next year.

#### IV. FIELD TRIPS

On November 19<sup>th</sup>, 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 informative.

#### 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.

On May 26<sup>th</sup>, students from the following math subject areas: Algebra I and II, Geometry, Pre Calculus, Statistics and Calculus, participated in the annual Essex County Math League contest. Our Advanced Math team took third place with our team placing 8<sup>th</sup> overall 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.

All members of the math department attended workshops on curriculum development each month aligning our current curriculum with state standards.

## VII. DEPARTMENTAL GOALS FOR 2010 – 2011

- A. Continue expanding the use of computers and scientific and graphic calculators in the classroom. Continue to train teachers in the use of computers as a tool for enhancing lessons and also in the use of the Internet in the mathematics classroom.
- B. Continue to group students according to grade level in basic skills so that we may better meet the needs of these students. Also carefully monitor the Pre Algebra curriculum to make sure it meets state-mandated requirements.
- C. Continue to review the secondary mathematics curriculum with regard to updating course content and textbook materials to more closely align them with the NJ Core Curriculum Content standards and state testing.
- D. Continue to monitor the "Math Analysis" course to make sure it provides our students with a strong background in mathematics.
- E. Continue to incorporate open-ended questions into our regular classroom activities and to include these types of questions on class tests and final exams.
- F. Continue to monitor those juniors who take Algebra 1, Geometry or Algebra II and offer remediation to those students who we feel may be in jeopardy of failing the H.S.P.A.
- G. Continue the zero period HSPA prep course for those students mentioned in F. Also start a second zero period HSPA prep course for special education students.
- H. Continue to work with the special education teachers who will be assisting our regular math staff in the math inclusion classes.



## MEMORANDUM

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

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

**Re:** **Principal's Report for the 2009 - 2010 School Year**

The following are activities of the 2009 - 2010 school year, present concerns, and recommendations that are being submitted for your review and consideration.

### ACTIVITIES

1. This year's 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. However, the string section of the orchestra was the largest it's ever been during the past forty years..
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, plus first place in the USSBA Northeast Championships. Our Raider Marching Band has never won first place before at the championships. The highlight of the year was all the awards received by our department. At the All North Jersey Region I Concert Band Competition, which the NHS Music Department hosted, the Concert Band earned a Silver Medal and Wind Ensemble a Gold. Our Jazz Band placed fifth in the NJ All State Jazz Band Competition. At the Music In The Parks Competition, the Orchestra and Concert Band received a first place trophy. The Wind Ensemble and Jazz Band received a first place trophy with a superior rating plus an additional trophy for being the best Wind Ensemble and Best Jazz Band of the competition. One of our students jazz students, Zach Callouri, received the Most Outstanding Solo Performance Medal. A Euphonium player of the band, Karl Gilbert, was chosen by audition to be a member of the 2010 All State Orchestra. Karl is the fifth ranked euphonium player in the state!
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 the Music In The Parks Competition in Sandusky, Ohio. At this competition, the Orchestra received a first place trophy in the Orchestra Division. Continuing a long-standing tradition, the Orchestra and Band will jointly perform at the June 23<sup>rd</sup> NHS Graduation. One of our percussion students, Steven Nowakowski, was chosen by audition to be a member of the 2010 All State Orchestra
4. The Choralettes had an excellent year, which included the following



## Music Dept. Annual Report – Nutley High School

performances: Nutley Rotary Club, the NHS Yuletide Concert, the December Concert at St. Mary's, and the NHS Spring Choral Music Festival. At the Music In The Parks Competition, the Choralettes received a second place trophy and Concert Choir a first place trophy.

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 the Jazz Band performed at the NHS Yuletide Concert, the Freshmen Orientation, the Music Boosters Café Night, and the Jazz Concert at *Trumpets Jazz Club* in Montclair, NJ.

6. The Concert Choir's enrollment remained at 115 members. This group gave superior performances at the NHS Yuletide Concert, the December Benefit Concert at St. Mary's, the NHS Spring Choral Music Festival, and the NHS Graduation. Five Concert Choir students have been selected (by audition) to the 2010 N.J. All State Chorus. This group will perform at the November 2010 NJEA Convention and at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark.

7. The NHS Chamber Singers had an exceptional year. For a fourth year, this vocal ensemble was scheduled as a class. This permitted the students enough rehearsal time to participate in all of the performances mentioned above with the Concert Choir as well as to perform separately at the Mayor's Tree Lighting Concert, the Walker MS Holiday Concert, and the Walker MS Spring Concert.

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 superior Spring Musical, *Into The Woods*. This performance was made possible by Mr. Cundari, Mrs. Monte, Mr. Wdowiak, and their students dedicating many hours of practice after school, on weekends, and during school vacations.

10. Music Boosters Café Night: Twelve NHS instrumental groups were featured. This performance was made possible by the students and staff volunteering to rehearse many hours for this event both before and after school.

## Music Dept. Annual Report – Nutley High School

11. Winter Guard: Once again our “Guard” was placed in a very competitive 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.

12. For the third year in a row, the Nutley School District was designated one of the Best 100 Districts for Music Education in America. Only ten other schools districts in New Jersey received this honor. The only other school district in Essex County to receive this award was Livingston. I am convinced we were selected for 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 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.
2. Shelves need to be built along the walls in Room 104 so trophies and awards can be stored more efficiently.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Hire a badly needed string specialist for the elementary schools and secondary schools.
2. 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

Date: June 18, 2010

The Health and Physical Education Department;

**Missing a teacher:** From the beginning of the year per. 4 - physical education and driver education had to be juggled by many teachers, Mr. Farkas used to teach Driver Education during per. 4, he subsequently retired, no one was rehired to take his place, therefore, this class was not assigned to anyone.

**Physical Education II** – two sections combined for Mr. Puzio, too many students for one teacher

**Driver Education** – coverage by Mr. Mitschow

**Physical Education II** – Mr. Mitschow and Mr. Puzio split the classes.

**Driver Education** – covered by Mr. Cimo, permanent substitute.

**Physical Education II** – coverage by Mr. Goglia, permanent substitute in physical education.

**Driver Education II** – Mr. Cimo leaves for another position, Mr. Mitschow finishes the driver education classes up until the end of the year.

With Mr. Farkas' departure there was a void in the driver education class. How are we going to cover this for next year? The students do not have a permanent teacher. The physical education class is too large for one teacher to cover.

**Gym Clothes** – students are not abiding by the rules of the physical education department, where you must change into gym clothes for participation in class. Students wear their t-shirts and shorts all day, then come to physical education with the same clothes. It is very difficult to follow the students into the locker rooms and see if they have another set of clothes, especially the boys since they don't have their

own lockers. Going back to a uniform color of maroon and gray would help out the teachers in the department, I am not talking about a “uniform”, I just would like to demand that students wear maroon or gray to their physical education class. We cannot keep track of students who do not change, wear there everyday clothes, it is becoming a major problem. This includes both boys and girls.

**Locks** – students were more responsible this year in getting their own locks. Miss Kowalski saves the locks that students do not want and rents them out, if students cannot afford one, they must see me.

**Locker Room** - lockers need to be replaced, both locker rooms. Inside of lockers need to be washed and disinfected.

**Security** – has improved, Miss Kowalski caught a “thief” in the girls locker room stealing money, locks have to be locked.

**Wellness – 100 day training program** – Miss Powell started this program for all faculty members. Anyone could sign up, Miss Powell collected forms at the end of the week.

**Blood Drive** – March 31, 2010, during health and physical education classes.

**CPR** – instructor classes for health and physical education staff – in-service program provided by the administration. American Red Cross provided the instruction during class time, all were certified in First Aid/AED and CPR.

**Archery class** – equipment has to be fixed constantly, bows, strings, cables, feathers replaced, Mr. Noonan usually is the one who does this in the department.

**Handicapped Student** – blind student was in Miss Powell’s eighth period class, with her instructional aide, exceptional work by Miss Powell incorporating Brittany into the class.

**Fitness Center** – not safe for large physical education classes, two staff members refused to go, unsafe teaching area.



Nutley High School  
Science Department  
Annual Report  
2009-2010

To: Mr. Gregory Catrambone  
From: Mr. Kent Bania  
Re: Principal's Report for the 2009-2010 Academic Year  
Date: June 15, 2010

The 2009-10 academic year was a great success, as members of the Nutley High School Science Department thrilled and inspired our students with their knowledgeable, enthusiastic, creative and compassionate instruction. As the amount of students taking science grows, our faculty and facility welcome the chance to teach more students in science. This year saw a revision of the high school science curriculum, and mapping (both horizontally and vertically) of the science progression at Nutley High School.

Departmental statistics indicate that 13 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.

Highlighted by what has become an annual event, the pilgrimage to Sedge Island Natural Resource Education Center, located within New Jersey's first Marine Conservation Zone, just off Island Beach State Park, kicked off our busy fall schedule. Students enrolled in The 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. Once again, students left the 3-day workshop with a deeper understanding of the entire ecosystem and experienced a weekend they will never forget!

Another noteworthy opportunity took place in May, when Mr. Joseph Simko and Mrs. Katianne Oakley traveled to Chicago to take part in a five day conference on the use of biotechnology in the 21<sup>st</sup> century classroom. These teachers learned ways to bring complex biotechnological activities into the classroom, while keeping it inexpensive and simple.

The department also participated, for the second time, in the Merck State Science Day test. The top five students in Physics, Biology, and Chemistry competed statewide on a content knowledge assessment.

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

## **I. The Department**

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

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

This year 30 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 68 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 19 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: Dr. Michael Naumoff**

This year 16 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: Mrs. Katianna Oakley, Mrs Jen Marcino**

This year 121 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, Ms. Christina Polk**

This year 68 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: Dr. Naumoff**

This year 40 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 – Teacher: Dr. Peter Smith**

This year 45 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 – Teachers: Mr. Joseph Simko**

This year 78 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 18 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. Kasner, Mrs. Jennifer Marcino and Mr. Simko, Mrs Stark-Haouck**

This year 205 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 41 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: Mrs. Lori Robinson and Mr. Thornton**

This year 139 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: Ms. Polk, Dr. Naumoff**

This year 33 students enrolled in *College Physics*. This course meets six periods per week and focuses on the fundamental principles of elementary physics. More than 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: Ms. Kerry Ferrara**

This year 54 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 – Teachers: Mr. Joseph Tagliareni**

This year 94 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 57 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 2009-10 school year, only students who are enrolled and signed up for an AP test 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 the following awards: *The Rensselaer Award* and *The 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:**

*Nutley Public Schools – K-12 Science Curriculum Revision*  
*Conferences on NJ EOC Biology Assessment at Rider University*  
*Roche Biotechnology Seminar*  
 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, Adams State University

**V. Curriculum Development**

This year, the science staff of NHS devoted many hours towards development of a course document for each class offered at Nutley High School. Course documents included a course description, NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards – Activities and Experiments, Curriculum Map, and Assessment Practices.

As we continue to embrace state end of course testing, we will continue to modify and work with our curriculum, as we understand it is an ever-changing document that will provide a pathway to success in science education at Nutley High School.

**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:

GSA Club Advisor – Ms. Gratz  
C.A.T. Program – Mr. Simko  
C.L.A.W. Club Advisor – Mr. Joe Tagliareni  
Academic Team Advisor – Mrs. Marcino  
Health Careers Club Advisor – Mrs. Kasner  
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 17, 2010

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

**Subject:** Principal's Report for 2009 - 2010 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 five honors courses and four advanced placement courses. Twelve teachers and the coordinator cover fifty-four sections, as well as one section of the interdisciplinary Humanities course. Total enrollment for all courses is currently 1,314 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 an annual review of the Advanced Placement courses in accordance with the demands of the College Board. These courses will be reviewed annually to renew the approval of the College Board. The department also completed a mandated NJQSAC curriculum review. In addition, the department implemented a new course, *The Modern Middle East Honors*. 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. Three years ago, 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.
- C. 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.
- D. The department continues to be in compliance with the state mandate regarding Holocaust / Genocide education. Pursuant to this mandate, and in compliance with district objectives, instruction concerning the Holocaust was infused into appropriate units of the curriculum, and this content was tested in each United States History II class, at all levels.
- E. 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. The faculty also addressed additional issues pertaining to bullying

- F. A departmental initiative to infuse more reading into the social studies curriculum, and to enhance reading skills and raise verbal SAT scores, was continued during the 2009 – 2010 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*, as well as two volumes of important documents from American History.
- G. The ongoing upgrade of the department's web site continues. This year, the district began the construction of a new site that will eventually allow teachers to upload individual files. The department looks forward to working with Mr. Viemeister on this project.
- H. The department completed conducting activities for the School Level Objective for the 2009-2010 academic year. This initiative focused on public speaking skills and instruction in American civic virtues and responsibilities.

## II. Staff Development Activities

- A. The Social Studies faculty took part in the following workshops and seminars:
  - 1. Workshop on inclusion strategies.
  - 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 Fall and Spring Workshop. This focused on standards and assessment, issues of academic freedom and censorship, and the new graduation requirements. Mr. O'Dell was elected to the Board of Directors.
  - 6. New Jersey Council for the Social Studies / New Jersey Annual Convention
  - 7. Three HSPA Workshops
  - 8. In - service workshops on Instructional Theory In Practice (ITIP), Critical Thinking, and Computer Skills.
  - 9. NJASSP Student Activities Conference
- B. Faculty members completed graduate courses through Montclair State University and Drake University Distance Learning.

### III. Enrichment

- A. The following activities were conducted by the Social Studies faculty:
  1. Public speaking exercises in conjunction with the school level objective.
  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 Fred Scalera, Assemblyman
    - b. The Honorable Joanne Cocchiola, Mayor of Nutley
    - c. 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 for the Modern Middle East Honors course.
- D. New textbooks are needed in the European History course.
- 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. Items New to the Social Studies Department for 2009 - 2010

- A. Mrs. Rebecca Miller was absent on a maternity leave. Her classes were assumed by members of the department, ensuring that experienced teachers provided instruction for the students.
- B. This year, the Young Democrats and the Young Republicans conducted fewer events due to budget restrictions. The department hopes to continue the voter registration drive in the future as an annual event and a required activity for these clubs.
- C. The Rand McNally history maps were repaired and updated, with some financial assistance from the manufacturer.
- D. The Veterans of Foreign Wars recognized one member of the department as "Teacher of the Year". Mrs. Alicia Lombard-Michalek was recognized for her role in the presidential debate as mentor of the Young Republicans, and for her role in organizing the veterans' breakfast in November.
- E. New software for the computers, including Microsoft Office 2008 and outlining programs capable of generating web pages, was updated and utilized.
- F. A new course, the Modern Middle East Honors, was written and approved by the Board of Education.
- G. The continuation of faculty discussions to enhance reading and geographic literacy in the social studies.

#### VII. Department Concerns and Recommendations

- A. The number of supplemental readings available for the reading initiative should continue to be increased. The department is grateful for the ongoing support of the administration in

this endeavor. Perhaps this can be included in the Technology Plan to investigate the feasibility of e-readers.

- 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 – 2009-10

The World Languages and ESL Departments continue to provide an outstanding high school program. Achievement remains high, and primary departmental objectives for 2009-10 have been realized. All the World Languages and ESL classrooms are now equipped with white boards, LCD projectors and computers and two rooms have Smart Boards. There is a prevailing attitude of professionalism among the staff, and dedication to a quality program is clearly evident. Following are a number of areas worthy of mention:

**I. Statistical Data and Staff**

1. Approximately 75% of the student population continues to be enrolled in world language classes. (French, Italian, Latin and Spanish levels 1-5-AP), and three classes of ESL (Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced).
2. Eleven staff members including two itinerant teachers (Mrs. Frost-Guzzo taught 3 classes of ESL at the high school, and 2 at the middle school, Mrs. D'Urso taught 1 class of Italian at the Middle school and 4 at the High School) taught 49 sections of 29 course offerings of World Languages and ESL, including regular College Prep, Honors and Advanced Placement courses.
3. Mr. Violante, as **Coordinator of Project Acceleration** with Seton Hall University, has registered approximately 150 students who signed- up for Project Acceleration credits in the fall of 2009 and spring 2010 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 (ELLs) English Language Learners with 90% of students improving (the state required 75% improvement). For the next school year the state requires a 75% improvement.
- 0
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 \$45,000 for FY 2009.
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 \$29,000.00, to be used for

teaching material. With the grant we were able to purchase lap-top computers for every member of the world language department, white boards for all language classes and 2 Smart Boards in the Italian classes.

## II. Curriculum

1. A new ESL and a revised World Languages K-12 Curricula were written during articulation days September 2009 through April 2010. Both Curricula were presented to the Board of Education for approval on May 10, 2010
2. The World Languages department hosted three student teachers during the 2009-10 school year, including in Spanish from Seton Hall University with Mrs. Rhein, from Montclair State University, in Latin with Mrs. Stepansky and in French a Mrs. Camarda
3. Mrs. Rucinski, and Mrs. D'Urso each mentored a student from Montclair State University doing their junior practicum in Spanish and Italian.
4. Mr. Violante conducted an all day training session in January for all district ESL teachers. In order for the staff to administer the new ACCESS test for ELLs, everyone has to be test administrator certified including the supervisor.
5. The State English Language Proficiency Testing (ACCESS for ELLs) 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.
6. Mrs. Stepansky's Latin Honor Society students presented a program by exposing and to promote the Latin program and Roman Concepts relevant to today's times to all 6<sup>th</sup> grade students at all five elementary schools.
7. Mrs. D'Urso's Italian classes in collaboration with the culinary arts teachers (Mr. Gallardo and Mr. Huggins) collaborated in preparing an expose students to authentic regional foods from Italy.
8. 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 maintains a teacher's website posting assignments, reminders, and Internet web-site link useful/beneficial to ELLs.

- 9 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 Opera "Stiffelio", by Giuseppe Verdi at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City.
2. The annual National World Languages Honor Society induction took place on April 6, 2010. 110 students were inducted into the National Italian, French, Spanish and Latin Honor Societies.
3. Mr. Cicchino's Italian classes attended a performance of the Opera "Madama Butterfly", and "Rigoletto", at the Metropolitan Opera in New York City.
4. In March, Mrs. Stepansky's Latin, II-H, III-H, IV-H and AP Vergil classes participated in the National/International Latin Exam. Many of the students received recognition (Gold and silver medals and certificates of merit).

**Latin I Students – Alexander Meise**, was awarded “**Gold Medal and Summa Cum Laude**”. **Salvatore Gabriele** was awarded “**Magna Cum Laude Certificate**”.

**Kristina Glancey** was awarded “**Cum Laude Certificate**”.

**Latin II student - Christina Allegra and Jennifer Francesco**, were awarded the “**Silver Medal and Maxima Cum Laude Certificates**”. **Yoko Okabe and Marc Cadag**, were awarded “**Magna Cum Laude Certificates**”. **Vivek Jani, Kathleen**

**Marano, Domenic Recchione, Veronica Radyuk, Kevin Li Kush Desai, and Megha Bhatt** were awarded **“Cum Laude Certificates”**.

**Latin III students – Eessica Novak** was awarded the **“Silver Medal and Maxima Cum Laude Certificates”**. **Amanda Zhao, Vidhi Sonani and Ryan Lynch** were awarded **“Magna Cum Laude Certificates”**. **Shannon Keating, Jane Bak, Satoe Ozawa, Philip Mateescu, Taylor Lockwood and Wilbur Vale** were awarded **“Cum Laude Certificates”**.

**Latin IV students – Bhaven Jani** was awarded **“Magna Cum Laude Certificates”**. **Derek McMullen, Daniel Rohr, Alexandri Loveall, Domenick Scutti, Shoko Okabe, and Jar Ed Lin** were awarded **“Cum Laude Certificates”**.

**AP Latin Students – Patrick Roche** was awarded **“Gold Medal and Summa Cum Laude”**. **Inae Rurup** was awarded **“Silver Medal and Maxima Cum Laude”**. **Philip Lam** was awarded **“Magna Cum Laude Certificate”**. **Brendan Striano and Aubree Woods** were awarded **“Cum Laude Certificate”**.

**Those who participated were from all 50 states and 13 foreign countries including: Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, England, Poland, Italy, New Zealand, Japan, Korea, Mexico, China, Israel, Lithuania and Mozambique.** The students have been nationally recognized for their fine achievement by the National Latin Exam Committee and the Junior Classical League.

5. Mrs. D’Urso Italian III-H students attended a performance of the Opera **“The Barber of Seville”** by Rosssini at New York’s Metropolitan Opera House.
6. The Spanish Honor Society Sponsored by Mr. Wdowiak and helped by Ms. Mary Perrotta had the annual flower sale for Valentine’s Day, and various bake sales. The proceeds will be given out to four (4) graduating seniors as scholarships.

#### **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. *New Jersey Supervisors of World Languages – “Bi-Monthly Round-Table*
  - c. *Seton Hall University – Annual Project Acceleration Conference*
  - d. *Facilitator training session for state ESL language proficiency testing “Access for ELLs”.*
  - e. *Spring Conference - New Jersey Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages/Bilingual Education (NJTESOL/BE).*

2. Mrs. Frost-Guzzo attended out of districts professional workshops/conferences.
  - *Spring Conference - New Jersey Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages/Bilingual Education (NJTESOL/BE).*

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. 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.

# 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: 6/24/10**

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 2009-2010 school year was another fantastic year and we continue to get better. Nutley had 889 athletes compete in 46 varsity and sub-varsity sports in 2009-2010.

The Football, Cross Country Team, Boys and Girls Soccer Teams, Girls Tennis Team, Girls Volleyball Team, Boys Bowling Team, Wrestling Team, Ice Hockey Team, Baseball and Softball Teams, Lacrosse Team, Track Team and Boys Tennis Team all qualified and competed in the NJSIAA State Tournament, and the Crew Team performed on a National level, as well as, winning the North Jersey Rowing Championship. The Girls Cross Country Team won The SEC Liberty Division Tournament, The Boys Bowling Team, Boys Track Team and the Cheerleading Squad won the first SEC Championship. The Boy's Bowling Team won its Third Straight North 2 Group 3 Title and the Softball Team also won a North 2 Group 3 title advancing to the Group 3 finals for the first time since 1995. The wrestling team sent two wrestlers to the State Tournament in Atlantic City, the Track team had numerous county and state qualifiers and we have had various All League, County and All State recipients. Ms. Luann Zullo was named Star Ledger State Coach of the Year.

## FALL SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

**Individual Honors: See Attached Honors Sheet**

## WINTER SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

**Individual Honors: See Attached Honors Sheet**

## SPRING SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

**Individual Honors: See Attached Honors Sheet**

**GO RAIDERS!**

# 2009 FALL RECAP

54.

