

DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

Mr. Pat Lembo

Number 1
May 16, 2006

- I am pleased to announce the teachers who were selected to represent our school district in this year's Governor's Teacher Recognition Program. They are:

Edith Braun	-	Eisenhower School
Maryanne Ford	-	Truman School
Diane Hyer	-	High School
Laura Jessen	-	Selover School
Lorraine Kornett	-	Middle School
Barbara Parillo	-	Wilson School
Teresa Watters	-	Arleth School
Theresa Yetsko	-	Samsel Upper Elementary School

- We bid a fond farewell to Mr. Robert Hudock, Supervisor of Humanities, who has been a Sayreville Board of Education employee for 42 years. He will truly be missed. In fact, he will be missed so much that several staff members from the Sayreville Middle School wrote a touching letter to the Members of the Board of Education. The text of the letter is as follows:

Over the years, it has been our distinct honor and pleasure to work with Mr. Robert Hudock. We know Bob on both a professional and personal level, and on both counts, we hold him in high regard. If "fairness" is the word used to describe a useful observation, then Mr. Hudock is the pinnacle of "fairness." He always compliments the teachers' strengths and gives solid strategies and recommendations that positively influence and guide. Professionally, he encourages, understands and supports each member of the department. Trust is a powerful motivator.

But it is Bob's civil treatment and personal caring ways that have provided his department members with the respect and dignity that is so lacking in many professional relationships we have witnessed over the years. The treatment he has displayed to the department is the essence of appreciation. We could not have been more fortunate to work with this consummate professional and dear department supervisor.

We will profoundly miss his influence on our teaching, as will the Sayreville District. So...We sadly say goodbye and hope his retirement years, so richly deserved, will bring him joy and fulfillment, as this is exactly what he has given to us throughout the years.

- Congratulations to the students and staff of Arleth School. On May 4th, Mr. Timothy Byrne, Arleth Principal, attended a meeting of the Middlesex County Freeholders and received a proclamation congratulating Arleth on their collection of over 1,500 pounds of food for M.C.F.O.O.D.S. The Middlesex County Food Organization and Outreach Distribution Services, the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders and the Middlesex County Improvement Authority (MCIA) were all on hand to congratulate them
- In conjunction with this year's school theme, "Make the Days Count," Dr. Greg Olsen, the world's third private citizen to take a voyage into space, visited Truman School on Tuesday, May 2nd. He paid \$20 million of his own money to hitch a 10-day ride on a Russian flight to explore the International Space Station in October. He served as an inspiration to the third graders by showing them that it is important to dream big and with a good education and a lot of hard work, they can make their dreams come true. He encouraged them to set goals in

which they reach for the stars and “never give up.” The children enjoyed the interactive presentation, video and photographs of his “out of this world” experience.

- Congratulations to the Wilson School family for their outstanding participation in the American Heart Association Jumpathon. The children and staff raised \$4,374.00 for this most worthy charity. The total is both rewarding and surprising in a school with a total of 347 children. Kudos to Ms. Susan Maurer, Physical Education Teacher and Mrs. Joy Pollack, School Nurse, for organizing and overseeing the entire campaign and event.
- Congratulations to the cast of the Wilson School Drama Club on an outstanding performance of “The Wizard of Oz.” Playing to a packed house of 400 and standing room only, Dorothy, the Cowardly Lion, the Tin Man and The Scarecrow followed the Yellow Brick Road to the Emerald City where they were granted their wishes. The Cowardly Lion grew courageous, the Tin Man received a heart, the Scarecrow grew a brain and Dorothy went home to Kansas. Kudos to Colleen Reagan and Sharron Jung, the club advisors, who worked throughout the year to ensure that the show was a success. Special thanks to all of the parents and teachers who gave unstintingly of their time to work on scenery and helped with props and costumes.
- More congratulations go out to two of our students at the Samsel Upper Elementary School. The 5th Grade students participated in the Shade Tree Commission’s Essay Contest. The first-place winner is Jaycee Holmes from Team 5-3 and the second place winner is Sara Wisniewski, also from Team 5-3. You both make us proud!
- The school house was rockin’ on May 6th and May 7th when fifty-five students from Sayreville Middle School sang and danced to the tunes of the musical, **School House Rock Live! Jr.!** Based upon the Emmy Award winning 1970’s educational cartoon series, **School House** uses a variety of musical styles to teach grammar, math, science and history while telling the story of Ann, a young teacher nervously anticipating her first day on the job. *Conjunction Junction, The Great American Melting Pot, Three is the Magic Number and Interjections!*, were just a few of the popular **School House Rock** songs performed. A highlight of the production also featured cameo appearances by several middle school teachers portraying historical figures and punctuation marks.

Sponsored by the Middle School PTO, the students rehearsed for almost four months under the direction of music teachers, Marie Malara and David Modero. Along the way, the students gained an insight into the wonderful world of musical theater and the importance of working together toward a goal. Music teacher, Joyce Campbell, designed and sewed many of the costumes used in the production and Anne Mary Novak, math teacher, worked behind the scenes with the students managing the backstage area. Assisted by an enthusiastic group of parent volunteers, the directors put together scenery, props, costumes, lights and special effects to enhance the production. Everyone involved had a great time. Stay tuned to find out next year’s show!

- A heartfelt “**Thank You**” goes to DuPont for their annual support of the Sayreville Schools’ Science and Mathematics Programs. Thanks to DuPont and their generous contribution of \$2,000, three girls from the Middle School 8th Grade will be attending the Douglass Science Institute from July 9th through July 14th. These young ladies are: Komal Trivedi, Forum Patel and Amber Danku. It’s a wonderful thing when we receive such support from local companies.