**Congratulations to all of our fall athletes, the award winners listed below and each of our fall coaches, especially Coach Gerald Ryan who was awarded Worrall Publication's North Jersey Girls Cross Country Co-Coach of the Year**

## *Sport and Team Record*

<b>CROSS COUNTRY</b> <b>Girls 5- 1 Boys 6-1</b>	<b>GIRLS' VARSITY WON</b> <b>SEC-LIBERTY DIVISION</b> <b>CHAMPIONSHIP MEET</b>	
Laura Andrews	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC-Liberty Division	
Karen Guerrero	Hon. Mention All SEC-Liberty Division	
Jeffrey Lin	Hon. Mention All SEC-Liberty Division	
Matthew Lochan	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC-Liberty Division	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All Area by Worrall Publications
Kimberly Lu	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC-Liberty Division	
Kathleen Marano	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC-Liberty Division	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All Area by Worrall Publications
Shoko Okabe	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC-Liberty Division	
Dana Principe	SEC Liberty Division Individual Champion	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All Area by Worrall Publications
Patrick Roche	SEC Liberty Division Individual Champion	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All Area by Worrall Publications 2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All Essex County
Kevin Robinson	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC-Liberty Division	
Lianne Rossi	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC-Liberty Division	
Matthew Russo	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC-Liberty Division	
Mizuki Tanaka	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC-Liberty Division	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All Area by Worrall Publications
<b>FOOTBALL</b> <b>7-3</b>	<b>TBA</b>	
<b>BOYS SOCCER</b> <b>9-8-2</b>		
Mark Borino	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC	All Area Team
Shane Byrnes	Hon. Mention All SEC	
Matthew Dudley	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC	All Area Team
Kevin Konapaka	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC	All Area Team
Matthew Nicastro	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC	All Area Team
Thomas Tolve	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC	All Area Team

-2-

**Sport and Team Record**

<b>GIRLS SOCCER</b> <b>9-10-2</b>		
Sarah Cirigliano		1 <sup>st</sup> Team All Area 2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All American League 1 <sup>st</sup> Team All County – Coaches' Assoc. NJGSCA Recognition
Alyssa Diacheysn		1 <sup>st</sup> Team All Area 2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All County-Coaches' Assoc.
Jessica Haczyk		1 <sup>st</sup> Team All Area 1 <sup>st</sup> Team All American League 1 <sup>st</sup> Team All County-Coaches' Assoc. NJGSCA Recognition
Kaitlyn Mahon		1 <sup>st</sup> Team All Area
Jessica Raimondo		Hon. Mention All County-Coaches' Assoc.
Lindsay Ryder		2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All County-Coaches' Assoc. Hon. Mention All American League NJGSCA Recognition
Gianna Scarpelli		1 <sup>st</sup> Team All Area
Jaimie Towey		1 <sup>st</sup> Team All Area 2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All County-Coaches' Assoc. NJGSCA Recognition
<b>GIRLS TENNIS</b> <b>9-12</b>		
<b>VOLLEYBALL</b> <b>14-7</b>		
Lyquasia Berger	Hon. Mention All SEC	
Chelsea Bradley	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC	
Shannon Keating	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC	
Kaitlyn Marrero	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC	



## 2009-10 WINTER RECAP

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

<b>BASKETBALL – GIRLS</b>		
Jaimie Towey	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC	
Alyssa Tucci		1 <sup>st</sup> Team All Area by Worrall Publications
<b>BASKETBALL – BOYS</b>		
Michael Koribanick	Hon. Mention All SEC	
Brandon Smorto	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All Area by Worrall Publications
<b>BOWLING</b>	<b>SEC DIVISION CHAMPIONS</b>	<b>Boys Bowling Team received the NJSIAA Group III North II Sectional Champions</b>
Philip Bruno	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC	
Andrew Evans	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC	
Joseph Frezza	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC	
Angelo Lambroschino	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC	
Nicholas Rizzi	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC	
<b>ICE HOCKEY</b>		
Joseph Fierro	Hon. Mention	
Matthew Newton	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All NJIHL	
Brandon Perdon	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All NJIHL	
Ryan Pergola	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All NJIHL	
Matthew Rasp	Hon. Mention	
Andrew Zinicola	Hon. Mention	
<b>WINTER TRACK (Girls)</b>		
Megan Koster		2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All Essex County (Star Ledger)
<b>WRESTLING</b>		
Michael Ferinde	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC	District 14 Champion
Nicholas Gaeta	Honorable Mention All SEC	Essex County Champion District 14
Dante Montes	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC	Achieved 100 <sup>th</sup> career win! (2-20-10)
Vincent Scuttaro	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC	Essex County Champion District 14
Robert Trombetta	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC	Essex County Champion District 14

## 2009-10 SPRING SPORTS RECAP

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

<b>BASEBALL</b>	
Joseph Dispoto	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC
Kevin Garcia	Hon. Mention All SEC
Anthony Liaci	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Antonio Sibilia	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC
<b>GOLF</b>	
Stephen George	Hon. Mention All SEC
David Reciniello	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC
Andrew Zinicola	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
<b>SOFTBALL</b>	
2010 North 2 Group 3 Sectional Champions	
2010 North Group 3 Champions	
Kayla Huegel	Hon. Mention All SEC
Lauren Iradi	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Kristen Mattia	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC
Eileen Purcell	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
<b>TENNIS</b>	
Alexander Bruno	Hon. Mention All SEC
Philip Lam	Hon. Mention All SEC
Derek Mc Mullen	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Matthew Salerno	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Anthony Sbarra	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC
<b>TRACK &amp; FIELD</b>	
<b>BOYS' SEC Division Champs</b>	
William Blazeski	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC
Meshach Chambers	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC
Ann-Margaret Conca	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Brandon Cresci	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC
Matthew Del Mauro	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC
Jamie Donatiello	Hon. Mention All SEC
Joseph Drago (2 events)	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC

Jordan Jimenez (2 events)	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Megan Koster	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Maryann Landicho	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Jeffrey Lin	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Larissa Lohman	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Ryan Lynch	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Kaitlyn Mahon	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC
Thomas Mantone	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC
Kathleen Marano	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Juan Matallana	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC
Gregory Palma	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Christian Parigi	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC
Shvet Patel (relay)	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC Hon. Mention All SEC
John Perez	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Dana Principe	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Tyler Pugliese	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC
Patrick Roche	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Alexander Rossi	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Matthew Russo	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Lindsay Ryder	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Gianna Scarpelli	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Tara Shertel	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC
Jasmine Small	2 <sup>nd</sup> Team All SEC
Adam Steck (2 events)	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC 1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Mizuki Tanaka	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
Jordan Yuppa	1 <sup>st</sup> Team All SEC
<b>LACROSSE</b>	
Scott Kilianski	Hon. Mention All SEC
<b>CREW</b>	
<b>Men's Varsity 8: Northern NJ Champs</b>	
<b>Women's Varsity 4: Northern NJ Champs</b>	
<b>Women's Lightweight 4: Northern NJ Champs</b>	

# **Nutley High School**

## **Library Media Center**

### **Annual Report 2009-2010**

June 16, 2010  
Susan Bresnan, MA, MLIS  
Library Media Specialist



## **Narrative:**

The Library Media Center has continued to play an active role in providing services to the Nutley High School community. Students continue to utilize both books and subscription databases for research projects. The Library contains 24,683 volumes, 60 print periodical subscriptions and access to over 50 subscription databases including titles from Ebscohost, Facts on File, ABC-CLIO, and the Thomson/Gale series of databases. A suite of four new databases were added from Greenwood Press featuring Folklore, Daily Life through the Ages, and Popular Culture.

Books continue to play an active role in the Library Media Center with over 2,000 books circulated. Additionally, there were over 400 books consulted in the Library and 500 renewals. Subscription databases were heavily used with over 21,000 logins to the various databases. EbscoHost, a resource provided by the New Jersey State Library, had over 60,000 searches recorded for this school year. Hopefully this valuable resource will continue to be available to our students through the State.

The Library continues to make resources available in many media. This year we had access to over 6,000 eBook titles – digital versions of reference books from all disciplines. These electronic resources are available to students 24 hours a day via password protected websites.

There were 493 classes scheduled in the Library for instruction and research. In addition to scheduled classes, 40 to 50 students sign into the Library each day from classes, during lunch periods, and before and after school. The Library is also utilized for testing and District meetings during the course of the school year.

Completed Projects in the Library include:

- Inventory of the Fiction Collection.
- Update of Library Web Page.
- Continued weeding of books.

Projects for 2010-2011 include:

- Continued inventory projects.
- Continued re-organization of Reference Collection.
- Continued revision of Library Web Page.
- Continued weeding of books.

**Statistics as of June 16, 2010:**

Number of books checked out:	2085
Number of books added to collection:	140
Number of books lost:	288*
Books used in Library:	439
Renewals:	495

\*Reflects inventory of fiction books (which had not been done in many years)

**COPY ACTIVITY**

<b>Series</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Total</b>
000s	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
100s	10	4	0	1	33	10	5	3	4	70
200s	8	48	2	31	5	50	5	0	0	149
300s	5	3	2	5	46	30	17	8	3	119
400s	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	4
500s	1	0	4	0	9	12	2	4	1	33
600s	0	2	5	1	29	16	6	0	1	60
700s	13	13	4	1	7	8	6	2	6	60
800s	17	15	1	11	27	66	65	50	26	278
900s	23	34	13	1	61	56	18	38	7	263
BIO	7	1	4	9	15	13	16	10	13	88
FIC	46	49	59	80	119	41	47	31	30	502
PB FIC	61	33	48	66	88	31	29	20	24	400
PBD FIC	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
REF	1	4	1	2	4	15	5	5	1	38
GN	1	0	0	0	2	3	2	0	1	9
TEMP	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	4
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>2076</b>

**CLASSES SCHEDULED IN LIBRARY**

<b>Sept</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
39	83	49	54	85	75	47	25	29	7	493

**SUBSCRIPTION DATABASE USE**

<b>Database</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Total</b>
ABC-CLIO Logins	209	688	523	586	3554	44	203	295	162	<b>6660</b>
ABC-CLIO Page Views	823	3526	2674	3439	5276	1939	1163	1511	1322	<b>21673</b>
Facts on File Logins	529	1176	513	1123	992	1053	792	502	524	<b>7204</b>
Facts on File Page Views	5798	5068	4664	7357	7937	6426	4541	3179	3673	<b>48643</b>
GALE Logins	86	163	146	700	1097	1002	523	389	306	<b>4412</b>
GALE Searches	235	935	557	1885	3388	3640	1359	852	598	<b>13449</b>
GALE Connect Time (minutes)	690	1140	1326	5340	10552	9834	5517	3597	2343	<b>40339</b>
EBSCO Sessions	71	402	225	505	931	484	307	183	246	<b>3384</b>
EBSCO Searches	995	6563	3791	7396	21320	7902	4845	3350	5136	<b>61298</b>



# MEDIA DEPARTMENT

## YEAR END REPORT

2009-2010

June, 2010

James Kelly

### **2009-2010 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 from various departments.
3. Additions of all pertinent videos and DVDs in all subject areas are continually added to our video/DVD library.
4. The Media Club attended a guest lecture with NBC News Producer Roberta Spring. They attended The Rider University video editing non-linear seminar. Guest lecturer from WNBC Studio Engineer, Hugh Sneddon spoke with students on career opportunities.
5. The Media staff provided assistance to outside organizations with audio-visual hardware and problem solving information. Some of these organizations were Kean University, the Nutley Police Department, the Nutley Red Cross and the Chamber of Commerce.
6. The Media Department provided video coverage for the Yantacaw Talent Show and the Nutley High School graduation program. They also provided video coverage production at Spring Garden School for students and faculty. Korean Exchange Program at Radcliffe School was produced and edited for cable T.V.
7. The Media Department taped and broadcasted Board of Education meetings on Verizon Cablevision (our cable television provider.) Students also produced documentaries for the Mayor's Public Affairs Department which aired on the local cable station.

8. The Media Department served as the liaison between Nutley Public Schools, New Jersey Public Television, Cablevision and Verizon.
9. Overnight taping of education programs requested by the High School staff were recorded by the Media Department.
10. Our audio-visual student assistants videotaped elementary school concert performances aired on cable television outlets.
11. The Television Studio, channel 77, is now housed in the audio-visual department. Cast classes utilize the studio equipment for video production work. Students also produced live call-in shows and athletic college highlight videos.
12. The Media Department routinely services the following:

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

I. Film and Video 2009-2010

Film and videos used from outside sources were:	20
Postage money for film and video returns (UPS):	0
Rental fees for AV software	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20</b>

II. Audio Visual Hardware Requests

Daily requests	354
Long term requests	112
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>466</b>

Independent and community organization requests are filled as needed throughout the year, district wide needs.

III. Media Room Use

Channel One Head End operations on a daily basis

House Television Studio (Channel 77, 42) 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 Expenses

Software Purchases	1,000.00
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Hardware Purchases	<u>2,000.00</u>
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 3,000.00</b>
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**Missing Software 2009-2010**

None

**Missing Hardware 2009-2010**

None

**Summer Loans 2010**

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

# THE NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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

Sharon Romaglia  
Transition Coordinator

Tel. (973) 661-8999  
Fax: (973) 661-5296

TO: Mr. Greg Catrambone  
From: Sharon Romaglia *SR*  
RE: Year End Report for the Paid and Unpaid School-to-Career programs  
Date: June 16, 2010

We had an extremely successful school year. All of our students continue to be well received at their respective job sampling/job training sites.

We are currently working on the programs for the 2010-2011 school year.

We anticipate maintaining all of the current placements.

It is anticipated that there will be :

- 8 students at CMMC; these students participated in an in-service training and will be job sampling during the month of July.
- 15 students at our various elementary schools and JWMS
- 6 students at CVS (AM/PM shifts)
- 3 at the Thrift Shop (AM/PM shifts)
- 4 at the Mayor's Office
- 4 students working at NHS doing Office Skills/maintenance/library
- 1 student at Tempo Music
- 2 Students at the Nutley Public Library
- A possible partnership with Aqua Scope, they are looking for students to help them feed the fish and clean the tanks.
- **Please note: all assignments are tentative**

Two students have been hired by Clara Maass Medical Center. Mayra Paccheres will be working at Kids Place, the daycare center, located at the hospital. Alicia Riviera will be working in the Dietary Department.

The law office of Frank Kostenbader has recently hired one of our students.

Several of the students, who participated in the paid Structured Learning Experience program, will remain at their respective places of employment. They are:

- Leigha DiGiacomo: AXA Equitable
- Stephanie Diaz: Shop Rite
- Justin Francisco: JPR Cycles
- Matthew Grilo: Shop Rite
- Dana Keriazos: CVS
- Victor Lascano: Shop Rite

Atlantic Scale also hired one of our students to assist in their IT Department. Mr. Joe Algieri, contacted me to state how pleased they are with this student's performance. They will be keeping him throughout the summer and afterschool, when school reopens in September.

Five students received scholarships from the Career Advisory Council at the Awards Ceremony held on June 15<sup>th</sup>. The recipients are:

Dana Kariazos, Alicia Riviera, Dana Piccirilli, Leigh DiGiacomo, and Amber Hopkins will be receiving the Ed Kesser Award for Dentistry.

It is unclear, at this time, as to how many students will be participating in the Paid Structured Learning Experiences for next year. There are currently two students scheduled. They must, however, work in nonhazardous job settings, with hours during the school day.

Due to the increased enrollment in the Elementary School program, transportation issues will need to be addressed with Mrs. Hollywood. Currently, there are fifteen students assigned to four elementary schools. Guidance Counselors have been asked to assign these students, where possible, sixth period lunch. Students, who have their own vehicles, will



then need to provide us with letters from their parents/guardians declining transportation from the Nutley Board of Education.

Ten students are already signed up for the UMDNJ program at the Scotch Plains Campus. The tentative dates are November 9<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. They will then be invited to the Greater New York Dental Meeting at the Jacob Javits Center on November 29<sup>th</sup>. All of these students have indicated that they plan to pursue a career in either the dental or medical fields.

Sixteen students, from the Health Careers Club, also participated in a puppet show and presentation on Proper Oral Hygiene, in conjunction with Children's Dental Health Month. The students presented at both Lincoln and Radcliffe Schools. Plans are underway for repeating this presentation during the Summer Program for the Autistic Students at Washington School. Mr. Steve Parigi, the director of the summer program would like to bring the students to the lab area at Nutley High School. Using the dental chair with these students, serves as an excellent desensitizing activity for these students.

Four students also completed their ten hours of internship/community service at Dr. Muglia's Office-Smile for Today on Franklin Avenue, and Dr. Vinnie Castellano's office on Watchung Ave. in Bloomfield. All of these students completed their hours during the April vacation. This is extremely commendable, especially since they were on vacation. The retirement of Paula Kasner, the co-advisor of the Health Careers Club, who also offered a large part of her office space for our dental lab and chair, will require seeking a replacement. I have met with Mr. Bania to discuss a replacement from the Science Department for next year. We have not yet found a faculty member willing to take on this task.

The final activity of the year, for the Health Careers Club, was a trip to the Bodies Exhibit at South Street Seaport. These tickets were also donated by Bloomfield Health Careers Foundation. Seventeen students and three chaperons participated.

On May 20, 2010, the students were presented with certificates, from UMDNJ and the Bloomfield Health Careers Foundation, for their participation in the various Health Careers Club activities. Approximately sixty students and their families attend the Awards dinner, which was held at the Montclair Central Presbyterian Church. The students were from Nutley

High School, Montclair High School and Montclair Kimberly Academy. Mr. Dennis Williams represented our high school administration at the dinner. Mr. Williams continues to monitor and assist with any behavioral interventions that occur related to work based performance. His assistance is greatly appreciated.

Ira Stern, from the International Association of Machinists, presented to our students in December. He then returned to Nutley High School to test six interested students. Although he tested our students earlier this year, he returned in May to test one of our out of district students who is interest in his internship program. Mr. Stern is currently planning for our participation for the new school year. He also would like our students to attend a field trip to the New York Waterway Terminal and to Hudson Toyota. The students will then be treated to lunch, as courtesy from the Machinists Union Grant.

Edward Correro, a representative from the AFL CIO in conjunction with the Dept. Of Labor, presented to our students on April 20<sup>th</sup>, during periods one and two. His presentation, in conjunction with a program sponsored by the N J., Dept. of Labor, discussed job seeking skills, interviewing skills and resume writing.

Mr. Rich Ciasulli, of the Teterboro School of Aeronautics, presented to students in Mr. Markovic's classes. He also offered a field to trip to his program. This will also be considered at a later date

The staff at the Nutley Family Service Bureau also invited our students to their end of the year Breakfast at Bagels and More on June 18<sup>th</sup>. The students and job coaches are looking forward to attending. We sincerely appreciate be included. The students are truly enjoying volunteering at the Thrift Shop. We look forward to returning to the thrift shop in the fall.

George Ackerman and I continue to work collaboratively on the Career Advisory Council. We also attended the Perkins Grant Workshop, sponsored by the Department of Labor on May 6, 2010. George works diligently on this report. Although my students are not directly involved, I appreciate being kept informed of the newest regulations from the Dept. of Education.

# School to Career Program 2010-2011

\*Miscellaneous Column reflects actual job locations

Student	SLE-Unpaid 0080-02 Per. 2-4 *Refer to misc. column for job location	Clara Maass 0083 Per. 3-6	SLE-Unpaid 0080 Per. 7-8	SLE-Unpaid @ Local Elementary Schools 0080 or 0089 Per.7-8 *Refer to misc. column for school location	Office Skills -In House Program 0097 *Refer to misc. column for job location and per.	SLE-Paid 0680 Per. 6-8	UMDNJ Students for Fall 2010 Program – Completed as field Trips and do not appear on Students Schedule	*MISC
Jon Abreu							✓	
Kathryn Adjodha				✓				Lincoln
Natalie Basilone				✓				Reg. Ed Student Lincoln
Monica Benites							✓	
Natalie Bednarczk				✓				Spring Garden (11 th Grade)
Jillian Cardullo		✓	✓ With Job Coach					M-speech Wed- CVS T.F.-Mayors
Joseph Cherico						✓		Floyd Hall Montclair, NJ NOT CONFIRMED
Amanda Christian							✓	
Antonio Confone		✓						
Paris DeFrance	✓ With Job Coach							M.W.F. CVS T.TH Pub. Library

# School to Career Program 2010-2011

\*Miscellaneous Column reflects actual job locations

Student	SLE-Unpaid 0080-02 Per. 2-4 <small>*Refer to misc. column for job location</small>	Clara Maass 0083 Per. 3-6	SLE-Unpaid 0080 Per. 7-8	SLE-Unpaid @ Local Elementary Schools 0080 or 0089 Per.7-8 <small>*Refer to misc. column for school location</small>	Office Skills -In House Program 0097 <small>*Refer to misc. column for job location and per.</small>	SLE-Paid 0680 Per. 6-8	UMDNJ Students for Fall 2010 Program – Completed as field Trips and do not appear on Students Schedule	*Misc.
Mark DeFuria		✓	✓		✓			M-F .1-2 off/cafe M.Th 7-8 Thrift T.F. 7-8 Mayor's W. 7-8 CVS
Michelle DeLorenzo				✓				Radcliffe - All correspondence goes to both parents
Stephanie Falconcino				✓				Radcliffe
Carol Fata				✓				
Nikki Franciose		✓						Lincoln advanced 2 <sup>nd</sup> year student
Anthony Frappaolo						✓		Bike Shop- Medical Billing NOT CONFIRMED
Brittany Goglia				✓ With Job Coach	✓ With Job Coach			Per.6 NHS Main Office. Per.7,8 Lincoln
Lindsay Hamilton		2					✓	
Colleen Harle		✓	✓ With Job Coach					T.F. Mayor's W.-CVS Th.-Thrift Shop

# School to Career Program 2010-2011

\*Miscellaneous Column reflects actual job locations

Student	SLE-Unpaid 0080-02 Per. 2-4 *Refer to misc. column for job location	Clara Maass 0083 Per. 3-6	SLE-Unpaid 0080 Per. 7-8	SLE-Unpaid @ Local Elementary Schools 0080 or 0089 Per.7-8 *Refer to misc. column for school location	Office Skills -In House Program 0097 *Refer to misc. column for job location and per	SLE-Paid 0680 Per. 6-8	UMDNJ Students for Fall 2010 Program – Completed as field Trips and do not appear on Students Schedule	Misc.
Brittany Hollar	✓ With Job Coach							M.W.F. – CVS T.TH.- to be determined
Joanne Hoobler	✓ With Job Coach		✓ With Job Coach		✓ With job Coach			Per. 1 M-F NHS Library/Office M.W.F.-CVS am M.-Thrift pm T.F.-Mayor's – pm Th. Public Library W.CVS-pm
Kaitlyn Kazalunas				✓				Spring Garden
Christopher Lasky				✓				Yanticaw – flexible
Paul Lee							✓	
Andrew Leybel					✓ With Job Coach			Per. 1 NHS Library
Kevin Majewski		✓			✓			Per. 8 Off. Skills

# School to Career Program 2010-2011

\*Miscellaneous Column reflects actual job locations

Student	SLE-Unpaid 0080-02 Per. 2-4 *Refer to misc. column for job location	Clara Maass 0083 Per. 3-6	SLE-Unpaid 0080 Per. 7-8	SLE-Unpaid @ Local Elementary Schools 0080 or 0089 Per.7-8 *Refer to misc. column for school location	Office Skills -In House Program 0097 *Refer to misc. column for job location and per	SLE-Paid 0680 Per. 6-8	UMDNJ Students for Fall 2010 Program – Completed as field Trips and do not appear on Students Schedule	*Misc.
Joseph Mercado				pending				Lincoln
Kylie Papalia		✓						
Paige Puzzo							✓	
Hiral Rakhola							✓	
Alyssa Rodriguez				✓				Lincoln
Melissa Rosa		✓						
Marissa Ross				✓				Lincoln?
Lilliana Santelli				✓				?
Caylie Shaw				✓				Spring Garden
Stephanie Thompson				✓				JWMS

To: Mr. Paul Palozzola, Director of Special Services  
 Mr. Gregory Catrambone, Principal of NHS  
 From: **Lisa Cassilli**, Student Assistance Coordinator  
 Date: June 25, 2010  
 Re: **High School SAC Annual Report**

This annual report provides a summary of responsibilities and services provided by the high school SAC for the 2009-2010 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

An immeasurable number of students have been referred by the administration, guidance counselors, the attendance office, 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 a model for other districts throughout the State**. The **Random Drug Testing Policy** is currently in place at the high school and is running very smoothly. In fact, Montclair High School has requested for Nutley to mentor them in the process of developing and implementing a Random Drug Testing Policy. Mr. Catrambone and the SAC have met with representatives of the school to facilitate this process for Montclair.

In addition, cases are discussed regularly among the SACs to provide supervision and a smooth transition for students entering the high school. 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. **October 8<sup>th</sup> (9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> graders)**
- **STEVEN BENVENISTI** – “The Most Important Case of My Entire Career” – the effects of drunk driving. **April 29<sup>th</sup> (11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> graders)**
- **WAKE UP PARENTS!**-SAC coordinated 2 evening seminars to address drug/alcohol problems in community (see below)
- **CYBERBULLYING WORKSHOP**- Coordinated cyber-bullying workshop with middle school SAC and Internet Safety Teacher. **March 24<sup>th</sup> (Evening Parent Program)**
- **SAFE HOMES**- Coordinated Safe Homes Program for Parents in the evening-Attorney educated parents on host liability laws and drunk driving liability. Parents were offered opportunity to sign up for Safe Homes to increase safety in community.
- **TEEN DATING ABUSE PROGRAM**- SAC coordinated speakers in 9<sup>th</sup> grade health classes to educate students about dating abuse, healthy relationships and resources for assistance.
- **Staff Inservice and Trainings** offered at faculty meetings, department meetings, and after-school.

## ❖ **HOPE**

**HOPE** or **Helping Our Parents Endure** is an extremely active committee, meeting weekly through Commissioner Petracco’s office. The SAC spearheaded this committee and coordinated two evening programs for parents called “Wake Up Parents”. Both workshops were moderated by the SAC. In addition to parent workshops, an informational mailing about Prom Safety was developed and sent to every home in the



community. Plans for next year include a parent support group facilitated by the SAC, a self-esteem group for middle school students, and more informational seminars on drug abuse in the community.

#### ❖ CHAMP

CHAMP is a committee meeting monthly through the Mayor's Office. CHAMP developed a mentoring program for students under the direction of the SAC. The SAC coordinates all aspects of this program including selection of mentors, training of mentors, supervision of mentors and feedback to the committee. Mentors were taught effective listening, goal setting, confidentiality, and ethics. Twelve senior students mentored students in grades 4-9 with a myriad of emotional/behavioral problems. This program was a huge success and an asset to our community.

#### ❖ HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION

The high school SAC served in a supervisory role for Homebound Instruction.

Under the leadership of the SAC, the Homebound Policy Committee researched and developed a new Homebound Instruction Policy consistent with State Law. This policy and procedures was implemented during the 2008-2009 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 SAC handled all calls and correspondence relative to home instruction as well as overseeing all homebound instructors.

#### ❖ GRADUATE COURSES/CONFERENCES/TRAININGS

The SAC attended many professional conferences including the following:

- NJ School Counselors Association-1 Day Conference
- Drug Trends in Essex County Training
- High Focus Training-Pharmacology of Addiction-1 Day Conference
- Mental Health Crisis Response Training
- DWI Educational Training
- ASAP (Association for Student Assistance Professionals- 2 Day Conference
- ASAP (Association for Student Assistance Professionals)- monthly trainings on substance abuse/mental health treatment

## ❖ MEETINGS/ ORGANIZATIONS

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

- **Intervention and Referral Services – member-daily attendance and case management**
- **CHAMP Committee member- monthly meetings at Mayor's Office**
- **Municipal Alliance Committee member –monthly meetings at Mayor's Office to oversee distribution of GCADA funds for Nutley**
- **Juvenile Conference Committee member – evening meetings**
- **Association for Student Assistance Professionals (ASAP) – monthly meetings**

## ❖ INTERN

- The SAC supervised an intern from William Paterson University in the Master's program for Counseling. This intern was with the SAC two times per week and participated in all meetings, student interactions, and assemblies.

## ❖ 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.
- **TRUANCY CASES-** SAC has attended weekly court hearings with Vice Principal regarding truant students-case managed all aspects of truancy cases

- **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.
- **HANDBOOK COMMITTEE** – The high school SAC served on the Handbook Committee and attended many evening meetings to develop a handbook for NHS.
- **GRANT-WRITING-** Researched and completed alternative school grant with administration.
- **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:
  - Montclair Counseling Center, Montclair
  - The Center for Creative Lifestyles, Caldwell
  - High Focus Centers, Cranford
  - COPE Counseling, Montclair
- **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.

**JOHN H. WALKER MIDDLE SCHOOL**

# JOHN H. WALKER MIDDLE SCHOOL

325 FRANKLIN AVENUE  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

MR. JOHN CALICCHIO  
Principal

TELEPHONE  
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## 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 2009-2010 School Year  
**DATE:** June 14, 2010

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 the implementation of the Facilities Plan for the Walker Middle School continue to be ongoing. 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. In addition, a complete updating of all curriculums took place. 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. In addition, Mr. DiCristo and Mrs. Stendardi conducted workshops for professional development on Google Applications and Interactive Websites along with interactive middle school

websites. 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. Dan DiCristo and 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 2009-2010 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 and Mr. DiCristo 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 700 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 15 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 2009-2010 School Year**

Our School Level Objectives were implemented during the 2009-2010 school year. The following details the Walker Middle School:

#### **OBJECTIVE I**

By June of 2010, sixty percent of the seventh grade students will score a 70% or better on the Technology Literacy Assessment. This assessment of the students' general knowledge of computer use and application, information literacy skills and the latest knowledge of computer terminology and practices will be tested in late May. This assessment is an online computer based assessment utilized by many other middle schools throughout the state. The best is a 60 question test with the score given immediately upon completion.

**Results of Objective I:** During the 2009-2010 school year, monthly meetings were held with all the staff members. Those staff members analyzed all aspects of the pre-test on the Technology Literacy Assessment. Workshops, classroom lessons and activities were developed to enable the students to develop the skills needed to successfully complete the school level objective. Practice activities were utilized throughout the school year in the classrooms and the media center to reinforce those skills. In June, the test was administered to all seventh grade students. 65% of the 7<sup>th</sup> grade students that took the Technology Assessment passed with a score of 70% or better, unfortunately, not meeting the school level objective. A review of the results will take place and a course of action will be put in place for the 2010-2011 school year.

## **OBJECTIVE II**

By June of 2010, sixty percent of the eighth grade students will score a 70% or better on the Technology Literacy Assessment. This assessment of the students' general knowledge of computer use and application, information literacy skills and the latest knowledge of computer terminology and practices will be tested in late May. This assessment is an online computer based assessment utilized by many other middle schools throughout the state. The best is a 60 question test with the score given immediately upon completion.

**Results of Objective II:** During the 2009-2010 school year, monthly meetings were held with all staff members. Those staff members analyzed all aspects of the pre-test on the Technology Literacy Assessment. In-service workshops, classroom lessons and activities were developed to enable the students to develop the skills needed to successfully complete the school level objective. Practice activities were utilized throughout the school year in the classrooms and the Media Center to reinforce those skills. In June, the test was administered to all eighth grade students. 75% of the eighth grade students that took the Technology Assessment passed with a score of 75% or better.

### **School Level Objectives for the 2010-2011 School Year**

## **OBJECTIVE I**

By June of 2011, sixty percent of the seventh grade students will score a 70% or better on the Technology Literacy Assessment. This assessment of the students' general knowledge of computer use and application, information literacy skills and the latest knowledge of computer terminology and practices will be tested in late May. This assessment is an online computer based assessment utilized by many other middle schools throughout the state. The best is a 60 questions test with the score given immediately upon completion.

## **OBJECTIVE II**

By June of 2011, seventy-five percent of the eighth grade students will score a 75% or better on the Technology Literacy Assessment. This assessment of the students' general knowledge of computer use and application, information literacy skills and the latest knowledge of computer terminology and practices will be tested in late May. This assessment is an online based assessment utilized by many other middle schools throughout the state. The test is a 60 question test with the scores given immediately upon completion.

### **Principal's Priorities for the 2010-2011 School Year**

The results of the Nutley Writing Test (grade 7), the NJ ASK (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 Superintendent's Advisory Committee and provided input to the various committees with concerns for the staff. This information was shared with the faculty.

The 2009-2010 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 Great Adventure 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 2010-2011 School Year**

Implement all updated curriculums into all instructional areas.

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 2011-2012 school year.

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

Monitor computer electives that will be instituted during the 2010-2011 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 NJ ASK 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 NJ ASK 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 7/8.

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.



To: Mr. John Calicchio, Principal of John H. Walker Middle School  
 From: Ms. Cyndi DeBonis, Coordinator of Language Arts K-12  
 Date: June 1, 2010  
 Annual Report 2009-2010

## 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 New Jersey Department of Education.
- C. 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 six weeks prior to the test. Each student was scheduled with a different teacher than they had for English during the day.
- D. The speculative prompt was refined further by including explanatory writing. This required the students to create a story from a scenario, respond to a quotation, or solve a problem.

## II. Instruction

The New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards were emphasized when creating weekly lesson plans. This included the areas of reading, writing, speaking, viewing, and listening. The revision of the grades 5-8 language arts curriculum and the creation of mapping from September to June gave the teachers a guide to follow that promoted continuity throughout the department.

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

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

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. For the second year, the Shakespearian play *A Midsummer's Night Dream* was taught in eighth grade. This will assist the students in understanding the language of Shakespeare before entering high school. Also, the seventh grade read *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens. The incorporation of classical literature has proven beneficial and has contributed to the quality of their reading experiences.

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

The elective offered to seventh graders is the Reading/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. In the reading area, strategies to develop comprehension skills and response to text are the primary goal.

The elective offered to eighth graders is Journalism, which also produces the school newspaper, *The Raider Review*. 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. This course is an excellent choice for students that want to become involved in the *Maroon and Gray* in high school.

The basic skills courses provide 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. Strategies for the NJ ASK are provided and refined to give the students confidence to meet with success in language arts literacy.

An additional elective for eighth grade students is the Literature Media Connection. This course analyzes the use of elements (e.g., setting, plot, theme, characters) to understand media presentations such as film, video, television, and theatrical productions. It also promotes comparing and contrasting media sources, such as film and book versions of a story.

### III. Staff Development

Many issues pertinent to the success of the English department were discussed throughout the year at department meetings and Articulation Days. The revision of the curriculum and alignment to the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards was done monthly from September 2009 to March 2010. The New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards were used in a template that listed the cumulative progress indicators (CPI's) and required the teachers at each grade level to list the skills and activities, the multi-disciplinary connections, and technology used to implement these benchmarks by the end of each grade. Additionally, the teachers revised the mapping done during the 2007-2008 school year. The new mapping included resources and assessments used in each course from September to June. The process developed learning communities that enabled the teachers at each grade level to share their ideas and focus on student achievement. The next major task will be the implementation of the Common Core State Standards that are scheduled to be released in September 2010.

### IV. Articulation between Walker Middle School and NHS

Writing folders are sent to the high school at the end of grade eight. This is a collection of a variety of writing assignments including the eighth grade research paper. Special forms listing the books read in seventh and eighth grade are attached to the writing folder.

Summer reading lists are available on the school website under parental notices. Teachers are instructed to give a hard copy to students that may not have access to a computer. The lists are also available in the main office. Upon returning to school in September, the students are asked to demonstrate their knowledge of these books, which will count as three homework assignments.

This year the eighth grade teachers visited the freshman classes in January to get a better understanding of the demands of high school. It also gave the teachers an opportunity to speak with each other regarding the curriculum and preparing the students for a smooth transition to high school.

V. Concerns for the Future

Continued teacher training for skills relating to the NJ ASK.

Consideration of two periods of English so that students will have 80 minutes of Language Arts Literacy.

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

Implementation of writing across the curriculum to include all departments in the writing process with emphasis on open-ended questions and informational text.

Training for teachers in the area of digital technology including using the LCD projectors.

Class size that is conducive to the teaching of the writing process.



To: Mr. John Calicchio

From: Mr. Christopher Chern

Re: 2009-2010 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. All four teachers participated in the districts curriculum workshops to update the health and physical education curriculum.

- Mr. Christopher Chern teaches two 8<sup>th</sup> grade health classes, two 8<sup>th</sup> grade physical education classes and two seventh grade physical education classes. He also acts as the department representative. Mr. Chern had a student teacher during the second part of the school year. This past spring Mr. Chern coordinated and planned activities with the New York Giants for the NFLPlay60 program. Mr. Chern is also the coordinator of the I & RS team.
- Mr. Thomas Grant teaches two 8<sup>th</sup> grade physical education classes, two 7<sup>th</sup> grade health class and two 7<sup>th</sup> grade physical education classes. Mr. Grant had a student teacher during the second half of the school year. Mr. Grant served varsity golf coach at Nutley High School this past year.
- Ms. Luann Zullo teaches two 8<sup>th</sup> grade Physical education classes, two 7<sup>th</sup> grade physical education classes and two 8<sup>th</sup> grade health classes. She also is the freshman girl's volleyball coach, freshman 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. This past spring Ms. Zullo coordinated and planned activities with the New York Giants for the NFLPlay60 program.
- Mrs. Jennifer Citerella teaches two 8<sup>th</sup> grade physical education classes, two 7<sup>th</sup> grade physical education classes and two 7<sup>th</sup> grade health classes.

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

We continue to use the projector that was installed in the health classroom enabling the teachers to utilize the computer and Internet during lessons. The projector can also be used to show many other types of media files from the computer, some that will enable the class to interact with the media and increase student participation in the learning process. 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

- *A crossing guard on duty would increase the safety of the physical education classes when they cross Franklin Avenue to access the oval.*

To: Mr. John Calicchio  
 From: Toby D'Ambola  
 Subject: Annual Report – Mathematics Department  
 Date: June 1, 2010

### I. Staff

- A. Departmental statistics indicate that 8 regular teachers taught a total of 41 Math classes with an average class size of 22. This includes four sections of Algebra I, two sections of Computer Applications and one section of Accelerated Geometry. In a state mandated supplemental program, Denise Cleary and Connie Inguanti taught our Math Strategies classes. Ms Cleary taught four math strategies classes at the 7<sup>th</sup> grade level while Ms. Inguanti taught two eighth grade math strategies classes. Both instructors worked on test taking skills in answering open-ended questions with their students while at the same time reinforcing those skills being taught in their regular math classes.
- B. This year the middle school math staff was cut one math teacher with Mrs. Turro being transferred to the high school.

### TESTING

- A. On May 6<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> grade at the high school.
- B. The NJ ASK 7 assessment was given to 7<sup>th</sup> graders on May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. 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. This year 14 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students took the John Hopkins Talent Search assessment. The following students received the Distinction award by scoring between 515 and 550 on the math part of the SAT: Brandon Kwan and Robert Zajac. Those scoring above 550 and receiving the High Honors award were Eugene Oh, Nicholas Tran and Phelan Yu.

### 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 January, a letter concerning the NJ Ask 8 assessment was sent to all 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents. 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 twice a week on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3 P.M. to 4 P.M. starting in March and continuing through the first week of May. 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 and preparing them to take the upcoming state assessments.
- D. In April a comprehensive test was given to all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> 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, 300 Casio 300ES scientific calculators were purchased.
- 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, we had enough students this year that we were able to offer an Accelerated Geometry class at the middle school. This program in general has been very successful with many parents commenting favorably about the challenges and opportunities it offers their children.

## II. 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, Deanna Fredricks and Frank Sasso.

- 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. Our math club also participated in the Essex County math league contest held on May 26<sup>th</sup> with the middle school geometry team placing 8<sup>th</sup> out of 14 teams.
- C. This year, our math department, again participated in the St. Jude's Mathathon. This is a program where students do math problems to raise funds for the work done by St. Jude's hospital. It is not only an educational activity but also makes our students aware of the needs of other children.

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

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

All middle school math teachers met once a month from September through March to align our current curriculum with state standards and construct a mapping of each course.

### IV. DEPARTMENTAL GOALS FOR 2010 – 2011

- 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 the 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 daily lessons. Increase the use of the RM software in all math classes.
- E. Increase the number of students that take Algebra I in the Middle School by offering Advanced Algebra I in addition to Accelerated Algebra I. Also Basic Algebra I should be added but students taking this course would then have to take Advanced Algebra I when they enter the High School. This way the lower level of Algebra I can be eliminated from the High School curriculum better preparing our students for the EOC in Algebra I given by the state of New Jersey.



**JOHN H. WALKER 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, 2009-10

**I. Statistical Data**

1. The new K-12 ESL Curriculum was introduced by Mr. Violante and approved by the board of Education on May 10, 2010.
2. The revised K-12 World Languages Curriculum was introduced by Mr. Violante and approved by the board of education on May 10, 2010.
3. Approximately 40%, seventh graders were enrolled in Latin, Spanish, and Italian level 1A. Approximately 33%, eighth graders were enrolled in Latin IB, Italian IB, Spanish IB,
4. Three World Languages and one ESL and one World Language staff members of whom are itinerant taught 15 sections of 4 course offerings of Italian, Spanish, and Latin, levels 1A and 1B, and ESL.
5. Mr. Di Cristo, the middle school Latin teacher together with Mrs. Stepansky the Latin teachers at the high school visited the five elementary schools to promote the Latin program to 6<sup>th</sup> graders.
6. 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 ESL program, 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 the students for the ACCESS Test to meet the **AMAO (Annual Measurable Achievement Objective)** as required by the State of New Jersey Department of Education according to the NCLB and Title 3.
7. 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 **\$29,000.00**, to be used for teaching material for the Italian classes. With the grant money, a **Smart Board** was

purchased and installed in room 105 in the Italian class.

8. Mrs. Schiavone hosted a student teacher in Italian from Montclair State University during the spring semester 2010.
9. The district was awarded **\$46,000** in Title III grant to be used for the district ESL/Bilingual program.

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

1. Mrs. Schiavone's Italian classes attended a dress rehearsal performance of the Opera "Il Barbiere di Sevilla" in September 09 and "La Traviata" in March, 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. Also, the club held a Carnevale Mask contest to celebrate Carnevale.
3. Mrs. Schiavone, sponsors of the Italian 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. 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 English language Learners (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 district professional workshop/conference.
  - *Spring Conference - New Jersey Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages/Bilingual Education* (NJTESOL/BE). She attended three separate workshops.
6. Mrs. Frost-Guzzo, ESL teacher:
  - a. Continues to infuse 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 maintains 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 study a second language, including special need students. 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.
- Since a new curriculum was approved by the board of education the staff would like to purchase a new and updated text in Spanish. The text presently in use is a ©1999.



**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 Department Report 2009 - 2010

The following are activities of the 2009 - 2010 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, almost two thirds 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, Band, and the Chorale. Enrollment was down a bit for the Orchestra. The projected enrollment for next year's music classes will continue with the same large numbers of students.
2. The Walker Select Concert Choir had another outstanding year. The concert schedule for the year included: the Walker School Holiday Concert, the Choral Benefit Concert at St. Mary's, and the Spring Choral Festival. On June 4th the Concert Choir will participate in the Music In The Parks Festival at Great Adventure. The Concert Choir will bring its concert season to a close performing at the Walker Eighth Grade Promotion.
3. The Walker Chorale also had a wonderful year. Led by their director, Mrs. Nicole Monte, this vocal group gave great performances at the Walker School Holiday Concert and Spring Choral Festival.
4. The Debonaires had an excellent year. This all girl chorus performed at the Walker School Holiday Concert, the Mayor's Tree Lighting, the Choral Benefit Concert at St. Mary's, and the Spring Choral Festival. On June 4th the Concert Choir will participate in the Music In The Parks Festival at Great Adventure.

## Music Dept. Annual Report - Walker Middle School

5. The Walker Band, Jazz Band, and Orchestra gave excellent performances at the Walker Holiday Concert and the Spring WMS Instrumental Music Festival. In December, the Walker MS Jazz Band performed at the Mayor's Tree Lighting. In March the Walker Jazz Band performed for the senior citizens at the Parkside Manor. The WMS Jazz Band together with four WMS instrumental ensembles performed at the Music Boosters Café Night. At the Music In The Parks Competition, the WMS Concert Band received a third place (excellent) trophy and the Jazz Band received a second place (excellent) trophy. On May 17<sup>th</sup> the WMS Jazz Band performed at *Trumpets* Jazz Club in Montclair, NJ. Once again, the WMS Marching Band will march in the Nutley Township Memorial Day Parade.
6. Workshops: During the February Mid Winter Vacation, Mr. McPartland and Mr. Vitkovsky attended the NJ Music Educators Convention and Workshops.
7. In March Mr. Maiello hosted the All North Jersey HS Region I Concert Band Festival at Walker Middle School. He was assisted by Mr. John Calicchio, Principal of Walker Middle School and Mr. John Vitkovsky, Coordinator of Music.
8. For the third year in a row, the Nutley Music Program has been selected as one of the best 100 music programs in America. Only eleven districts in New Jersey are on this list. The only districts representing Essex County are Nutley and Livingston. The Best 100 List is compiled annually by the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation. Districts that applied to the Foundation were measured using the following criteria: funding, enrollment, student/teacher ratios, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program, and other relevant factors.

We have an outstanding Music Program that is made possible by:

1. exceptional music faculty in the elementaries, middle and high school.
2. talented AND DEDICATED student musicians.
3. superb support from the Nutley Board of Education, Mr. Zarra, Mrs. Francioso, and Mr. Calicchio.
4. our fantastic parent groups: the Nutley Music Boosters and Friends of Nutley Singers.

Being chosen to this list isn't an accident. The reason we are on the Best 100 list for the third year in a row is because of the Team Effort that is present here in Nutley.

## Music Dept. Annual Report - Walker Middle School

### 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 forty to fifty years old. Even though we send instruments for repair on a regular basis, their age prohibits them from remaining 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.



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

**BUSINESS & CREATIVE ARTS DEPARTMENT**

**George M. Ackerman**  
**Coordinator**  
**Business & Creative Arts**

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

**May 27, 2010**

**TO: Mr. John Calicchio**

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

**RE: Annual Report 2009-2010 School Year**

The following activities summary/highlights of the Academic Year, 2009-2010 are being submitted for your review.

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

Various members of this department were involved in workshops and professional day visitations, including, but not limited to: NJ ASK Webinar, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Human Rights Celebration sponsored by NJEA, EAN Sexual Harassment Workshop, Warren County Arts Workshops, Hands on Banking Workshop, Voice Thread Workshop, NJTEA Martin Guitar Tour, NJTEA Wind Turbine and Recycling Center Tour at the Atlantic County Utilities Authority, MSUINER Summer Conference, NJTEA Spring Northern Area Meeting and Low Cost Design Activities. In addition Mrs. Shohen hosted the NJTEA Fall Northern Area Meeting and Workshop STEM Connections. All staff members actively participated in QSAC Curriculum Development Workshops. Staff also furthered their education by attending classes at local post-secondary institutions such as: Montclair State University.

**2. FIELD TRIPS**

Students enrolled in Ms. Hill's Art Classes visited the Annual Nutley High School Arts Fest.

### **3. GUEST SPEAKERS**

No guest speakers were utilized this year.

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

The staff participated in the following school and community service projects: served as members of the Principal's Advisory Committee, Art Club Advisor, 4-H Hopefuls Club Advisor, Project Wisdom Coordinator, Invest It Club Advisor, and NHS Student Job Shadow Mentor. Students participated in NFL Play 60, exhibited Art Work in numerous local art competitions and the Annual Walker Middle School Art Show.

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

Students from the Creative Arts Department were the recipients of numerous awards including: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in 2010 Teen Media Contest, Special Citizen Award presented by Assemblyman Scalera, participation, Placement and Honorable Mention in numerous Art Competitions.

### **6. STAFF**

The Business and Creative Arts Department consists of one Art Instructor (7<sup>th</sup> Grade Fine Arts and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Advanced Art), one Technology Teacher (Intro to Technology, and Principles of Technology), and one full time and two part time Business Staff (Keyboarding, Word Processing, and Internet Safety).

The Art Department was responsible for one student teacher from Montclair State University.

Staff member Mrs. Hillary Hill-Trovato was honored for her art at the Warren County Art Exhibit.

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

This is the second year that we have implemented the Simple Assessment for student technology literacy in our 8<sup>th</sup> grade Keyboarding classes. The results will be reviewed and incorporated into our daily curriculum.

Maintain class sizes that create a safe and educationally beneficial environment. Rooms



need to be maintained on a regular basis. Disruptive students should be removed from class in order to maintain a safe environment for all.

Microtype keying program and our text "Learning with Computers" are getting old and need to be updated.

Apply National Technology Literacy Stands from ITEA to our Technology program.

Incorporate relevant guest speakers into our classes.

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

Apply for and hopefully be awarded 5 Star Middle School Program Excellence Award through NJTEA.

With Curriculum Development a major concern this year the staff from various grade levels and schools were able to get together and "brainstorm". This has proven to be an asset. It is imperative that time be set aside for inter-school department meetings in order to successfully coordinate course offerings. Inter-school department meetings would benefit all areas within the Business and Creative Arts Department.

Although curriculum was reviewed in depth this year it is imperative that we continue to monitor our curriculum on a regular basis in order to remain consistent with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards.

## **8. NOTEWORTHY**

Mrs. Hrubash continued to refine her new course, Internet Safety, at Walker Middle School and produced numerous Public Service Announcements.

## **9. CONCERNS**

The Creative Arts Department purchased and incorporated the Carviewright CNC modeling machine this year. Due to limited time and difficulties with the company we feel that we have not utilized this machine to its fullest. Staff should attend available workshops and training sessions as well as visit institutions where the CNC machine is being used successfully.

## **10. MADELINE HUNTER**

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

#### **11. ARTS FEST "2010"**

On May 20 and 21 the Creative Arts Department set-up and displayed many examples of our student's creative, talented works. The display has proven to be an exciting way for students to display their talents to students, parents and the community. Enthusiasm by the participants, staff, and visitors was evident. Attendance by both parents and students in the evening was encouraging. This proved to be a very rewarding experience for both the staff and student exhibitors. Anyone who missed this exhibit truly missed a wonderful presentation.

John H. Walker Middle School  
Media Center – Mrs. Christina Stendardi  
Annual Report 2009-2010 School Year

Objectives: To serve the school community by helping provide informational and technology 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 facilitates 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.
- Provide staff development workshops (example: Interactive MS Websites) to help staff incorporate new ideas and increase technology use in their lessons.

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 7-8<sup>th</sup> grade English classes, and 7-8<sup>th</sup> 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 various projects that involve the use of Microsoft Office programs, utilizing the Library's on-line databases and Internet research.
- Each student takes a pre/post Technology Literacy Assessment – based on results, lessons will be planned to incorporate these concepts.

Listed below is a breakdown of teacher/class usage:

English	Social Studies	Foreign Language	Science	Special Ed./ESL	Math	Technology
415(classes)	137	17	98	34	15	90

\*\* Lunch-study during various lunch periods and homeroom passes allow students additional time to utilize the media center for research, reading, 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
- Utilizing an interactive website to create a final product

#### 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 2,050 books were checked out of the media center.

- A majority of these books (fiction, biography and current issues) were used for book reports and research papers for their English classes or free reading.
- Booktalks were given to promote fiction books.
- Overdues were written and fines were collected for lost or overdue materials.
- Themed book displays were created to promote new books or highlight a certain genre, or special interest group/month.
- Visually appealing bulletin boards were created to display various aspects of reading and technology usage.



***John H. Walker Middle School  
Science Department  
Annual Report  
2009-2010***

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**To: Mr. John Calicchio**

**From: Mr. Kent Bania**

**Re: Principal's Report for the 2009-2010 Academic Year**

**Date: June 1, 2010**

The John H. Walker Middle School Science Department is dedicated to developing the scientific process and content in middle school students of Nutley. This year, the middle school faculty revised the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum. Both curriculum and maps are consistent with the 2009 NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards, and ensure that every student receives a complete science education.

John H. Walker Middle School Science Faculty , Mrs. Atkins, Mr. Bertuzzi, Mr. Francia, Mr. Libert, Mrs. Love and Mrs Lynn Zazzali continue to provide the guidance, wisdom and a 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 2009-2010 school year indicate that 6 diverse and dynamic teachers taught 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade science in the *inclusion*, *regular* and *vector* level settings. Our Middle School curriculum emphasizes four areas of study: *life*, *physical*, *earth* and *environmental science*, the following of which constitutes a section-by-section mention of each staff member's classroom teaching assignment:

**Teacher: Mrs. Alison Atkins**

Mrs. Atkins taught two *vector* and three *regular education* seventh grade science sections, one of which were taught in the *inclusion setting*. Alison continues to be an inspiring teacher, that uses many "hands-on" and "inquiry techniques to teach science.

**Teacher: Mr. Joseph Bertuzzi**

Mr. Bertuzzi taught five sections of eighth grade science, two *vectors* and three *regular education*. A veteran teacher, Joe continues to add hands-on activities and outdoor learning exercises that enhance the relevancy of his popular courses. This year, Joe has launched his website: joeybeesoutdoors.com, a website that allows students around the world to share his experience and learn about the outdoors.

**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 continues to develop activities and experiments that allow students to experience scientific practices.

**Teacher: Mr. Frank Libert**

Mr. Libert taught five sections of eighth grade science: two *vector*, two *regular education*, and one 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. Laura Love**

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

**Teacher: Mrs. Lynn Zazzali**

Mrs. Zazzali taught five sections of *regular* level seventh grade science this year, two 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 out and participated in professional development opportunities that ranged from workshops to lecture series to field trips. Of special interest this year, was the development of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade course documents that include a curriculum revision, curriculum map, assessment practices, course philosophy and course description.



### **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 *JH Walker'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*  
 Investigated the state of Maine's ecosystems via kayak  
 Participated in 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, the middle school staff organized an end of the year science bowl. This annual tradition allows students to "show off" their scientific knowledge and displays the educational journey at John H Walker middle school.

### **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.

Special attention needs to be placed as to the alignment (mapping) of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade science classes as an integral part of the Nutley students' science education. With the advent of the End Of Course assessments (biology next year), it is crucial to continue to teacher scientific concepts and content in line with the 2009 Core Content Curriculum Standards.



# John Walker Middle School

## Principal's Report

### 2009 - 2010

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

**Date:** June 14, 2010

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

The Social Studies Department at the John H. Walker 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-one sections, which included vector and regular levels of instruction, as well as inclusion classes. A staff of six full-time and one share-time faculty members addressed the needs of 307 seventh grade students and 338 eighth grade students.

#### **I. Curriculum**

The department continued to implement a curriculum that was designed in accordance with the most recent (2009) New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards and the requirements for the anticipated Grade Eight Proficiency Assessment. As part of the NJQSAC curriculum review, the entire curriculum was aligned in templates according to the new standards. 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. .

The department completed the fourth year of implementing the 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 announced preference by the previous state Coordinator for Social Studies for an "Essential Questions" curriculum model. The department also contributed to discussions regarding a revised scope and sequence for grades five through seven, again as part of the NJQSAC review.

## **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. Substance Abuse / School Security workshops
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

**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 continue funding for age-appropriate subscription services, such as Facts-On-File and ABC-CLIO. Mr. O'Dell recommends establishing an Internet presence for the department on the school's web site, making the current placeholder site live with recommended resources and long-term class assignments. In addition, the department would like to increase the number of grade - appropriate supplemental readings available for the students. As always, the department is encouraged by the ongoing support of Mr. Calicchio and the administration towards the realization of these goals.



John Walker Middle School  
Intervention and Referral Services Committee

2009-2010 Report

The Intervention & Referral Services Committee consists of the building principal Mr. John Calicchio, The Student Assistance Counselor Mr. Joe Capello and four teachers; Mr. Christopher Chern, Mr. Frank Francia, Mrs. Sarah Misner and Mr. Frank Sasso. As a committee we have updated forms and our data collection system. Forms are now available for teachers on the schools web site. Teachers may now fill out forms and submit them via email or inter-office mail. All members of the committee attended workshops during the year. Behavior Intervention manual (BIM) computer program was purchased during the year and has been implemented into the I&RS Committee. It has enhanced the information gathering and evaluation process. The program also enhances our action plans.

Summary

After a request for our service; student information was collected and analyzed by the committee. If the information indicates that there is an issue we can address a case manager is assigned. We then meet with the student and parent/guardian contact is attempted. An action plan is designed and implemented with feedback from all involved parties when possible. Case managers follow-up with the teachers, students and parents to insure that the action plan is working. The action plans are adjusted when needed.

Grade 7

- This past school year we received five students that had action plans from their elementary school. We requested files from all elementary schools, not every school complied.

- Two students were referred to the Child Study team. After evaluation by the Child Study Team, IEP's were provided for those students.
- Two students I & RS received action plans.
- After reviewing the information available it was determined that one student did not require our services.

#### Grade 8

- This past year one student that had an action plan from the previous school continued with the plan. One parent requested to end their child's action plan in September. The remaining five student referrals from last year are now provided service from the Child Study Team.
- This past year six students received action plans.
- After reviewing all the information available it was determined that one student did not require our services.



Gender	Grade	Date Received	Status	CM	Notes
M	7	10/1/2009	CST		
M	7	?	SAC interventions, CST		
M	7	?	*No Action		
F	7	10/21/2009	Action plan created	SM	to CST for evaluation 4/10
M	7	10/23/2009	Action plan created	SM	
F	7	1/27/2010	No Action- monitor student		
M	8	10/22/2009	Action plan created	FF	
M	8	10/22/2009	Action plan created	DJ	
M	8	?	Referred to CST		
M	8	3/11/2010	Action plan created	DJ	Transferred from --- this year, during information gathering process it was discovered that the student had an action plan from his previous school. We will implement his plan and continue to collect information, evaluate and adjust if needed.
F	8	10/23/2009	No Action- monitor student		
F	8	1/26/2010	Action plan created	JC	
M	8	2/22/2010	Action plan created		Student taken to court- CST?
F	8	?	CST		
F	8	5/29/2009	SAC when needed	JC	3/16/2010 Parent requests assistance for academic concerns. Action Plan created 3/25, revised 4/22
F	8	4/6/2009	CST	SM	
M	8	11/3/2008	CST	SM	
M	8	10/31/2008	CST- Out of district placement initiated by parent.	FF	
F	8	12/1/2008	SAC when needed- 504, follow AP	JC	
M	8	2/2/2009	CST	DJ	
F	8	10/15/2008	SAC when needed- CST	JC	
M	7	9/9/2009	Monitor/Following AP from gr. sch.		Gathering info.
F	7	9/9/2009	CST		Gathering info.
M	7	9/9/2009	Monitor/Following AP from gr. sch.		No issues related to AP from Lincoln School. academic concerns and some discipline (ID's and talking in class). Gathering info
M	7	9/9/2009	Monitor/Following AP from gr. sch.		
M	7	9/9/2009	Action plan created	FS	

			Info gathered no further action required		
			? = no paperwork received		
			red = Referred to I&RS 08-09 (7th gr.)		
			blue = Referred to I&RS 08-09 (6th gr.)		
			black = referred to I&RS 09-10		
			green = new referral		
			*Mentioned to us from guidance- no request for assistance received.		

**LINCOLN SCHOOL**

# NUTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

LINCOLN SCHOOL  
301 HARRISON STREET  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

LORRAINE RESTEL  
Principal

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**TO:** Mr. Joseph Zarra  
**DATE:** June 30, 2010  
**FROM:** Lorraine Restel, Principal Lincoln School  
**SUBJECT:** Principal's Annual Report – School Year 2009-2010

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

- Align all curriculums with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards (NJCCCS)
- Review the Life Skills Curriculum (Career Education, Consumer Education, Family Life)
- Continue to develop and refine the Autistic Program
- Review the Language Arts Writing Program in grades 3-8

- Review and continue to implement the World Language Program to include all primary grades using the Rosetta Stone Program
- Review the World Language Curriculum Grades K-6
- Review the Art Curriculum Grades K-6
- Review the Math Strategies Program in grades K-6
- Review Character Education K-6
- Review the Health and Physical Education Curriculum in grades K-6
- Continue to incorporate D.A.R.E. in the Health Curriculum
- Implement an elementary SAC curriculum
- Monitor standardized test results
- Continue to meet Annual Yearly Progress (AYP)
- Transition the CAT Program to an Academic Booster Club sponsored program
- Ensure effective communication between the elementary schools, the middle school, and the high school faculties in the content area(s)

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

- Instructional Theory into Practice
- Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS) and 504
- Easy Grade Pro
- Google Earth
- Google Docs
- Digital Photography
- Smartboards
- Interactive Websites
- Microsoft Office
- Elementary Assessment- NJ PASS 1-2 , NJ ASK 3-6
- Mentoring Program
- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Procedures
- Affirmative Action Policies

- Introduction to Differentiated Instruction: Managing the Differentiated Classroom
- Autistic Program

**All areas of the Nutley School District Curricula were reviewed and updated to reflect the current NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards. This includes the following:**

- Language Arts Literacy Gr. 1-12
- Mathematics Gr. 1-12
- Science Gr. 1-12
- Social Studies Gr. 1-12
- ESL Gr. 1-12
- World Language Gr. K-12
- Technology Gr. K-12
- Fine and Performing Arts Gr. K-12
- Business
- Music Gr. K-12
- Kindergarten
- Physical Education Gr. K-12
- Health Gr. 1-12
- Library Media
- Gifted and Talented
- Guidance

## **Testing**

The results of the Nutley Math mid-term and final Tests and the 2010 NJ State Tests will be 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 2009 – 2010**

Students in grades kindergarten through grade two (K-2) showed appropriate proficiency in writing as demonstrated through a writing assessment. This objective was assessed during the months of March and May. More than 89% of the students in Lincoln School achieved a combined score of 80% or higher on the teacher-developed assessment.

Students in grades three through six (3-6) showed appropriate proficiency in mathematics, targeting math strategies utilizing Study Island. This objective was assessed during the months of November and May. More than 87% of the students achieved a combined score of 70% or higher on the topics covered by Study Island in the area of mathematics strategies.

The students of Lincoln School successfully met the 2009-2010 School-level Objectives.

### **School Level Objectives 2010 -2011**

By June 2011, students in kindergarten through grade two (K-2) will demonstrate proficiency in writing as demonstrated through a writing assessment. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assessment. A rubric will be used to score the writing assignment.

By June 2011, students in grades three through six (3-6) will demonstrate proficiency in mathematics, targeting math strategies utilizing Study Island. Students will be assessed using the Pearson Learnia Assessment Tracking Tool 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 math strategies. The Learnia Assessment Tracking Tool will be used to assess the students' end of year progress.

## **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 2009 – 2010 year.

- January Advance at Montclair State University
- Strategies for Mentoring and Coaching
- Critical Thinking in the Elementary Classroom
- Culturally Responsive Teaching
- NJ ASK Language Arts Literacy Grades 3-6
- Writing Strategies Lunch and Learn Workshops with Cyndi De Bonis
- Affirmative Action
- NJASK Preparation Workshop
- MSUNER Teacher Study Group – Bullying? Not in My School A School-Wide Approach to Bullying Behavior
- Handle With Care Training
- Wilson Reading Training
- Smart Board Training
- Priorities Report
- Web Literacy
- We the People: Project Citizen Workshop
- Bullying Prevention
- NJTESOL NJ Bilingual Education Spring Conference
- Cutting Edge Activities to Enhance Your PE Program
- 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 invited members of the Nutley High School Future Educators of America Club to visit our school and visit various classrooms. The students arrived prepared with lessons and reading selections which they shared with the classes they visited. The students and staff appreciated the outstanding job these visitors provided for our students.

#### **Chef It Up**

The children in Grades Pre-K – Grade 3 were invited to an assembly educating the children on peanut/tree nut allergy awareness. Throughout the assembly the students were educated on the importance of hand washing, playground play time, lunch time, food options, and what could happen to others as a result of these allergies.

#### **Prismatic Magic Laser Light Show**

The Lincoln School PTO sponsored a third assembly program this year, the Prismatic Magic Laser Light Show. This show, Laser B.E.A.M. (Behavior and Ethical Advancement through Music) was attended by the children in grades K – 6. It focused on an exciting approach to character building and enrichment that focused on teamwork and the personal character attributes that are important to teamwork: self-discipline, tolerance, and mutual respect. The children were entertained by the laser show while learning a valuable message.

### **The Quiz Show**

Students in grades K-6 were invited to an assembly featuring the benefits of recycling. The quiz show format kept the children involved throughout and allowed them the opportunity to learn many important facts about the benefits of recycling.

### **Lincoln School Website**

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

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

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

### **Visit from John Elliott – CBS News**

As a special treat, the fourth grade students hosted a visit from John Elliott, one of the weathermen from CBS News. He visited the students to give a presentation about weather in general and how the weather report is broadcast each day. The students listened attentively to him and were filmed giving a shout-out which was later broadcast on the next morning's news! It was an exciting and informative visit for all.

### **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. Kimberly Algieri promoted problem solving using various manipulative activities in the Family Math workshop. Mrs. Kristine Comune and Mrs. Flavia Groeling 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.

### **Musicales**

Mrs. Carol Bender provided the students of Lincoln School with an opportunity to participate in several productions this year. Students in grades three and four along with the Lincolnaires entertained their parents in December with a variety of holiday tunes. Grades 1 & 2 entertained us with a patriotic program in March, and the fifth and sixth grades along with the instrumentalists and Lincolnaires entertained us with several songs and sections in May. The Instrumentalists 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 – Bullying? Not in My School**

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 various strategies that can be used to prevent bullying behaviors in the school. The group consisted of both regular ed. and special ed. teachers. This forum provided an opportunity for discussion and sharing of strategies that have been successful with the children in our school. We also had an opportunity to Skype with the teachers at Spring Garden School to compare strategies and discuss various scenarios. As a culminating activity, the group prepared a power point presentation highlighting some of the methods and resources used throughout the year. This be presented by members of the group at the Summer Conference at Montclair State University as well as shared with the parent community of Lincoln School this fall.

### **TICKET Program through Bloomfield College**

Several teachers from Lincoln School participated in the TICKET Program offered through Bloomfield College. This program, Total Immersion Course for Korean English Teachers, allowed two teachers from Korea to spend several months in our classrooms working alongside our teachers while perfecting their English so that they could better teach it upon returning to Korea. The program proved to be a great success for all involved. The visiting teachers were able to accomplish their goals while the students of Lincoln School were able to learn about another culture first hand.

### **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.

### **Law Day**

Under the direction of Ms. Jainine Peters, the students in the fifth and sixth grades participated in a Mock Trial in honor of Law Day 2010. In the presence of Judge Joseph Connolly and with representation from attorneys Manisha Corea and Jodi Rosenberg, the students presented a case of a student who fell into a manhole while texting on her cell phone. The students did an outstanding job in presenting their case and serving as witnesses in the process. It gave them a taste of what a real courtroom scenario would be and proved to be an educational experience for all. We look forward to participating in this program in the 2010-2011 school year.

### **Multicultural Awareness Day**

At the suggestion of the district's Affirmative Action Committee, the students held a Multicultural Awareness Day celebration in the month of June. Each teacher chose a different country for their class to represent. The students researched information about

their country and created an informational display on and around their classroom doors. These displays included a map, flag, and artifacts representing their country, samples of the language, popular sports, and pictures or posters of popular areas. The teachers then took their students on “tour of the world” learning about the various countries on display. This project was enjoyed by all and a request was made by the students and staff to continue this idea in the future.

### **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. They then went on to battle the winning teams from their grade and ultimately produced a winning team for the fifth and sixth grades. The winning team members were presented with a Barnes and Noble gift card as a reward for their efforts. 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 2010-2011 school year. Due to budgetary cutbacks, however, the teachers have decided to once again, 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 Wii Console, Wii Fit, and Wii Balance Board for Mrs. Ellen Wolf to be used with her Pre-school students those in the PT classes, an LCD projector for Mrs. Kimberly Algieri to be used in her classroom for projecting computer images onto her Smart board, and a collection of flash drives to be used by Mrs. Jessica Nolasco and the fifth grade classes to store their data for their technology projects.

## **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 2009 -2010 school year:

### **Pennies for the Planet**

The students of Lincoln School participated in the Pennies for the Planet program sponsored by the National Audubon Society. Throughout the month of April, the students collected loose change to be used for critical conservation projects in the United States. I am proud to announce that Lincoln School was one of the top five fundraisers in the country. I am very proud of the generosity of the students and staff in this project.

### **Crayons for Cancer**

Mrs. Groeling and Ms. Sciarrillo held a collection of used crayons to be donated to the Family Fund in the oncology unit at Connecticut's Medical Center of Hartford. The Family Fund helps families cope with their child's illness by off-setting costs as well as to the Treasure Chest at CCMC where young patients can go to choose prizes after enduring chemotherapy and/or radiation treatments. The children of Lincoln School collected close to 100 pounds of crayons over a two week period. Another collection of used crayons was sent to the center in June as the children and teachers cleaned their rooms for the summer break!

### **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 \$4,000 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.

**The 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, and the Student Council who did an outstanding job.

**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. With the help of the Student Council, the children also collected food and clothing to bring to the shelter throughout the year.

**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.

**2009 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. The teachers and staff of Lincoln School recognized the increased needs of our own families and sponsored several families from our school as part of the Holiday Treasure Chest.

**Holiday Wishes to American Soldiers**

Several classes at Lincoln School took the time to make cards and write letters to some of our Servicemen in Iraq. The letters were received and much appreciated.

**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, cyber bullying, and drug / tobacco prevention.

**Social Skills Group**

Mrs. Thunell continued her 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. Their group meetings alternated between the Social Skills Group who worked on developing socialization skills and the Banana Splits Group for those students who have experienced divorce or loss of a parent. The meetings were well attended and successful. The groups are hoping to continue meeting next year.

**Health Screenings**

Mrs. Margaret Fuccello, 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 to \$4000 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 close to \$2000 in memory of Bonnie Weiss, a staff member of Lincoln School who lost her battle with cancer.

### **Autism Speaks**

For the second year, Lincoln School staff formed a team and walked in the Autism Speaks walk in May. The Lincoln Helping Hands raised over \$1000 for this very worthy cause.

### **Class Trips**

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

- Kindergarten - Montclair State University, William Paterson University, Matarazzo Farms, North Caldwell, NJ, Nutley Police and Fire Departments, and the Morris Museum.
- First Grade –Heaven Hills Farms, Liberty Science Center, Montclair State University.
- Second Grade – Montclair State University, Madison Museum of Early Trades and Crafts, Newark Museum.
- Third Grade – Turtle Back Zoo, Montclair State University.
- Fourth Grade – Planetarium, Raritan Community College.
- Fifth Grade –AMC Theatres to see Planet Earth movie, Montclair State University.

- Sixth Grade – Fairview Lake YMCA Camp, Brunswick Bowl, Belleville, NJ.
- SLD Classes – In addition to the trips attended with their “buddy classes,” students also visited Alstede Farms, and Booth Park.

### **Student Achievements**

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

- American Legion Post 70 Coloring Contest
- World Against Violence Youth Conference
- Third Half Club Basketball Tournament
- 2010 ABC History Fair
- Academically Speaking
- Essex County Challenge 24 Tournament
- Earth Day Clean-up of Lincoln School
- Lion’s Club Peace Poster Contest
- Lion’s Club Spelling Bee
- ABC Poetry Festival
- Elks Essay Contest- “What Freedom Means to Me”
- Elks Poster Contest
- Amvets Essay Contest- “What Does an American Veteran Mean to Me” –

### **Clubs at Lincoln School**

The following is a list of clubs offered at Lincoln School during the 2009 -2010 school year:

#### **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. The club raised enough money this year to provide each of the nine dogs in the canine unit with their own first aid kit. These kits were presented to the Essex County Canine Unit at a ceremony held at Lincoln School.

**Friendship Club- Mrs. Nancy Thunell**

This club was formed to aid students in learning positive coping strategies when struggling with family issues that could impact their functioning in school. The friendship club also worked to provide a safe and therapeutic environment to learn and practice social skills. The club met on Mondays during the lunch hour.

**Chess Club- Mrs. Kristine Comune**

This club was formed to enable interested children to learn the fundamentals of playing chess. Interest for this club was so large; the children were divided into two groups and met bi-weekly during the lunch hour. The year culminated with a chess tournament. Winners of the tournament were presented with their own chess board, purchased by Mrs. Comune.

**Fine Arts 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.

**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 – Mrs. Jaimee Grella and Mrs. Danielle Ferrara**

The members of this club worked throughout the year to perform school and community services to come to the aid of those in need. Some of their projects included fundraising for the Susan B. Komen foundation, Toy drives for the holidays, bake sales for The Great American Bake Sale to benefit Childhood Hunger, assisting with collections for the Pajamas Program, the various food drives, and the RAKES program sponsored by the town of Nutley.

#### **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. Their culminating project was the production an outstanding video/slide show used during the sixth grade promotion ceremony. Each member of the sixth grade class received a copy of the DVD as a keepsake of their final year at Lincoln School.

#### **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 president Rosemary Brush and the rest of the board for their tireless efforts on behalf of our school. I would also like to extend a special thank you to Mrs. Tina Ellis for her work in landscaping the front of Lincoln School. With the support of the PTO, she volunteered to landscape and maintains a garden in the front of the school. Her efforts are much appreciated and admired by all

who enter our building. I am looking forward to another successful year working with the new slate of PTO officers.

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

- New Parent's Tea
- Scholastic Book Fair (Fall and Spring)
- Pumpkin Patch
- Holiday Boutique
- Winter Socials
- Family Bingo
- Tricky Tray
- Talent Show
- Holiday parties
- Muffins for Mom
- Donuts for Dad
- Sixth Grade activities and dance
- Bowling
- Plant sale for Mother's Day
- Staff Appreciation Luncheon
- Olympic shirts and pizza
- Prismatic Magic Laser Light Show Assembly
- Bake Sales
- Reception treats for the Pre-school, Kindergarten and Sixth grade promotions

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

- Smart Boards with projectors and speakers
- SRA Science Kit
- Science manipulatives
- Micro viewers and slides
- Letter people big books and take-home books
- Book display stand
- CD Player
- Vacuum and Dust Buster
- Various classroom novel sets
- Classroom organization materials
- Letter People puppets
- Plants and bushes for the front of the school

## **Concerns**

Lincoln School continues to need attention due to its age and its ever increasing population. The installation of the new HVAC continues to provide us with warm classrooms throughout the winter and comfortably cool classrooms in the spring. The installation of new windows this past year has improved the overall appearance of the building as well as eliminates many of the drafts that made the classrooms colder in the winter months. I am hopeful that the ongoing projects will continue to restore our aging facility. Our playground blacktop needs to be resurfaced and re-pitched in certain areas in order to promote proper drainage during 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. Mr. Angelo Frannicola, our Lincoln School Board of Education Representative. His attendance at our PTO meetings added valuable insight to our meetings and events. I appreciate all of his 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. Michael DeVita and Mrs. Karen Yeamans 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 unending 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 2010– 2011 school year and for many years to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorraine Restel  
Principal, Lincoln School  
June 30, 2010



**RADCLIFFE SCHOOL**

**Nutley Public Schools**

Radcliffe School  
Nutley, New Jersey 07110

**Memorandum**

TO: Mr. Joseph Zarra DATE: June 30, 2010

FROM: Michael J. Kearney, Principal, Radcliffe School

RE: **Principal's Annual Report - School Year 2009-2010**

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:

**Continuing Priorities**

- Align all curriculums with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards (NJCCS)
- Review of Life Skills Curriculum (Career Education, Consumer Education, Family Life)
- Continue to develop and refine the Autistic Program
- Review of Language Arts Writing Program Grades 3-8
- Continue to support, develop, and expand the Gifted and Talented Program
- Review and continue to implement the World Language Program to include all primary grades using the Rosetta Stone Program
- Review the World Language Curriculum Grades K-12
- Review the At Curriculum Grades K-6
- Review the Basic Skills Mathematics Program Grades K-6
- Review the Character Education K-6
- Review the Health and Physical Education Curriculum Grades K-12
- Continue to incorporate D.A.R.E. in the Health Curriculum
- Implement an elementary SAC curriculum
- Monitor standardized test results
- Continue to meet Annual Yearly Progress (AYP)
- Transition the CAT Program to an Academic Booster Club sponsored program
- Ensure effective communication between elementary schools, middle school, and high school faculties in the content area(s).

**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
- Elementary Assessment – NJ ASK 3-6
- Mentoring Program
- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Procedures
- Affirmative Action Policies
- Introduction to Differentiated Instruction: Managing the Differentiated Classroom
- Autistic Program

**All areas of the Nutley Schools District Curricula were reviewed and updated in the following areas to reflect the current NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards:**

- Language Arts Literacy 1 – 12
- Math 1 – 12
- Science 1 – 12
- Social Studies 1 – 12
- ESL K – 12
- World Language K – 12
- Technology K – 12
- Fine & Performing Arts K – 12
- Business
- Music K – 12
- Kindergarten
- Physical Education K – 12
- Health 1 – 12
- Library Media
- Gifted & Talented
- Guidance

Mrs. Christine Oseija, Elementary Technology Facilitator Teacher, continues to offer workshops this year: Easy Grade Pro, Google Earth, Google Docs, Digital Photography, Interactive Websites, Smartboards, Microsoft Office.

### **Results of School Level Objectives – 2009-2010 School Year**

By June 2010, students in grades kindergarten through two (K-2) demonstrated proficiency in writing, as demonstrated through a writing assessment. A minimum of 80% of the students achieved a score of 80% on the teacher-developed assessment. A rubric was used to score the writing assessment.

By June 2010, students in grades three through six (3-6) demonstrated proficiency in mathematics, targeting math strategies, utilizing Study Island. Students were assessed using a pre-test in September. By May 2010, a minimum of 80% of the students achieved a 70% or higher on the topics covered by Study Island in the area of math strategies.

Both were met successfully.

### **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 2010-2011 school year:

By June 2011, students in grades kindergarten through two (K-2) will demonstrate proficiency in writing as demonstrated through a writing assessment. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assessment. A rubric will be used to score the writing assignment.

By June 2011, students in grades three through six will demonstrate proficiency in mathematics, targeting math strategies utilizing Study Island. Students will be assessed using Pearson Learnia Assessment Tracking Tool 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 math strategies. Learnia Assessment Tracking Tool will be used to assess the students' end of the year progress.

### **School Activities**

***The Mayor's Wellness Campaign*** – this initiative was in its fourth year and was township-wide through the Mayor's office. Also, part of the Wellness Campaign was the very popular "Mayor's Weight Loss Challenge" for faculty and staff, which was in its second year, and Radcliffe faculty and staff again participated.

#### ***PTO Open House – Tuesday, September 22, 2009***

Our annual open house was September 22, 2009. The teachers were in attendance, along with Mr. Steve Rogers, our board representative.

#### ***New Parent Meeting – Tuesday, September 22, 2009***

The New Parent Meeting was held before the open house.

***Fire Prevention Week – October 5 – 9, 2009***

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

***Hearing Screening Week – October 19 – 23, 2009***

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

***Red Ribbon Week – October 19 – 30, 2009***

Red Ribbon Week began on Monday, October 19, 2009, and went through the following week, ending on Halloween, Friday, October 30, 2009.

***Lyons Club Vision Screening – Wednesday, November 4, 2009***

The Lyons Club conducted the annual vision screening for fourth graders on Wednesday, November 4.

***American Education Week – Monday, November 16 – Friday, November 20 and Parent Visitation Day – Friday, November 20, 2009***

Parent Visitation Day was Friday, November 20, for Kindergarten through Sixth Grade

***Holiday Music Program – December, 16, 2009 – grades 5 & 6***

Our holiday music program was held on Wednesday, December 16, 2009, 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 three and four, with fourth grade strings, and fifth and sixth grades instrumentalists. This was well received again this year.

***Gifted & Talented Program***

Our Gifted & Talented Program has allowed academically exceptional students to participate in programs that are not offered in our regular education classes. These programs have allowed our students to think creatively and critically.

***Read Across America – March 1 – March 5, 2010***

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 1. This year, Miss Pappalardo, Miss Pravata, and Miss Shaw sponsored Radcliffe School.

***Kindergarten Registration – week of March 8 – 12, 2010***

Registration for our kindergarten students for the year 2010/11 was the week of March 8 - 12, 2010. Kindergarten orientation was held for the new kindergarten parents on Monday, April 19, at 2:00 P.M. in the Library, with Mrs. Jennifer Farro & Mrs. Holly Jasnowitz, Kindergarten teachers, Mrs. Virginia Reilly, Mrs. Filomena Contella and Mrs. Justine DeFluri, PTO Co-Presidents, Mrs. Cervasio, Extended Day Director 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 Alyssa Zuzzio and Miss Danielle Pappalardo, our Strategy Skills and Fifth Grade teachers, respectively.

### ***Women in History – Assembly – Thursday, March 11, 2010***

This year's assembly was held on Thursday, March 11, 2010, with women dignitaries from the town of Nutley coming to speak to the fifth and sixth graders.

### ***Spring Musicale – Wednesday, March 24, 2010 - grades 3 & 4***

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

### ***Spring Musicale – May 25, 2010 - grades 1 & 2 – Band & Instrumentalists***

On Tuesday, May 25, 2010, Mrs. Marie Sanders led grades one and two in their Spring Musicale, along with the Mr. Baron Raymond conducted the band & instrumentalists. This musicale was a complete success.

### ***Clubs***

Algebra Club – Miss Natalie Gatto, Sponsor

Banana Splits- Alisa Gennace/April Vitiello, Sponsors

Drama Squad – Alisa Gennace / April Vitiello, Sponsors

Battle of the Books – Miss Jainine Gambaro, Sponsor

Chorale – Mrs. Marie Sanders, Sponsor

Safety Patrols – Mrs. Nancy Szura, Sponsor

Student Council – Mrs. Alicia DiPrimio/Miss Danielle Pappalardo, 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-Disabled – Mrs. Casazza – Articulation Days

Pre-Kindergarten – Miss Shaw – Articulation Days

Pre-Kindergarten – Mrs. Cresci – Articulation Days

Kindergarten, First– Mr. Yin – Articulation Days

Kindergarten – J.Farro – Articulation Days

Kindergarten – H.Jasnowitz, Fourth Grade Family Science, EAN Pride

First Grade – S.Neri – Articulation Days

First Grade - M. Cristantiello – Professional Development Committee Chairperson, QSAC Committee Member, I & RS Team member, Articulation Days, Vice President of the Education Association of Nutley

First Grade – S. Lennon – Articulation Days

Second Grade – G.Kahn – Affirmative Action Committee member, Articulation Days

Second Grade -L. Moscaritola – LA Curriculum Committee member, Articulation Days

Third Grade - S. Hagert– Superintendent's Advisory, Articulation Days, Lunch & Learn workshops

Third Grade – P. Conry – (Lauren Mosior, Substitute Teacher took over this class the entire school year and attend all workshops and Articulation Days)

Fourth Grade - C. Perrone- Articulation Days, Lunch & Learn workshops, Language Arts Curriculum

Fourth Grade – V.Sautter – Articulation Days

Fifth Grade – C.Cullari – Fourth Grade Family Math & Science, Language Arts Curriculum Revision and Workshops, Lunch & Learn workshops, I & RS Team member, continuing education (Kean University classes) Articulation Days, Math Curriculum Revision

Fifth Grade – E.Napoli – Articulation Days, Lunch & Learn workshops

Fifth Grade – D.Pappalardo – Articulation Days, Lunch & Learn workshops, Student Council, Pennies for Patients, Coach for Third Half basketball team

Sixth Grade – N.Gatto – Read-a-thon coordinator, Articulation Days, Lunch & Learn workshops

Sixth Grade - N. Szura –Lunch & Learn workshops, Articulation Days

Library – J.Gambaro – Library Specialists' Meeting, Professional Development Committee member, Lunch & Learn workshops, Follett Book Look workshop, Articulation Days

Strategy Skills – M.Strumolo – Articulation Days, Lunch & Learns

Strategy Skills – A.Zuzzio – Permanent Substitute, Articulation Days, Lunch & Learn Workshops

Art Teacher – P.Behrens – Articulation Days, Lunch & Learn Workshops

Music Teacher – M.Sanders, Articulation Days, Lunch & Learns

Physical Education Teacher – J.Alessio – Articulation Days

Special Education – Resource – A.DiPrimio – Articulation Days, Lunch & Learn workshops, Student Council, Pennies for Patients

Special Education – Resource – J.Pravata – Lunch & Learn workshops, Articulation Days

**Special Programs**

Kindergarten	The Kindergarten Promotion was held on Monday, June 21, 2010. The students presented a Red-White-Blue theme for the promotion program.
Grades 3 - 4	Spring musical held on Wednesday, March 24, 2010 - On Thursday, April 30, 2009, Mrs. Marie Sanders led grades one and two in their Spring Musicale
Grades 5 - 6	Holiday Musicale - held on Wednesday, December 16, 2009, and was conducted by Mrs. Sanders, with the fourth grade strings. The 5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> grade-Band students also performed under the direction of Mr. Raymonde.
Grades 1 - 2	Spring Musicale – held on Tuesday, May 25, 2010, and was conducted by Mrs. Sanders. The 5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> grade Instrumentalists also performed under the direction of Mr. Raymonde.
Grade 5	“Battle of the Books” – under the direction of Miss Gambaro
Grade 6	“Battle of the Books” – under the direction of Miss Gambaro
Grade 6	The Sixth Grade Promotion was held on Tuesday, June 22, 2010, with diplomas given to the students by myself and the Radcliffe School Board of Education Representative, Mr. Steve Rogers.
Grades 1 – 6	Field Day – First Annual – Wednesday, June 16, 2010

**Class/ClubTrips**

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

Special Learners	New Jersey Children's Museum
Kindergarten	Kindergarten Picnic
First Grade	Outragesss Pets
Second Grade	Newark Museum & Nutley Public Library
Third Grade	Nutley Museum / Franklin Reformed Cemetery, Museum of Early Trades & Crafts
Fourth Grade	Franklin Mineral Mines
Fifth Grade	Ocean Institute at Sandy Hook, NJ
Sixth Grade	The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, PA
Safety Patrols	Patrol Picnic
Italian Classes 6 <sup>th</sup>	Grades – Forno's Spanish Restaurant
Radcliffe Chorale	Episcopal Senior Housing & Parkside Apartments



### **Student Council**

The Radcliffe School Student Council, under the direction of Miss Alicia DiPrimio and Miss Danielle Pappalardo was active and participated in fund drives during the course of the 2009/10 school year, supporting philanthropic organizations. 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 fourth year in a row, in conjunction with the Township, and under the direction of Mrs. Alicia DiPrimio and Miss Danielle Pappalardo.

Elections for the new school year 2010/11 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 Wednesday, June 16, 2010 for Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Grades. Awards were presented for high honor roll, honor roll, perfect attendance and good citizenship (social growth.) Awards were handed out to the lower grades in their classrooms for perfect attendance. In addition, awards were given for the winners for physical fitness (President's Challenge,) and Instrumental & Music programs. Again, this year the "John Walker Foundation Scholarship" was given to two outstanding sixth grade students: The presentation of the Walker Scholarship was done by Mrs. Nancy Szura, on Wednesday, June 16, 2010, at the Awards Assembly.

### **Presidential Achievement Awards**

The awards, presented for Presidential Achievement, were given to ten sixth grade students at the Sixth Grade Promotion Dress Rehearsal on Monday, June 21, 2010. The criteria for achievement of these awards is ranked in the top 25% of the class, high honors for final grade and Mathematics Final Examination.

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

Radcliffe School would like to thank the PTO Presidents, Mrs. Filomena Contella and Mrs. Justine DeFluri, who led the organization through this school year – 2009-10 - very successfully. New officers were elected for the next two school years. The new presidents are Mrs. Adrienne Feraco and Mrs. Suzanne Harabedien.

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

Radcliffe School P.T.O. Presidents, Mrs. Contella and Mrs. De Fluri, 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  
 Sharon Romaglia's Dental Assembly – First Grade  
 Fire Safety  
 Franklin Institute Traveling Science Show  
 Women in History

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

Sept.	Innisbrook Gift Wrap
Sept.	Open House
Sept.	Joseph's Photographer's Picture Day
October	Pumpkin Patch
October	Clothing Drive
November	Scholastic Book Fair
December	Holiday Musicale
December	Holiday Boutique (Santa Sale)
January	PTO Family Fun Night
March	Talent Show
April	Tricky Tray
April	Spring Musicale
May	Spring Musicale
May	Plant Sale
May	Teachers' Appreciation Lunch
May	Junior Olympics
June	Ice Cream Truck Day
June	Promotion Activities

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

The 2009/10 school year proved to be another successful P.T.O. year, with numerous meetings and assemblies.

Smencil sales went very well

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

The Halloween Dance 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

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.

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

### **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 seventh year. This team was designed to assist students who were experiencing learning, behavior, or health difficulties, and to assist faculty, who have difficulties in addressing these needs. In its seventh year, it continues to be very successful. Please see the attached I & RS Summary of this school year – 2009-2010.

### **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 fourth year Autism Program
- full – day kindergarten

## 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, Mrs. Karen Yeamans, Business Administrator, and Mr. Philip Nicolette, and to my colleagues for their support, advice, and guidance during my third 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. Also, I would be remiss not to recognize the retirement this year of four outstanding teachers. They have been educating children for more than 100 years of service combined. The Nutley Board of Education has been fortunate to have them.

In its third year, in particular, Radcliffe School was honored to have the Autistic program (Special Learners) in the building. The program had three classes (Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten and First Grade.) This school year an additional class was introduced: Pre-Kindergarten Disabled. 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 an Occupational Therapist, a Physical Therapist, a Speech Therapist, a Psychologist, and a Behavior Specialist on hand for Special Learner students. These teachers and staff members were professionals and fully contributed to making this program successful again this 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. Juhnden, and Mrs. Pavlisko. These staff members continue to assist the lunch program, library 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, 2010

SUBJECT: Principal's Annual Report  
School Year 2009/2010

**This is a summary of programs, events, and activities that have taken place at Spring Garden School during the 2009-2010 school year. I am very proud of the students, staff and parents for all their efforts throughout the year.**

### **Continuing Priorities**

- Align all curriculums with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards (NJCCS)
- Review of Life Skills Curriculum (Career Education, Consumer Education, Family Life)
- Continue to develop and refine the Autistic Program
- Review of Language Arts Writing Program Grades 3-8
- Continue to support, develop, and expand the Gifted and Talented Program
- Review and continue to implement the World Language Program to include all primary grades using the Rosetta Stone Program
- Review the World Language Curriculum Grades K-12
- Review the Art Curriculum Grades K-6
- Review the Basic Skills Mathematics Program Grades K-6
- Review Character Education K-6
- Review the Health and Physical Education Curriculum Grades K-12
- Continue to incorporate D.A.R.E. in the Health Curriculum
- Implement an elementary SAC curriculum
- Monitor standardized test results
- Continue to meet Annual Yearly Progress (AYP)
- Transition the CAT Program to an Academic Booster Club sponsored program.
- Ensure effective communication between elementary schools, middle school, and high school faculties in the content area(s).

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

- Instructional Theory into Practice
- Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS) and 504
- Easy Grade Pro
- Google Earth
- Google Docs
- Digital Photography
- Interactive Websites
- Smartboards
- Microsoft Office
- Elementary Assessment – NJ ASK 3-6
- Mentoring Program
- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Procedures

**Annual Report 2009/2010****Spring Garden School**

- Affirmative Action Policies
- Introduction to Differentiated Instruction: Managing the Differentiated Classroom
- Autistic Program

**All areas of the Nutley School District Curricula were reviewed and updated in the following areas to reflect the current NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards:**

- Language Arts Literacy Gr. 1-12
- Math 1-12
- Science 1-12
- Social Studies 1-12
- ESL K-12
- World Language K-12
- Technology K-12
- Fine & Performing Arts K-12
- Business
- Music K-12
- Kindergarten
- Physical Education K-12
- Health 1-12
- Library Media
- Gifted and Talented
- Guidance

**Spring Garden School Staff Development**

- NJ ASK Language Arts Literacy Grades 3-6
- Mentor Teacher Training
- Building Web Literacy
- Understanding and Analyzing AYP Data
- Understanding and Implementing the Pre K-3 Vision
- New Title I Directors Training
- Assessment of Practices in Early Elementary Classrooms
- Creating 21<sup>st</sup> Century New Jersey Schools
- Kindergarten Conference
- Bullying Workshop
- ASLS Conference
- Montclair State University: Conversation with Commissioner Bret Schundler



**Results of School Level Objectives - 2009/10 School Year**

During the 2009-2010 school year the students in grades kindergarten through two (K-2) showed proficiency in writing as demonstrated through a writing assessment. Ninety-seven percent of the students achieved a score of 80% or higher on a teacher-developed assessment. A rubric was used to score the activity.

During the 2009-2010 school year the students in grade three through six (3-6) showed proficiency in mathematics, targeting math strategies utilizing Study Island. Students were assessed using a pretest, which was administered in September and May. Eighty-eight percent of the students achieved a 70% or higher on the topics covered by Study Island in the area of reading strategies.

**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 2009-2010 school year.

**School Level Objectives - 2010/2011 School Year**

By June 2011, students in kindergarten through grade two (K-2) will demonstrate proficiency in writing as demonstrated through a writing assessment. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assessment. A rubric will be used to score the writing assignment.

By June 2011, students in grades three through six (3-6) will demonstrate proficiency in mathematics, targeting math strategies utilizing Study Island. Students will be assessed using Pearson Learnia Assessment Tracking Tool 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 math strategies. Pearson Learnia Assessment Tracking Tool will be used to assess student end of the year progress.

**Programs****RISE Program**

The Academic Booster Club sponsored a new Saturday program for 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. While the traditional CAT curriculum has been suspended due to budgetary constraints, they have created RISE designed to Reward, Inspire, Support, and Enrich through a variety of exciting hands-on courses to supplement and enhance the educational experience of all students.

The Goals of R.I.S.E. are as follows:

- To promote dynamic, experimental learning
- To focus on development of collaboration and creative problem-solving
- To engage thinkers and learners to develop higher-level thinking skills

### **Character Education Program**

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.

Each month we chose a pillar of good character to highlight. In order to motivate our students we began a “ticket” program. If a child was seen exhibiting good character, the child was given a ticket and he or she’s name was read over the PA system. At the end of the month five names were drawn from the jar of tickets and the students were announced at an assembly and they received a certificate and dog tag of one of the pillars.

I am very proud of the staff and students for participating in such a wonderful, rewarding program. For the 2010- 2011 school year the staff has planned to formulate a peer mediation program, “Peace Makers,” to be utilized during the school day, particularly at lunchtime. The staff worked diligently on the following:

Informational Pamphlet

Procedures

Selection Process

Resources

### **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 sixth grade.
3. Identified Program: Third through sixth graders were identified based on multiple criteria. Classes were offered twice a week to those students who qualified.

### **Red Ribbon and Violence Prevention Week**

This year we recognized Violence Awareness and Red Ribbon Week in the Nutley schools. As part of our health curriculum, teachers reviewed healthy and positive behaviors with their students. Each student received a wristband and ribbon during the

week to promote and encourage the importance of helping others and remaining drug and violence free. In addition, each homeroom submitted a poster pledge that was displayed in the hallways.

### **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 History 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 JoAnn 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.

### **Read Across America**

Nutley High School's Future Educators of America Club came to read to students in grade kindergarten through second grade to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday on March 1, 2010. 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 April 27, 2010, the fifth graders participated in "Law Day, 2010," a program sponsored by the American Bar Association. Essex County Superior Court Judge Thomas Vena, attorneys Mauro Tucci, Josie Scanlan, and a member of the Sheriff's Office, officiated at the mock trial. This case was a civil case involving a two million lawsuit against Acme Sewer Company for personal injuries sustained by Carol Gallagher, a young woman who fell in a manhole while crossing a street and texting on her cell phone. Following the mock trial, a question and answer period was conducted allowing the students to gain a greater insight into our judicial system. I would like to extend my appreciation to Ms. Debra Vessichelli for her assistance in organizing this special day.

**Mayor's Fitness Challenge**

The Mayor's Fitness Challenge's goal was to promote a healthy lifestyle by encouraging students to walk to school on Wednesdays. Mayor Cocchiola joined approximately forty students on Daily Street and Prospect and walked to school with the students. The children had the opportunity to meet the Mayor and ask questions.

**Mayor's Weight Loss Challenge**

The Township of Nutley embarked on a fourteen-week weight loss program called the Mayor's Weight Loss Challenge. Several Spring Garden School teachers participated in the program. Many incentives were offered to participants; Nutley High School weight room, Starlight Dance Center, and Signature Fitness Gym. Mayor Cocchiola did a wonderful job organizing this worthwhile program.

**Jump for Heart**

During the week of February 2<sup>nd</sup>, the students in grades kindergarten through sixth grade participated in the American Heart Association's *Jump Rope for Heart*. *Jump Rope for Heart* takes place in schools throughout the country, teaching students about the importance of regular physical activity and heart health. Curriculum materials were provided. The students raised **\$1516.50** for support of vital research and educational programs. *Jump Rope for Heart* was a fun event that helped our students understand the importance of community service and physical activity.

**Be Green Celebrate Earth Day**

During Earth Day teams and individuals were assigned a park or school to help keep Nutley Community clean. Students that participated received a homework pass and certificate. It was well attended and the school grounds were cleaned and flowers were planted in each bucket. The students also participated in a poster contest. In addition, the sixth grade students wrote letters to Mayor Cocchiola to offer suggestions on how to make Nutley greener. Mayor Cocchiola visited the students to commend them on their suggestions and answered many questions.

**Teacher Study Group**  
**"Safe Schools"**

I am very proud to announce that the Spring Garden School staff was involved in a Character Education Teacher Study Group sponsored by Montclair State University.

The study group was formed because the staff felt there was a need to reinforce and recognize good character among our students. The staff met at lunchtime once a week to comprise a list of books, and develop lesson plans to address the six pillars of good character. The goal of the "Safe School" Teacher Study Group was to continue to address

Character Education. A school-wide program was developed and implemented by the staff. The program was very successful and helped reduce the incidents of bullying.

The staff implemented an anti bullying and conflict resolution program, which helped the students to distinguish the difference between bullying and conflicts, conducted research, planned lessons, attended conferences, collaborated with Lincoln School's Teacher Study Group via skypeing, purchased motivational incentives, and implemented an anti-bullying curriculum.

For the 2010- 2011 school year the staff has planned to formulate a peer mediation program, "Peace Makers," to be utilized during the school day, particularly at lunchtime. The staff worked diligently on the following:

Informational Pamphlet

Procedures

Selection Process

Resources

### **I&RS Committee**

During the 2009-2010 school year, the I&RS team met regularly on Thursday afternoons from 1:50 – 2:25 p.m. The team consisted of the principal, the learning consultant, the school nurse, a classroom teacher and special education teacher. Throughout the sessions, eighteen children were reviewed. Attempts to assist these at risk pupils included enrollment in the Basic Skills Program, parent-help conferences, positive reinforcement plans and instructional suggestions for the classroom teacher. After initial strategies were conducted, four became official Child Study Team referrals and 504 plans were written for nine students. These students along with those referred in previous years will continue to be monitored next year and the team will meet with their new teachers in September. The I&RS team meetings will resume in October 2010.

### **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.

### **TICKET Program**

Spring Garden was proud to participate in the TICKET program (Total Immersion Course for Korean English Teachers). Mrs. Heeyeon Kim and Mikyun Kim came to Spring Garden School from Korea to learn, speak, and live as Americans. Although Mrs. Kim and Ms. Choi were the ones "learning," the first and third grade students at SGS learned some valuable lessons as well. The students were introduced to many important aspects of Korean culture such as Korean language, music, clothing, folktales, and historical art. The students performed a Korean play and were even able to speak and read a few Korean sayings. The students were left with lessons rich with creativity, respect, and Korean traditions. A special thanks to Ms. Pavlecka and Mrs. Venezia for all their hard

**Annual Report 2009/2010****Spring Garden School**

work.

In addition, Spring Garden School hosted a school visitation for Deputy Superintendent, Mr. Sung Guk Jung and Supervisor, Mr. Sang Rhee. Assemblymen Scalera addressed the Korean visitors and answered many questions in regard to educational funding. Spring Garden School was very proud to be chosen for this visit.

**The Annual Book Fair**

The Annual Book Fair sponsored by Spring Garden School PTO was held in March. The PTO offered each student a \$5.00 certificate to be applied to the purchase of a book.

**Movie Night**

Due to the construction of the new gymnasium the Strawberry Festival was cancelled this year. In place of the festival the PTO sponsored Movie Night. The movie *Up* was shown. The students attending each received a tote bag with goodies and vendors were on hand for other refreshments.

**Parent Volunteers**

Mr. James Greengrove, a former parent, and Mrs. Lynn Lilore volunteered their assistance in the primary reading program. Other parent sponsored activities; Daisies, Brownies, Cub Scouts, and Girl Scouts were well attended and enjoyed by all.

**Spring Garden PTO**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the PTO for all their hard work throughout the year. Through their efforts three additional Smartboards have been purchased; and I am proud to report that every classroom in the school now has a Smartboard. They also planned wonderful assemblies, purchased agendas and folders, arranged to have treats for special days, and teacher incentive grants awarded. The students and staff have appreciated all the PTO's efforts.

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

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

**National Random Acts of Kindness**

Spring Garden School students participated in the National Random Acts of Kindness initiative supported by Mayor Cocciola's office. This one-week event helped our community extend acts of kindness to their loved ones, neighbors, fellow students, teachers and even some complete strangers. It was a wonderful program to help remind children the importance of helping someone else.

**Family Math and Science**

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

**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 Geography Bee 2010**

On January 15, 2010, 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, Julia Yang. The students enjoyed this activity very much. I appreciate Mrs. McCormick's organization of this educational activity.

**Battle of the Books**

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

**Shadow Day**

Students from the Nutley High School Future Educators Association took part in Shadow Day on February 3, 2010. This worthwhile activity afforded its members “hands-on” experience to help them shape their future plans. The following teachers participated in the day: Mrs. Dingwell, Mrs. Cassie, Ms. Curry, Mrs. Rizzuto, and Mrs. Vessichelli.

**Multicultural Day**

Multicultural Day, *Spring Garden School United Nations*, was planned for June 11, 2010. The teachers each chose a country and decorated their doors and hallway to display flags, maps, and artifacts. The students were all able to tour the building to learn more about the many cultures.

**2010 Target Field Trip Grant Recipient**

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mrs. Doreen Holland on receiving the 2010 Target Field Trip Grant for \$800.00. This grant enabled the sixth grade students to visit Discovery Times Square King Tut and the Golden Age of Pharaohs.

**Fund Raising and Donations**

The staff and students were very involved in fund raising during the school year. The Class of 2010 raised \$1,136.40 for the families of Haiti. In addition, the sixth grade class and teachers participated in the Holiday Treasure Chest sponsored by Mayor Cocchiola. They generously adopted a Spring Garden School family and provided a plethora of gifts to them. Also through the help of the student council a donation was made to St. John's Church. The donation was used to purchase a tent for their parking lot so the men and women could eat out of the elements during the winter months.

**Stand Up to Bullying**

Stand Up to Bullying took place on February 12, 2010. Through the Character Education Program established at Spring Garden School the teachers spoke to the students regarding bullying. All students were asked to wear pink, red or white that day. This campaign was based on an incident that happened when Travis Price and David Shepard, two seniors from Nova Scotia, took a stand when a freshman student in their school was bullied for wearing a pink shirt. Their act of kindness, and stance against bullying triggered a National event.



**CLUBS****Journalism Club**

The newspaper club met every other Monday under the supervision of Miss Erika Pavlecka. 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. Sheryl Holly advised all student council activities. They accomplished their agenda of activities with enthusiasm, support and participation from the sixth grade members. The mission of the council focused on school and aspects of community service. Major projects included a collection for Thanksgiving food baskets, visiting Parkside Senior Housing, and a peer-tutoring program. Students in grades one through six were invited to work with a member of the Student Council for academic assistance. This initiative was well received by the school parent community.

**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
- April - Musicale      Grades 3 & 5

**Safety Patrols**

The Spring Garden Safety patrol comprised of 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. I appreciate Mrs. Cassie for her coordination of this program.

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

The Military Fan Mail Club has been in existence at Spring Garden School for seven years. It consists of approximately sixty active members from the fifth and sixth grades. The club's mission is to foster a sense of patriotism in students and develop an appreciation for American men and women serving in uniform around the world.

To accomplish this goal, the club makes their own greeting cards, which they send to military men and women serving at home and abroad. The club meets for a minimum of one hour per week. As active members of *Friends of Our Troops*, the club has placed **FIRST** in the state of New Jersey and **FIRST** in the nation for the number of cards sent by elementary students for our first three years. The club has placed first nationally for the past two years.

In addition to the tour mass mailings, the club also writes to many individual service men and women who have become regular pen pals. We are especially proud of our commitment to Spring Garden's own, Tim Allen.

In addition to our pen-pal program, the club hosts an annual Veteran's Day assembly program at Spring Garden School for Nutley's veterans. This year the club also hosted a program for Staff Sergeant Batista. Staff Sergeant Batista gave Mayor Cocchiola a flag that was flown in Afghanistan.

The club is self-sufficient. In order to pay for any necessary supplies, dues, and postage, the club's members plan, organize, and run fundraisers, such as pencil and lollipop sales.

## ASSEMBLY PROGRAMS

- October Nutley Fire Dept. Assembly Program (K-6)  
Pick-A-Packet (Gr. 3-6)  
Motivational Assembly – (Gr. K-6)  
Character Education Assembly (K-6)
- November Veteran’s Day Assembly–Military Fan Mail Club (Gr. 4-6)  
Character Education Assembly (K-6)
- December Character Education Assembly (K-6)
- January Geography Bee (Gr. 4-6)  
Jump For Heart (K-5)

- Cyber bullying Assembly (Gr. 6)  
Character Education Assembly (K-6)
- February      PTO- Nutrition: "The Magic of 5-a-Day" (K-6)  
Character Education Assembly – (Gr. K-6)  
Middle School Jazz Band- (Gr. 5 & 6)  
Middle School Marching Band – (Gr. 6)
  
  - March          Women's History Career (5-6)  
Read Across America – Produce Pete (K-6)  
Latin Honor Society (Gr. 6)  
Military Fan Mail Program (Gr. 4-6)  
Drama Club Performance (Gr. 6)  
Earth Day  
Character Education Assembly (K-6)
  
  - April          Tobacco Prevention (Gr. 3)  
Law Day (Gr. 5)  
Town of Nutley, Illusion Maker, "Do You Believe  
In Magic" (Gr.K-6)  
Character Education Assembly (K-6)
  
  - May            Environment Assembly – J. Bertuzzi JWMS (Gr.4-6)  
Character Education Assembly (K-6)
  
  - June           Awards Assembly (Gr. 4-6)  
Tobacco Prevention (Gr. 4)

### **Awards Assembly**

The annual awards assembly under the supervision of Mrs. Doreen Holland, Mrs. Holly, and Mrs. Wilson honored all students who participated in school activities, local contests, and community service with special certificates and commendations as a form of recognition.

**FIELD TRIPS:**

Kindergarten	Nutley Fire House
Grade 1	Montclair State University "Click Clack Moo"
Grade 2	Montclair State University "Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing"
Grade 3	Alstede Farm, Chester, NJ
Grade 4	Bronx Zoo, New York Botanical Gardens, New York
Grade 5	West Point Academy, New York
Grade 6	Camping Trip – Three-day environmental program accompanied with experiences in ecology, social interaction, peer bonding skills, building and fostering self-esteem and respect for each other through teamwork and group activities Ice Skating – Cody Arena, West Orange Iberia Restaurant on Ferry St. with Spanish Teacher Discovery Times Square-King Tut and the Golden Age of Pharaohs Nutley Senior Center/St. Patrick's Day with Student Council

**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:**

ABC History Fair

**Grade 1:**

ABC History Fair

**Grade 2:**

ABC History Fair – Devin Reed 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

Grade 3:

ABC History Fair

Grade 4:

ABC History Fair – Dennis Kirby 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

Lions Club Spelling Bee

Grade 5:

ABC History Fair – Stephanie Calluori – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

Nutley Veterans Council Essay Contest – *“What America Means to Me”*.

Nutley Veteran’s Council Essay Contest, *“The American Flag and What it Means to Me”*

Grade 6:

ABC History Fair

Nutley Veterans Council Essay Contest – *“What America Means to Me”*.

AMVETS & Ladies Auxiliary – *“Why Do We Celebrate The Fourth of July?”*

Nutley Veteran’s Council Essay Contest, *“The American Flag and What it Means to Me”*

Sixth Grade Scholarship Recipients for the Class of 2010**Susan LaReau Scholarship**

Jacob Michels

Megan Powell

**Paula Lee Scholarship**

Thomas Yang

Melissa Rodas

**John H Walker Scholarship**

Luke Michels

Amanda Olivo

**Jensen Lindenbaum Literacy Scholarship**

Domenico Griesi

Marlena Cugliari

**Hoop Shoot Champs**

Gr. 4 – Isabella Gonsiewski  
Matthew Chimento

Gr. 5 – Brooke Keena  
Marty Higgins

Gr. 6 - Daphne Ozdemir  
Geoffrey Bevere

**Regional County Champs**

First Place:	Brooke Keena Matthew Chimento
Second Place:	Isabella Gonsiewski
Third Place:	Daphne Ozdemir

**Third Half Club Basketball Tournament Team**

Sean Bernardo  
Geoffrey Bevere  
Anthony Cassie  
Anthony Condito  
Jack Contini  
Claudia Martin  
Jacob Michels  
Luke Michels  
Victoria Montes  
Katie Osilowski  
Michael Purcell  
Nicholas Senatore

**Gifted and Talented Awards**

The following students were selected as one of four winners in the Elementary School Division of NJ Young Playwrights Festival 2010 for their play *The Million Dollar Cake*:

Emily Budine  
Maggie Spector-Williams  
Alex Vaporis

**Annual Report 2009/2010****Spring Garden School**

Zachary Vaporis, Gr. 5, had a story published in Hutch Magazine, a children's magazine, entitled, "Seabright"

Anna Charlotte, Gr. 4, won 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Nutley Public Library's Photo Contest entitled, "Flock With a Flamingo".

Maggie Spector-Williams and AnneMarie Reisch, both in fifth-grade, participated in the Essex County Forensics Tournament as members of the Nutley team.

**CLOSING REMARKS**

In closing, I would like to thank Mr. Joseph Zarra, Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Mariana Francioso, Assistant Superintendent and the Nutley Board of Education, especially Dr. Philip Casale and Charles Kucinski, our representatives, for their continued help and support. I would like to extend a special thanks to Mr. Paul Palozzola and the Child Study Team, who aids us with our special education children and their programs, and to Mr. Michael DeVita, Karen Yeamans, Mr. Nicolette and the custodial staff for all their efforts in maintaining and improving the condition of the building. Also, I would like to thank the PTO for all their help, support and generosity.

Spring Garden students continue to achieve high scores on the NJ ASK and NJ PASS 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, essay contests, and community service. Their outstanding achievements exemplify their desire to compete and succeed.

The dedicated staff, secretary, and non-professional employees continue to work diligently to renew the spirit, high standards and academic excellence that are the benchmarks of our school district.

Thank you.

Rosemary Clerico, Principal

**WASHINGTON SCHOOL**



# Nutley Public Schools


WASHINGTON SCHOOL  
155 WASHINGTON AVENUE  
NUTLEY, NEW JERSEY 07110

**Douglas T. Jones**  
Principal

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

June 27, 2010

TO: Mr. Joseph Zarra

FROM: Douglas T. Jones 

RE: Principal's Annual Report – School Year 2009-2010

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

This is a summary of programs, events, and activities that have taken place at Washington School during the 2009-2010 school year. I am very proud of the students, staff and parents for all their efforts throughout the year.

## Continuing Priorities

- Align all curriculums with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards (NJCCCS)
- Review of Life Skills Curriculum
- Continued support, develop and expand the Gifted and Talented Program
- Review Strategies Math Program Grades K-6
- Review of Language Arts Writing Curriculum Grades 3-8
- Review and continue to implement the World Language Program in primary grades using Rosetta Stone
- Continue to develop and refine the Autistic Program
- Review the Art Curriculum Grades K-6
- Review Health and Physical Education Curriculums K-12
- Review of Character Education K-6
- Review standardized test scores, develop action plans and implement improved instructional goals
- Review Elementary SAC Curriculum
- Continue to meet Annual Yearly Progress (AYP)

- Maintain direct communication between elementary, middle and high school departments
- Technology infusion in all classrooms
- District Emergency Management Plan
- Differentiated Instruction/Inclusion Instructional Strategies

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

- Instructional Theory into Practice
- Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS) and 504
- Exploring Web 2.0 Tools
- Designing Technology Integrated Lessons
- Elementary Assessment – NJ ASK 3-6
- Mentoring Program
- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Procedures
- Affirmative Action Policies
- Introduction to Differentiated Instruction: Managing the Differentiated Classroom
- Autistic Program
- Google Docs
- Digital Photography
- Interactive Websites

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

- Language Arts Literacy 1-12
- Mathematics 1-12
- Science 1-12
- Social Studies K-12
- ESL K-12
- Media Arts / Library / Technology K-12
- World Language K-12
- Fine and Performing Arts K-12
- Business
- Music K-12
- Health K-12
- Gifted and Talented
- Guidance

Ms. Christine Osieja, Elementary Technology Facilitator Teacher, has assisted classroom teachers with lessons to aid in infusing technology throughout the curriculum. They continue to train our teachers, develop projects and classroom implementation of concepts. Lunch time programming continued and was well utilized by the entire staff.

**Results of School Level Objectives – 2009-2010 School Year**

During the 2009-2010 school year, students in grades kindergarten through grade two demonstrated proficient writing skills based on a rubric that was created to assess skills

and growth. Over 80% of the students achieved a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assessment.

During the 2009-2010 school year, students in grades three to six demonstrated age appropriate proficiency in mathematics, targeting math strategies utilizing Study Island. A pretest was used in September to identify skill levels and growth. Over 80% of the students achieved a score of 70% or higher on the topic of mathematics strategies covered by Study Island.

### **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 2010-2011 school year:

#### **School Level Objective 2010-2011**

By June 2010, students in kindergarten through grade two (K-2) will demonstrate proficiency in writing as demonstrated through a writing assessment. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assessment. A rubric will be used to score the writing assignment.

By June 2010, students in grades three through six (3-6) will demonstrate proficiency in mathematics, targeting math 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 math strategies.

### **Testing**

The results of the **NJPASS Test** (grades 1-2) were carefully reviewed. Information about the tests was evaluated and strategies for improvement were developed and implemented for the year. The information and results from the NJPASS have not been obtained for the 2009-2010 school year 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. Information about the tests was evaluated and strategies for improvement were developed and implemented for the year. Test scores for all grades are not available at this time. Plans for improved instruction based on the results will be developed for the 2010-2011 school year.

### **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  
Kindergarten Curriculum Workshop  
Semple Math

Introduction to Wilson  
 Mary Grove College MAT Program  
 NJ ASK 3-6 Workshops  
 Eliminating / Preventing Bullying Workshops  
 Peer Mediation Workshop  
 Study Island Training  
 Mentoring and coaching  
 Math Curriculum Workshop  
 Integrating Technology Workshop  
 Language Arts Workshop  
 Critical Thinking in the Classroom  
 Technology Integration  
 Defibrillator Training  
 CPR Training  
 Epi-Pen Training  
 Food Allergy Alert Training  
 Parent/Teacher Conferences  
 Smartboard Training  
 We the People, Project Citizen  
 School Librarian Conference  
 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools

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.

### **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 Cocchiola 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. More families seem to take advantage of this positive and helpful program.

◆ **Contests**

Students in grades 1-6 participated in various contests throughout the school year: These included the Family Essay Contest, Lion's Club Spelling Bee, Nutley Elks Club Poster Contest, American Legion Coloring Contest, Forensics Tournament, New Jersey Bar Association Law Fair, Academically Speaking, Washington School Team Chess Tournament, Nutley Science Fair, Mayor's Fitness Challenge, and the Fourth Grade Reading Challenge.

◆ **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 participating in this tournament.

◆ **Musicales**

Mrs. Tirri, our instrumental instructor, and Mrs. Bimbi, our vocal music teacher, conducted three musicales in December, April, and May. During the December program grades one, five and six sang a variety of holiday songs. The instrumentalists played many favorite songs. The program created a very festive environment. During the April program grades two, three and four performed. The May concert highlighted songs by our fifth and sixth grade students, instrumental students, Sixth Grade Bell Choir and the Fifth and Sixth Grade Vocal Choir. These concerts highlight the progress of the children in the areas of vocal and instrumental music. Washington School instrumentalists also participated in the All-Elementary Music Concert at Nutley High School.

◆ **Washington School Art Show**

Under the direction of Ms. Crupi the students of Washington School created a whole school art show that afforded every student to show exemplary art produced all year long. The entire building was used and over 600 parents and friends attended. The Challenge Art Club members acted as Art Docents to provide visitors with information, artistic techniques and the objectives of each project.

◆ **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.

### **Assembly Programs**

Jump Rope for Heart (American Heart Association)

Walk To School Wednesdays

Bicycle Safety

Fire Safety Assembly

Character Education Assembly

Mask Messenger Assembly

Cyber bullying Assembly

Hearts for Haiti

What I love about Washington School

Jazz Band Assembly

Earth Day Assembly

Robert Jackson Motivational Memory

The Mask Messenger

Peppermint Playhouse Puppeteers

Latin Honors and Italian Club presentations

FMS Brass Ensemble

Tobacco Prevention

Nutley Library

Women in History Panel Discussion

Sports Camp Presentation

Passaic Valley Sewage Commission

Peer Mediators Presentation

Lions Club Assemblies

### ◆ **Parent Volunteers**

Once again, The Washington PTO consisting of parent volunteers 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 third, 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. A competition was held at the conclusion of the program where many students were successful.

### ◆ **ABC History Fair**

Washington School students participated in the 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.

♦ **American Education Week**

American Education Week was celebrated the week of November 10th. 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. Seuss' birthday, a select group of students from Walker Middle School and various other guests came to Washington School to read to our students.

♦ **Field Day**

Field Day was held on June 19. The entire student body competed in "Olympic-style" events. At the end of the competitions the PTO treated everyone to Rita's Ice. The children truly enjoy this event.

♦ **Bloomfield College Teacher Exchange Program**

The students participated in an innovative program that placed two Korean teachers in Language Arts classrooms (Grade 5) to help promote literacy and communication skills.

♦ **Multicultural Day**

Washington School students participated in a district wide cultural event highlighting every continent and a plethora of family backgrounds. Students and guests toured the building learning about various countries and peoples. We look forward to holding this event on an annual basis.

## **I&RS Team**

**2009/2010**

During the 2009/2010 school year, the Washington School I&RS team met weekly and as needed. The team consisted of the Principal, Student Assistance Counselor, Learning Consultant, Classroom Teacher Representatives, School Nurse, Parents, and the Referring Classroom Teacher.

Throughout the year, the referral team has successfully assisted many at-risk Washington School students. Interventions and accommodations, consistent with current educational philosophy, utilized by the team to assist these students were as follows: parent-teacher communication, program modification, specific classroom interventions, in-class support, additional Strategies instruction in Language Arts / Literacy and Mathematics, Wilson reading program, referrals to the SAC for emotional and behavioral support and referral to the Child Study Team.

During this time, twenty students were brought before the team with initial concerns ranging from academic to social and emotional in nature. The team, in conjunction with classroom teachers and parents, made recommendations for each student based on individual needs in order for them to find success in the classroom. Modifications and interventions were applied in a variety of modalities and success for each child was monitored on an ongoing basis. Follow-up meetings were scheduled to keep all parties informed and involved. Of the students brought before the team, eight were referred to the Child Study Team for testing evaluation. In addition, four students qualified for Section 504 accommodation plans and three students were recommended for retention. The remainder of the students will continue to be monitored by the I&RS team into the 2010-2011 school year.

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

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

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

In conclusion, students who received services for the 2009/2010 school year will receive continuation of services letters in the fall of 2009 in order to maintain the continuity of the Student Assistance Program and meet the needs of the students of Washington School.

### **Student Awards**

#### **JOHN H. WALKER MEMORIAL FOUNDATION AWARD**

Amy Rivera and Dante Vocaturo

### **ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

1Chieffo



Zachary Cagiao, Anushka Dixit, Sophia Genna, Isabella Iodice, Janie Juat, Kimberly McChristal, Nicolas Palangio, Ava Tucker

**1Puzio**

Elizabeth Conaty, Kaitlyn Gavidia, Shawn Ghassem, Julia Hernandez, Roy Kennedy, Mana Medizadeh, Zana Rasheed, Victoria Sullivan

**1Monterosa**

Scott Christman, Matthew Cozzi, Thomas DaCostaLobo, Justin Edert, Erin Laney, Vanessa Riscinti, Jack Yoon

**2 Carnevale**

Bhuvan Dave, Alexa Forcer, Gianna Foti, Samantha Gabriele, Maria Gencarelli, Tyler Grisanti, Declan Jackman, Giananthony Palangio, Angelina Quinones, Mia Scutti

**2 Crisson**

Jack Coulson, Evyn Garcia, Christine Hanna, Ava Intindola, Katharina Rakauckas, Amanda Sullivan, Sara Takhim, Steven Wong, Natalie Zolnierczyk

**3Andreula**

Lara Carnovale, Ashley Krieger, Joshua O'Neill

**3 Jousset**

Joseph Ambrosone, Emily Armato, Lingxiao Guan, Katherine Hochstuhl, James Juat, Emek Tasdemir

**3 Mosior** - Jack Christman

**4 Healy** - Eduardo Machado, Ellie McCreesh

**4 Tibaldo** – Michael Alvarez

**5 Boyce** – Jack McEwan, Shelby Pojawa, Michael Rodrigues

**5 Beckmeyer** – Christian Bascunan, Corey Brown, Cameron Lipton-Martinez, Maggie McCreesh, Nicholas Napolitano, Hazal Tasdemir

**5 Rossi** – Conor Jackman, Ming Li Lim, Avkash Patel, Yogesh Rakholia, Averill Wong

**6 Lenik** – Devin White, Jarrod Yee

**6 Maher** – Oliver Jimenez, Dante Vocaturo

**6 Smyth** – Matthew Ibasitas, Dante Intindola

**CITIZENSHIP AWARD**

**1 Chieffo**

Samantha Barone, Zachary Cagiao, Sophia Genna, Amanda Gibney, Kimberly McCristal, Nicolas Polewka, Anna Rispoli, Ava Tucker

**1 Monterosa**

Christopher Carnovale, Scott Christman, Thomas DaCosta Lobo, Justin Edert, Erin Laney, Allison Ponton, Christina Procopio, Vanessa Riscinti

**1 Puzio**

Sara Awad, Roy Kennedy, Zana Rasheed, Victoria Sullivan

**2 Carnevale**

John Bang, Alexis Cuccinello Montanez, Gianna Foti, Nicolette Foti, Samantha Gabriele, Maria Gencarelli, Cecelia Mielnicki, Giananthony Palangio, Mia Scutti

**2 Crisson**

Alexa Hergenhan, Ava Intindola, Samuel Minera, Erik Saldana, Amanda Sullivan, Julia Thompson, Natalie Zolnierczyk

**3 Andreula**

Natalis Bascunan, Victoria, Carenvale, Lara Carnovale, Isabella Giordano, Ashley Krieger, Giulia Polewka, Melody Salgado

**3 Jousset** - Emily Armato, Lingxiao Guan, Katherine Hochstuhl, Christopher Rodas, Emek Tasdemir, Elena Yee, Samantha Yoon

**3 Mosior** - Marina Awad, Noah Ibasitas, Thais Jimenez, Yukta Rana

**4 Healy** - Emilia Jarrin, Eduardo Machado, Ellie McCreesh, Natalie Muzzicato, Scott Pfefferle, Andrew Tyerman, Rauf Ural

**4 Tibaldo** - Michael Alvarez, Douglas Edert, Francesca Lentini, Jessica Marx, Giavanna Modica, Saiyam Roy, Elian Encarnacion

**5 Boyce** - Thomas Boniello, Veronica Chavez, Mario Cifuentes, Mary Lange, Jaymie Marchiano, Jake McEwan, Shelby Pojawa, Vincent Rispoli, Michael Rodrigues, Annmarie Rodriguez, Sean Proctor

**5 Beckmeyer** - Ashley LeSoine, Cameron Lipton-Martinez, Maggie McCreesh, Nicholas Napolitano, Aash Patel, David Pereira, Katya Susoni, Victoria Varano

**5 Rossi** - Frankie Galasso, Conor Jackman, MingLi Lim, Avkash Patel, Yogesh Rakholia, Eunice Suba, Averill Wong

**6 Lenik** - Anthony Alonso, Oscar Benitez, Gabriella Lentini, Joelle Ocampo, Rosalina Perez, Kyla Serfica, Chloe Teixeira, Garrett Troisi, Jarrod Yee

**6 Smyth** - Fady Beshara, Danielle Mannino, Olivia Palmieri, Amy Rivera, Alexa Valenzuela, Matthew Ibasitas

### Student Accolades

#### Spelling Bee Participants – 3A

Natalia Bascunan, Anthony Bernal, Lara Carnovale, Ashley Krieger, Eric Long, Shane Manieri, Joshua O'Neill, Giulia Polewka

#### American Heart Association Representative – 3A

Natalia Bascunan

4<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading Challenge – Fourth grades goal was to read 1,800 books – they read 1,989 books

Battle of the Books Winners – 4<sup>th</sup> grade – James Quinn, Ilya Udalov, Janelle Flores, Victor Melillo, Pooja Mehta

2009 Nutley Fall 5K Run 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the 14 and under category – Jimmy Quinn

Team Chess – 2<sup>nd</sup> place winners (beat out 22 teams!) – Devin White, Tamazi Danelia

Academically Speaking – final match was against Millburn – Dante Intindola (Captain), Jarrod Yee

Amvets Essay Contest – Why We Celebrate 4<sup>th</sup> of July –  
Danielle Mannino – First place winner locally and in State  
Tamazi Danelia – honorable mention

Third Half Club Basketball Tournament Champs – Washington School

Cognetics – a state wide G&T Expo held at MSU. This team attained the silver award, the highest award you can get at the event. – Rosalina Perez, Brendan Ruiz, Oliver Jimenez, Dante Vocaturo, Dante Intindola, Breanna McGeown, Harsh Patel

Presidential Physical Fitness Test Winners – Jimmy Quinn, Sydney Kunz, Veronica Chavez, Frankie Galasso, Sean Giordano, Danielle Mannino, Cameron Serra, April Klecak, Nicholas Edert, Rachel Alfieri, Oceana Valiero, Idalis Boissard

The Phys. Ed STARS award – Mrs. Boyce's class

History Fair Participants – Christopher Carnovale, Lara Carnovale, Lingxiao Guan, Ryan Li, Daniel Caraballo, Scott Pfefferle, Jimmy Quinn, Brian Savage, Andrew Tyerman, Averill Wong, Kayleigh Lavernia – 3<sup>rd</sup> place

### **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 vision, height and weight of each student.

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

Parent informational discussions were held on a variety of current health issues.

### **Class Trips**

Students participated in field experiences outside of the school. The utilization of field experiences creates an extended classroom where additional knowledge is molded. Many programs were geared to science and math curricula and were enjoyed by all who attended. Some of the trips included:

- Stony Hill Farms
- Essex Fells Problem Solving
- Camp Bernie
- Turtle Back Zoo
- Liberty Science Center
- Edison Museum
- Montclair State University
- Williams Center
- Nutley Museum
- NJ Marine Sciences, Sandy Hook
- Museum of Art
- Nutley Library
- Spanish Restaurant

### **WASHINGTON SCHOOL CLUBS**

- Art Club
- Chimettes

Dance Club  
 Gardening Club  
 Knitting Club  
 Chess Club  
 Student Council  
 School Newspaper  
 Patrols  
 Computer Club

### **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  
 Script Program  
 Plant Sale  
 Family Picnic  
 Staff Appreciation Luncheon  
 Wacky Olympics  
 Provided pizza luncheon for grades K-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 ice at our annual Field Day  
 Donated pocket folders and planners for the students  
 Created a parent directory  
 Purchased several classroom items  
 Purchased smartboards  
 Provided refreshments after Open House, for Read Across America, kindergarten and sixth grade promotions, fourth grade book challenge party.

### **Conclusion**

In closing, I wish to thank Mr. Joseph Zarra, Superintendent of School, for his support and guidance. His direct, honest assessment and constructivism of the district and Washington School has been vital for my professional growth. Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Marianna Francioso for her continual guidance and support on all levels,

Board Rep. for Washington School, Mr. James Kutcha, Members of the Board of Education, Principals of all other schools for their collected assistance and support in making the past year a great success at Washington School.

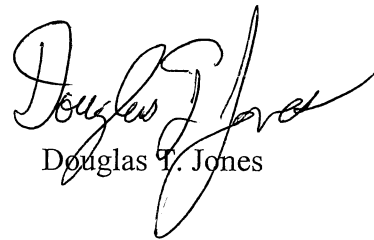
I would like to express my sincere thanks to the faculty of Washington School. They are all dedicated staff members who make Washington School a place for children and learning. We are about kids and the staff emulates this ideal everyday. Their dedication creates the culture of the school that is clearly apparent the moment one enters the building.

A special thanks to the School Nurse, Mrs. Moira Roberts, Music Teacher, Mrs. Kathy Bimbi, and the School LDTC, Dr. Robert Topolski, for their dedicated years of service to the children of Nutley.

I would like to thank Mr. Miller and the custodial staff, under the direction of Mr. Nicollette, for their tireless efforts to make the school clean and conducive for learning.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Douglas T. Jones". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Douglas" being more prominent and the last name "Jones" following in a similar style. The signature is positioned above the printed name "Douglas T. Jones".

Douglas T. Jones

**YANTACAW SCHOOL**

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

DAVID F. SORENSEN  
Principal

Tel: 973-661-8891

TO: Mr. Joseph Zarra, Superintendent of Schools

FROM: David Sorensen, Principal of Yantacaw School

DATE: June 25, 2010

SUBJECT: Principal's Annual Report – School Year 2009/20010

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

**This is a summary of programs, events, and activities that have taken place at Yantacaw School during the 2009-2010 school year. I am very proud of the students, staff and parents for all their efforts throughout the year.**

### **Continuing Priorities**

- Align all curriculums with the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards (NJCCS)
- Review of Life Skills Curriculum (Career Education, Consumer Education, Family Life)
- Continue to develop and refine the Autistic Program
- Review of Language Arts Writing Program Grades 3-8
- Continue to support, develop, and expand the Gifted and Talented Program
- Review and continue to implement the World Language Program to include all primary grades using the Rosetta Stone Program
- Review the World Language Curriculum Grades K-12
- Review the Art Curriculum Grades K-6
- Review the Basic Skills Mathematics Program Grades K-6
- Review Character Education K-6
- Review the Health and Physical Education Curriculum Grades K-12
- Continue to incorporate D.A.R.E. in the Health Curriculum

- Implement an elementary SAC curriculum
- Monitor standardized test results
- Continue to meet Annual Yearly Progress (AYP)
- Transition the CAT Program to an Academic Booster Club sponsored program.
- Ensure effective communication between elementary schools, middle school, and high school faculties in the content area(s).

**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
- Elementary Assessment – NJ ASK 3-6
- Mentoring Program
- Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Procedures
- Affirmative Action Policies
- Introduction to Differentiated Instruction: Managing the Differentiated Classroom
- Autistic Program

**All areas of the Nutley School District Curricula were reviewed and updated in the following areas to reflect the current NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards:**

- Language Arts Literacy Gr. 1-12
- Math 1-12
- Science 1-12
- Social Studies 1-12
- ESL K-12
- World Language K-12
- Technology K-12
- Fine & Performing Arts K-12
- Business
- Music K-12
- Kindergarten
- Physical Education K-12
- Health 1-12
- Library Media
- Gifted and Talented
- Guidance



### **Results of School Level Objectives – 2009-2010 School Year**

During the 2009-2010 school year, students in grades kindergarten through two (K-2) were to demonstrate a proficiency in writing utilizing a standard assignment as a benchmark. A minimum of 80% of the students was to achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assessment. The students successfully met the school's goals.

During the 2009-2010 school year, students in grades three through six (3-6) were to demonstrate proficiency in mathematics, targeting math strategies utilizing Study Island. Students were to be assessed using a pretest in September. By May, a minimum of 80% of the students was to achieve a score of 70% or higher on the topics covered by Study Island in the area of math strategies. 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 2009-2010 school year:

By June 2011, students in kindergarten through grade two (K-2) will demonstrate proficiency in writing as demonstrated through a writing assessment. A minimum of 80% of the students will achieve a score of 80% on a teacher-developed assessment. A rubric will be used to score the writing assignment.

By June 2011, students in grades three through six will demonstrate proficiency in mathematics, targeting math strategies utilizing Study Island. Students will be assessed using Pearson Learnia Assessment Tracking Tool 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 math strategies. Learnia Assessment Tracking Tool will be used to assess the students' end of year progress.

### **Testing**

The results of the **NJ PASS 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 from the new test **NJPASS** have not been obtained for the 2009-2010 school year and will be utilized in a similar manner when the results are available.

The **New Jersey ASK** was given to all Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth graders of Yantacaw School in the content areas of Language Arts and Mathematics, with fourth grade also being assessed in Science. Test scores for all grades are not

available at this time. Plans for improved instruction based on the results will be developed for the 2010-2011 school year.

### **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 participation/attendance:

I&RS Training  
 Semple Math  
 Singapore Math  
 Introduction to Wilson & Wilson Training  
 NJ ASK 3-6 Workshops  
 Math Curriculum Workshop  
 Language Arts Workshop  
 Kindergarten Curriculum Workshop  
 Eliminating/Preventing Bullying and Teasing Workshops  
 Peer Mediation Workshops  
 Defibrillator Training  
 CPR Training  
 Epi-Pen Training  
 Study Island Training  
 Pearson's Learnia Training  
 Social Skills for Students in Elementary Schools  
 Mentoring and Coaching  
 Designing technology – Integrating lessons  
 Smart Board Training  
 Easy Grade Pro Training  
 Google Earth and Google Docs  
 Digital Photography  
 Microsoft Office Training  
 Incorporating Technology into the General Music Curriculum  
 Parent/Teacher Conferences  
 NJ Symphony for the Master Teachers' Collaborative  
 We the People: Project Citizen (for the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade History Curriculum)  
 School Librarian Annual Conference  
 Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Conference  
 Understanding and Analyzing AYP  
 Implementation of the CCCS  
 Creating 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools  
 Title I Unified Plan

Monthly faculty meetings continually highlight curriculum committee reports, emergency management procedures, school level objectives, 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.

Ms. Christine Osieja, Elementary Technology Facilitator Teacher, has assisted classroom teachers with lessons to aid in infusing technology throughout the curriculum. She has been an indispensable resource in getting our teachers up and running with any Smartboard training & lessons, Easy Grade Pro Training, Google Earth and Google Docs, and Digital Photography. She continues to train our teachers in the use of our mobile labs. We have two mobile labs comprised 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.

### **SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

#### ◆ **Guest Speakers**

During the course of the school year numerous guest speakers, with wide varieties of expertise, visited our school. The students and staff totally enjoyed these interesting and educational presentations

#### ◆ **Fundraisers**

Haiti Relief (raised \$3,081), Cystic Fibrosis Denim Day, Nutley Family Service Bureau food drive, Pennies for Puppies, Jump Rope for Heart, several Red Cross Food Drives, and a Denim Day for a local family in need (illness), were some of the Fundraisers the Yantacaw students participated in to enhance their curriculum and help others both inside and outside our community.

#### ◆ **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:

Miranda Madrazo placed Third in the Lions Club Spelling Bee in November

Connor Nolan took first place (10,11 yr old boys), Alanis Concepcion took second place (12, 13 yr girls), Jaela Small a first place (8,9 yr girls) and

Alyssa Johnson (10, 11 yr girls) placed second in the Elks Free Throw Contest. The first Place finishers moved on to the district contest.

Sebastian Ruiz and John Sebadics, were members of the Academically Speaking Team in the Essex County Tournament

Molly Brodowski and Nadia Lyall went to the NJ Forensics Consortium, where Molly placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in this tournament.

Isabella Palmeri won second place for individual efforts in the Essex County Forensics tournament.

Rachel DiAntonio, Danielle Pomponio, and Eric Politi participated in the Essex County Challenge 24 contest.

Nicholas Cortese and Joseph Fontanals participated in the Essex County Team Chess Tournament.

Brielle Arias, Liana Buckley, Katheryn Fulton, Connor Genitempo, Tyler Genitempo, Anthony Gingerelli, Ben Giordano, Gabriella Hinz, Danae Hollingsworth, Gianna Joyce, Will Kavlick, Thomas Ku, Genevieve McClean, Chloe Nardone, Hana Oh, Kaya Patel, Charlie Williamson, and Ilgin Yildez took second place in NJ Law Fair Competition.

Yantacaw fared quite well in the Academic Booster Club History Fair for 2010 with many entrants and award winners:

First Grade	Kai Madrazo 1 <sup>st</sup> Place Victoria Alameda 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Douglas Campbell 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
Second Grade	Mary Mankowich 1st Place
Third Grade	Keya Patel 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Gabriella Hinz 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
Fourth Grade	Emily Hewett 1 <sup>st</sup> Place Mirando Madrazo 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Fifth Grade	William Concepcion 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place

◆ **The 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 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, the instrumental instructor, and Mrs. Carollo, our vocal music teacher, conducted four musicales in December, April, and May. During the December program grades five and six sang a variety of holiday songs. The instrumentalists played many favorite songs. The program created a very festive environment. During the April program grades one and two performed. The May concert highlighted songs by our third and fourth grade students, instrumental students, and the Fifth and Sixth Grade 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 and Yantacaw Chorus 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. In June we celebrated Multicultural Day with activities throughout the school involving food, music, and poetry from diverse cultures.

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.

◆ **Art Show**

Mrs. Goldberg, Art Teacher, had an evening showcase for our parents of students in grades 2 through 6. From still life, to abstract and modern were some of the different styles displayed.

◆ **Assembly Programs**

Fire Safety Assembly  
 Awards Assembly  
 Jump Rope For Heart (American Heart Association)  
 Fire Drill Demo (Grades 1-3)  
 Motivational Assembly  
 Manhattan Brass Quartet  
 Cyberbullying Assembly  
 Pennies for Puppies  
 Drug and Alcohol Presentation  
 Red Ribbon Assembly  
 Concert Choir Assembly  
 Jazz Band Assembly  
 Walker Foundation Assembly  
 Tobacco Prevention Puppet Show (Grade 3)  
 Women in History Panel Discussion  
 NJ State Mock Trial – Law Day  
 Law Fair  
 Italian Honor Club Presentation  
 Latin Honor Club Presentation  
 Sports Camp Presentation  
 Fourth Grade Instrumental Music Demo  
 Illusion Maker – Recycling Assembly  
 Give a Mouse a Cookie Assembly  
 Bio Diversity Assembly (Joe Bertusi)  
 "Pick-a-Packet"

◆ **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**

Twenty three Yantacaw students participated in the ABC History Fair. Four Yantacaw students received first place awards, three received second place and two 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 Educators Association and various other guests came to Yantacaw to read to our students.

◆ **FEA Teacher Shadows**

Several students from Nutley High Future Educators Association (FEA) shadowed staff members at Yantacaw. This facilitated in their pursuit of becoming educators by witnessing what a typical day for a teacher entails .

◆ **Johns Hopkins Plus Test**

Several students from Yantacaw took the Johns Hopkins Plus Test. (Results are pending)

◆ **Field Day**

Our ninth annual field day was held on June 17. 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.

◆ **Bloomfield College Korean Teacher "Ticket" Exchange Program**

The students participated in an innovative program that placed two Korean teachers in Language Arts classrooms (Grade 1 and 5) to help promote literacy and communication skills.

◆ **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, History of Video Games, Italian, Irish Dancing, Scrap booking, Yoga, Candy Making, Brain Games, Drama, What's that Smell, 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 – Turtle Back Zoo

Grade 1 – Outrageous Pets Museum

Grade 2 – Liberty Science Center, Nutley Library

Grade 3 – AMC Theater (movie – Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs),  
Franklin Mineral Mine, Walking tour of Nutley Museum

Grade 4 – The Seeing Eye Institute

Grade 5 – Philadelphia Zoo

AMC Theater (movie – Tale of Despereaux)

Grade 6 – Fairview Lakes Campgrounds

Student Council – Madame Trussauds Wax Museum

### **YANTACAW CLUBS**

#### **♦ Student Council – Grade 6 – Ms. Schoem and Ms. Freedman**

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, went to St. Johns to feed the homeless, decorated bulletin boards, sold lollipops, Read Across America, Hosted the annual Special Young Adult breakfast in Yantacaw, and ended the year with a Staff Appreciation Breakfast.



♦ **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.

♦ **Chick Chat – Grade 6 - Mrs. Licameli and Toni Safonte**

This club empowered the sixth grade girls for social change, to build self efficacy, and encourage authentic relationships. The club also addressed the the growing relational aggression and cyber/text bullying prevalent among pre-adolescent girls. Chick Chat met on a weekly basis.

♦ **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.

♦ **GreenCycle Club – Grades 4, 5, and 6 - Mrs. Olivo**

The purpose of this club was to foster recycling and to "Greening" here at Yantacaw. This club was also used as a model for the other school in the district

♦ **Choral – Mrs. Carollo**

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 Laura Fontanals, PTO President, 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 representatives, Debrah Russo, and Vincent Moscaritola. It has been a pleasure working with you this year 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

Beefsteak

Holiday Pizza Party

Holiday Boutique

Holiday Luncheon

Scholastic Book Fair

Curiosity Shop

Amateur Night/Talent Show

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.

Provided lunch and ice cream at our annual Field Day

Donated pocket folders and planners for the students

Created a parent directory

Donated 4 Smartboards to Yanatcaw

Donated a new Sound System for the Auditorium

### **Conclusion**

I wish to express my sincere appreciation and thanks to the Yantacaw teaching staff for all of their efforts in fostering high standards and allowing the youngsters to continue to grow both socially and academically. This truly dedicated and professional staff never ceases to astound me. Their continuous support and cooperation have helped to guide me through my "Sophomore" year as a principal. 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.

My sincere thanks goes out 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.

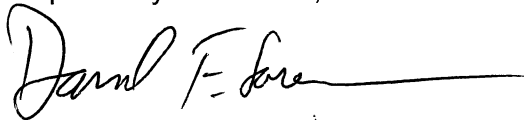
The Child Study Team continually assisted the staff, students, parents, and administration with our Special Education children and their programs. I thank them for all that they do on behalf of our Yantacaw students.

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. Our lunch aides, Mrs. Linfante, Mrs. Zaccheo, Mrs. Falconcino, Mrs. DeGennaro, Mrs. Ritaccco, 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 Mrs. Karen Yeamans, acting Secretary/Business Administrator for her assistance and guidance with school finances and also with the many maintenance projects at Yantacaw School.

In closing, I wish to thank Mr. Joseph Zarra, Superintendent of Schools, for his support and guidance. His direct, honest assessment and constructivism of the district and Yantacaw School has been vital for my professional growth. Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Marianna Francioso for her continual guidance and support on all levels, Natty Ferrara for his wisdom and insight on many difficult issues, Members of the Board of Education, Principals of all other schools for their collected assistance and support in making the past year one of the best at Yantacaw School.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David F. Sorensen", followed by a long horizontal flourish line.

David Sorensen  
Principal

## **SPECIAL SERVICES**

To: Mr. Zarra

From: Paul Palozzola

Date: June 25, 2010

**Re: 2009-2010 SPECIAL SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT**

<u>New Referrals:</u>	<u>2008-2009</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>
Lincoln Elementary School	5	9
Nutley High School	8	10
Radcliffe Elementary School	3	12
Spring Garden Elementary School	4	10
Walker Middle School	12	10
Washington Elementary School	4	2
Yantacaw Elementary School	2	6
Preschool	29	29
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>88</b>

The following Special Services topics were addressed during the 2009-2010 school year:

- Resource room and in-class support classes were increased at the elementary level.
- All in-district related services continued to meet student needs.
- In-class support sections at the high school level were increased to instruct more special education students using the general education curriculum with modifications.
- High School- For the second year, Special Education Math I, Math II and Math III were realigned to ensure students were instructed with the material assessed on the HSPA. This aided our students and the overall high school test scores as the special education HSPA scores increased this school year.
- High School- For the second year, Special Education teachers were paired with the section and content area in in-class support classes and replacement classes to ensure that the general education curriculum was modified for the replacement classes. This aided our students and the overall high school test scores as the special education HSPA scores increased this school year.
- High School- Special education goals/objectives continued to be reviewed/modified in all replacement classes.
- On-site monitoring took place in January, 2010.
- SEMI consent mailing was completed in October, 2009.
- Completed DOE Transition Cohort August, 2009.
- Completed DOE Parental Participation Cohort March, 2010.
- Review/revise standardized assessment modification considerations.
- Increased parent participation in parent group.
- Continued to review appropriateness of out-of-district placements.

**STUDENT ASSISTANCE COUNSELORS**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**2009 - 2010**

To: Mr. Paul Palozzola, Director of Special Services  
 Mr. Gregory Catrambone, Principal of NHS  
 From: **Lisa Cassilli**, Student Assistance Coordinator  
 Date: June 25, 2010  
 Re: **High School SAC Annual Report**

This annual report provides a summary of responsibilities and services provided by the high school SAC for the 2009-2010 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

An immeasurable number of students have been referred by the administration, guidance counselors, the attendance office, 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 a model for other districts throughout the State**. The **Random Drug Testing Policy** is currently in place at the high school and is running very smoothly. In fact, Montclair High School has requested for Nutley to mentor them in the process of developing and implementing a Random Drug Testing Policy. Mr. Catrambone and the SAC have met with representatives of the school to facilitate this process for Montclair.

In addition, cases are discussed regularly among the SACs to provide supervision and a smooth transition for students entering the high school. 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. **October 8<sup>th</sup> (9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> graders)**
- **STEVEN BENVENISTI** – “The Most Important Case of My Entire Career” – the effects of drunk driving. **April 29<sup>th</sup> (11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> graders)**
- **WAKE UP PARENTS!**-SAC coordinated 2 evening seminars to address drug/alcohol problems in community (see below)
- **CYBERBULLYING WORKSHOP**- Coordinated cyber-bullying workshop with middle school SAC and Internet Safety Teacher. **March 24<sup>th</sup> (Evening Parent Program)**
- **SAFE HOMES**- Coordinated Safe Homes Program for Parents in the evening-Attorney educated parents on host liability laws and drunk driving liability. Parents were offered opportunity to sign up for Safe Homes to increase safety in community.
- **TEEN DATING ABUSE PROGRAM**- SAC coordinated speakers in 9<sup>th</sup> grade health classes to educate students about dating abuse, healthy relationships and resources for assistance.
- **Staff Inservice and Trainings** offered at faculty meetings, department meetings, and after-school.

## ❖ **HOPE**

**HOPE or Helping Our Parents Endure** is an extremely active committee, meeting weekly through Commissioner Petracco’s office. The SAC spearheaded this committee and coordinated two evening programs for parents called “Wake Up Parents”. Both workshops were moderated by the SAC. In addition to parent workshops, an informational mailing about Prom Safety was developed and sent to every home in the



community. Plans for next year include a parent support group facilitated by the SAC, a self-esteem group for middle school students, and more informational seminars on drug abuse in the community.

#### ❖ **CHAMP**

CHAMP is a committee meeting monthly through the Mayor's Office. CHAMP developed a mentoring program for students under the direction of the SAC. The SAC coordinates all aspects of this program including selection of mentors, training of mentors, supervision of mentors and feedback to the committee. Mentors were taught effective listening, goal setting, confidentiality, and ethics. Twelve senior students mentored students in grades 4-9 with a myriad of emotional/behavioral problems. This program was a huge success and an asset to our community.

#### ❖ **HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION**

The high school SAC served in a supervisory role for Homebound Instruction.

Under the leadership of the SAC, the Homebound Policy Committee researched and developed a new Homebound Instruction Policy consistent with State Law. This policy and procedures was implemented during the 2008-2009 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 SAC handled all calls and correspondence relative to home instruction as well as overseeing all homebound instructors.

#### ❖ **GRADUATE COURSES/CONFERENCES/TRAININGS**

The SAC attended many professional conferences including the following:

- NJ School Counselors Association-1 Day Conference
- Drug Trends in Essex County Training
- High Focus Training-Pharmacology of Addiction-1 Day Conference
- Mental Health Crisis Response Training
- DWI Educational Training
- ASAP (Association for Student Assistance Professionals- 2 Day Conference
- ASAP (Association for Student Assistance Professionals)- monthly trainings on substance abuse/mental health treatment

## ❖ MEETINGS/ ORGANIZATIONS

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

- **Intervention and Referral Services – member-daily attendance and case management**
- **CHAMP Committee member- monthly meetings at Mayor's Office**
- **Municipal Alliance Committee member –monthly meetings at Mayor's Office to oversee distribution of GCADA funds for Nutley**
- **Juvenile Conference Committee member – evening meetings**
- **Association for Student Assistance Professionals (ASAP) – monthly meetings**

## ❖ INTERN

- The SAC supervised an intern from William Paterson University in the Master's program for Counseling. This intern was with the SAC two times per week and participated in all meetings, student interactions, and assemblies.

## ❖ 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.
- **TRUANCY CASES-** SAC has attended weekly court hearings with Vice Principal regarding truant students-case managed all aspects of truancy cases

- **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.
- **HANDBOOK COMMITTEE** – The high school SAC served on the Handbook Committee and attended many evening meetings to develop a handbook for NHS.
- **GRANT-WRITING-** Researched and completed alternative school grant with administration.
- **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:
  - Montclair Counseling Center, Montclair
  - The Center for Creative Lifestyles, Caldwell
  - High Focus Centers, Cranford
  - COPE Counseling, Montclair
- **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 18, 2010

### **SAC Summary** **2009-2010 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. 215 students were provided services throughout the course of the 2009-2010 school year. Case management duties have included follow-up sessions with students, parent conferences, referrals to service providers, phone contact with parents and service providers, 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 2009-2010 school year:

- Assisted administrators in implementing Nutley School District's Drug and Alcohol Policy.
  - Six W.M.S. students were subjected to the requirements of the district's drug and alcohol policy based on suspicion of being under the influence. Two students tested positive.
- Provided additional student assistance services at Nutley High School.
- Member of Nutley School District's Child Study Team.
- Member of Nutley School District's Threat Assessment Team to investigate all reports of threats.
- Case manager for Walker Middle School's Intervention and Referral Service Team which met on a weekly basis.
- Conducted a seventh and eighth grade orientation on September 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> in each physical education class to introduce self as well as services offered through the Student Assistance Program.
- Introduced self and services to new faculty on September 2nd with particular focus on procedures for referring students for services and reporting students suspected of being under the influence.
- Presented at FMS' faculty meeting on October 5, 2009. 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.

- 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 led new students on an orientation of the school.
  - Members assisted in coordinating the following School Violence Awareness Week (October 19-23) activities:
    - 1) requested a Moment of Silence in honor of anyone who has been a victim of violence during AM announcements.
    - 2) created anti-violence posters which were hung throughout the school.
    - 3) read suggestions to make Walker Middle School a safer place during AM announcements.
  - Members performed “The Silent Skit” to seventh (March 22) and eighth (April 20) grade physical education / health classes. This anti-drug skit focused on the stages and dangers of teen drug use. A question and answer period followed.
  - Members assisted in coordinating the following *National Red Ribbon Week* (October 23-31) activities:
    - 1) distributed *Good Decisions Yield Good Character* wristbands in each homeroom. Students were encouraged to wear them throughout the week. Wristbands were purchased through the Nutley Municipal Alliance.
    - 2) developed a display, *Drugs Don’t Discriminate*, located in the Main Lobby Showcase.
    - 3) encouraged students and staff to participate in designated theme days:
 

October 27: FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS DAY  
Wear pajama bottoms to school to help you follow your dreams of being drug free. Pajama bottoms must be appropriate!!!

October 28: PUT A CAP ON DRUGS DAY  
Wear a hat or visor to show your Red Ribbon Week spirit.

October 29: RAID ON DRUGS DAY  
Wear Nutley “Raider” apparel to show your commitment to be drug free.
    - 4) assisted in creating the *Consequences of Drug Use: Jails, Institutions and Death* display outside the gymnasium from October 26-28. Three scenes were created: a prison, a hospital room, and a funeral. The following contributors were recognized: Walker Middle School Custodians, Nutley Schools Maintenance Staff, Nutley Department of Public Affairs, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Stoffers, Mrs. Cioffi, Nutley Red Cross and Biondi Funeral Home.
- Implemented REBEL2 curriculum into weekly S.T.A.N.D. 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 \$1,000 grant to fund tobacco prevention programs.
  - Attended REBEL/REBEL2 Essex County Advisor Meetings on October 16 and May 18.
  - An anti-tobacco information table and tobacco prevention posters were displayed in the cafeteria during lunch on the Great American Smokeout. Students distributed different types of candy with tobacco prevention messages adhered to each piece of candy.
  - Members performed a puppet show, *Adventures in Nicotine Land*, on the harmful consequences of smoking in each third grade class in the district. REBEL2 members highlighted the consequences through visual displays and a question and answer period. The puppets were purchased through the REBEL2 grant.
  - Students attended the REBEL/REBEL2 County Event on June 1 at Verona Park. The event consisted of members participating in four educational booths, a walkathon, and a park clean-up.
- The following activities were held for School Violence Awareness Week (October 19-23, 2009):
    - Assisted members of S.T.A.N.D. coordinate the following activities:
      - 1) request a Moment of Silence in honor of anyone who has been a victim of violence during AM announcements.
      - 2) create anti-violence posters which were hung throughout the school.
      - 3) read suggestions to make Walker Middle School a safer place during AM announcements.
    - Detective Montanari of the Nutley Police Department was a guest speaker during each lunch period on October 20 (Eighth Graders) and October 21 (Seventh Graders). He focused on defining common forms of school violence and means of prevention.
    - Presented in each seventh grade health class on October 22 regarding harassment / bullying.
  - Celebrated Red Ribbon Week (October 23-31, 2009) through the following activities:
    - Distribution of *Good Decisions Yield Good Character* wristbands in each homeroom on October 26 by members of S.T.A.N.D. Students were encouraged to wear them for the week.
    - *Drugs Don't Discriminate* display in the Main Lobby Showcase by S.T.A.N.D. members.
    - Promoted and participated in the following theme days:
      - October 27: **FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS DAY**
      - October 28: **PUT A CAP ON DRUGS DAY**
      - October 29: **RAID ON DRUGS DAY**

- *Consequences of Drug Use: Jails, Institutions and Death* Display located outside of the gymnasium from October 26-28.
- Facilitated discussions on progression of teen drug use in each eighth grade health class on October 28.
- Motivational Productions showed their character-building, big screen multimedia assembly program, *Truth of Lies*, on Thursday, October 29, 2009 during Period One. The goals of the program were to inspire, motivate, and challenge young people to make healthy choices and develop strong character. This was a Nutley Municipal Alliance Committee sponsored program.
- Observed the American Cancer Society's Great American Smokeout on November 19, 2009. 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 S.T.A.N.D. set up an anti-tobacco information table during the lunch periods and hung tobacco prevention posters. They also distributed candy with tobacco prevention messages adhered to each piece
  - Starburst – "To be a Star, You must be tobacco free."
  - "Bursting to be a Smoke-Free Star"
  - Twizzlers – "Don't Get Twisted into Smoking"
  - Life Saver Mints – "A Smoker's Breath Stinks"
  - "Save Yourself Stay Away from Secondhand Smoke".
- Coordinated *Take A S.T.A.N.D. Day* on Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. Students, faculty and staff were encouraged to wear red or pink to show their love and respect for ALL people. Along with their red or pink attire, students wore *LOVE* tattoos on their arm purchased through S.T.A.N.D. for \$0.50. This character building event concentrated on students standing up for themselves, friends or strangers and taking a stand for what is right. \$101.45 was donated to *Write Love On Her Arms*, a foundation that raises awareness about depression, addiction, self-injury and suicide.
- Organized the March 24, 2010 parent workshop, *Lingo On Line*, with Lisa Cassilli, SAC and Theresa Hrubash, internet safety teacher. Parents were provided with information on the dangers of social networking site, cyberbullying, sexting and text lingo.
- Served as Walker Middle School's representative for the Mayor's Holiday Treasure Chest. The program provided township families with gifts for the holiday season.
- 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 Fatal Vision Goggles were utilized to simulate the dangers of alcohol use.
- Facilitated discussions with each eighth grade health class on the risk factors of teenage drug use, progression of use, and alternatives to using. The Nutley School District Substance Abuse Policies were also reviewed.
- Member of the Nutley Municipal Alliance Committee.
  - Assisted in coordinating the Underage Drinking Parent Conference on January 11, 2010. Steven Benvenisti, a partner in the law firm of Davis, Saperstein and Salmon, discussed legal liability issues affecting homeowners where under-age drinking of alcohol takes place. The conference also kicked off the S.A.F.E. (Support Alcohol Free Environments) program that established a network of homes in the community where underage drinking is not permitted.
- 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. The committee met throughout the school year.
  - Supervised Nutley High School students who served as peer mentors for W.M.S. students.
  - Developed the C.H.A.M.P. peer mentoring training program with Lisa Cassilli, and instructed mentors on how to facilitate the new mentor training session.
  - Supervised the May 14<sup>th</sup> C.H.A.M.P. new mentor training with Lisa Cassilli.
- WMS 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.
- Accompanied Mr. Calicchio to hearings at Nutley Municipal Court throughout the year on cases dealing with attendance concerns.
- Active member of the *New Jersey Association of Student Assistance Professionals (ASAP-NJ)*.

- Attended quarterly Essex County *ASAP* meetings. Mrs. Cassilli and I coordinated the May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting on providing family crisis services through The Partnership of Children of Essex.
- Assisted in monitoring Central and Saturday Detentions.
- Attended the following workshops:
  - *Sticks and Stones and The Web Training* by The Bergen Prosecutor's Officer on October 2, 2009.
  - *Psychopharmacology in the School Setting* by Sage Day and New Alliance Academy on October 2, 2009.

Alisa Gennace  
Elementary SAC  
Radcliffe/Washington

### **2009/2010 Elementary SAC Summary**

As the Student Assistance Coordinator for Radcliffe and Washington schools, my primary duties include individual and group counseling, classroom instruction, parental and teacher contact and consultation, providing referrals for outside counseling, crisis intervention, and I&RS team member.

Activities for the 2009/2010 school year are as follows:

- Red Ribbon/Violence Prevention Week
  - Distribution of lessons and activities to all grade levels
  - Facilitated assemblies funded by Nutley Municipal Alliance
  - Provided thematic displays in each building
- Intervention and Referral Services
  - Team member – Radcliffe School
  - Team coordinator – Washington School
- Bullying Prevention Education
  - Facilitated viewing of the movie *Chrissa* for grades 1-6. Provided discussion and follow-up activities.
  - Presented Character Education and anti-bullying based lessons to various grade levels.
  - Washington School 4<sup>th</sup> grade - facilitated weekly health classes
  - Radcliffe School – worked with 5<sup>th</sup> grade health classes throughout the school year.
- Member of CHAMPS committee
  - Supervised peer mentoring of Radcliffe School student
  - Participated in training of high school mentors for the 2010/2011 school year.
- Liaison between DYFS and each school building
- Member of Nutley Municipal Alliance
- Attended Safe Homes kickoff provided through Nutley Municipal Alliance
- Stoned Cold II viewing presented by Bergen County Prosecutor's Office
- Facilitated *Banana Splits* lunchtime group at Radcliffe School

- Facilitated *Drama Squad*, a lunchtime group for girls on how to deal with relational aggression, at Radcliffe School
- *Stand Up to Bullying Day*, February 12
  - Provided school displays
  - Information provided to students and parents
- Participated in *Lingo On Line Cyber Safety Workshop* presented by Nutley's Student Assistance Coordinators
- Created an Elementary SAC curriculum aligned with the NJCCCS

## **GIFTED AND TALENTED**

Academically Gifted and Talented Program  
2009-2010  
Nutley Public Schools  
Submitted by Rosemary Clerico, GT Coordinator

**Identified Program**

The identified program was extended this year to include sixth graders. We have reached our goal of identifying students in grades three thru six. Currently the total number of students identified is 155. Classes began in September and provided two semesters of courses for identified students. Curriculum was as follows:

Grade 3 - Mysteries and Math Enrichment - included syllogisms, grid logic, substantiating alibis, deciphering codes, creating an original mystery, tangrams, pentaminoes, tessellations,

Grades 4 - Inventions and Archeology - included the SCAMPER thinking technique, creating an original invention, and an overview of the grid search method used by archeologists,

Grade 5 - Engineering and Cognetics - utilizing the problem-solving model, students designed marble coasters and bridges, from blueprints to construction. Participation in the Cognetics Problem-solving Expo included collaboration, creativity, and critical problem-solving.

Grade 6 - Crime Lab and Cognetics - The solving of a crime based on a simulated crime scene included gathering evidence, forensics testing, interpreting results, and interrogation of suspects. Cognetics - participation as above for grade five.

Students in grades three, four and five met twice a week for two, forty minute periods. Grade six met once a week for a fifty minute period.

**Enrichment Program**

In accordance with the Renzulli Schoolwide Enrichment Model, students in grades three thru six had the opportunity to participate in the following activities, based on their personal interests and talents.

1. Forensics - eighty fifth and sixth graders selected a piece of literature, practiced and received coaching, and performed the piece at a school tournament. A team of five students was selected to represent Nutley at the

Essex County Forensics Tournament, with another five students comprising the team for the NJ Consortium's Regional Tournament.

2. Law fair - One hundred students in third and fourth grade worked in groups to create an original law case to submit to the NJ State Bar Foundation. One team was named as the second place winner by the Foundation, and had the opportunity to perform their case at the Law Center in New Brunswick.
3. Challenge 24 - Eighty students in grades five and six participated in their schools, with a team of twelve students selected to participate in the Essex County Challenge 24 Tournament.
4. Academically Speaking - Two teams of five students were selected from a qualifying test given to all fifth and sixth graders. Teams competed in the Essex County Academically Speaking Tournament, with one Nutley team winning first place in the tournament.
5. Team Chess - fifth and sixth graders participated, with a team of twelve attending the Essex County Team Chess Tournament.
6. In class support continued to expand with lessons offered in Grades Kindergarten, first, and second.

**\*Recommendation for 2010 – 2011: More organized and regular use of this lesson format, setting up regular rotating schedules in each school, increase staff.**

## **SIXTH GRADE TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION**



## Technology Projects 2009-2010

### Technology Plan

In 2009 the stakeholders were appointed to develop a new Three-Year Technology Plan. The needs assessment survey, the equipment inventory, and budget gave direction to the committee. The plan was approved by the Nutley Board of Education and Essex County in March then approved by the state in June.

### Technology Curriculum

Monthly meetings held throughout the school year brought together a committee assigned to align our technology curriculum with the Core Curriculum Content Standards. The committee developed activities and lists of resources for the teachers that were then included in the new curriculum.

### Technology In-Service Workshops

In-Service sessions were presented to the faculty as an opportunity to earn professional development hours and expand their personal learning network. Google Docs, Google Earth, Digital Photography, Microsoft Office 2007, Easy Grade Pro, Smart Board Activities, and Voice Thread workshops were offered after school.

### Technology Integration Projects

Skype, free video calling software, was used to collaborate on projects, share information, and learn about students from other states.

Fourth grade students shared poems and discussed a class activity with a school in Long Island. In another class, students watched a video produced by students in Oregon. Then they connected with them through Skype to comment and praise the class' efforts. A kindergarten class contacted an Idaho kindergarten class and shared their daily activities and discussed similarities and differences.

Sixth graders initiated a project and investigated, "The Price of Breakfast" across the United States. The students found the cost of breakfast items and filled in the prices on a collaborative Google Spreadsheet. The classes created graphs, analyzed the findings, and drew conclusions about the differences.

First graders participated in a St. Patrick's Day project and fifth grades were part of the Holiday Card Exchange project. The "Where the Wild Things Went" project gave children an opportunity to extend the story and learn about endangered animals.

Third grade classes worked with classes in New Mexico on the Monster Project in October. Monsters and directions were exchanged and the students recreated each other's monsters.

A "Meet The Author" project I initiated with New Jersey author, Jane Lovascio, encompassed a Skype session, a personal visit, a book signing, and the opportunity for students to participate in a writing contest. Two students submitted stories that won third place and honorable mention in this contest.

Internet Safety was addressed at all grade levels. The elementary students used curriculum offered by CyberSmart and upper grades had access to i-Safe curriculum. Our middle school Internet Safety teacher created a special presentation directed toward sixth graders. There was an open discussion on how to handle a situation with a predator or a cyberbully. Middle school students created podcasts that were posted on Nutley School's website.

This year we touched on many areas that contributed to the success of educational technology. The Three-Year Plan, the curriculum, the development of activities, and in-service workshops, were vital components for technology integration. The projects the classes participated in created an atmosphere of excitement while opening our classroom walls. With everyone committed to following the Technology Plan and curriculum the opportunities will present themselves to use new technology tools to reach our 21<sup>st</sup> century learners.

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