



Mendham Township Schools

Every Student Every Day!

Volume 4, Issue 1

Summer 2012

Mendham Township Board of Education Appoints New Superintendent



As the Mendham Township Board of Education previously announced, our superintendent, Kristopher Harrison, Ed.D., has decided to accept a superintendent position in New York effective July 1, 2012. After a deliberate and thorough selection process to replace Dr. Harrison, the Mendham Township Board of Education ("Board") is pleased to announce that Salvatore Constantino, Ed.D., has agreed to become Superintendent of Schools, effective September 1, 2012. Dr. Constantino comes to Mendham after a very successful six-year tenure as Superintendent of the Fredon Township School District, Sussex County, New Jersey. Prior to serving as superintendent in Fredon Township, Dr. Constantino was principal of that district's elementary school for two years. He has also served as an elementary school teacher for six years and adjunct professor at Centenary College. Dr. Constantino brings to our District tremendous skill, experience and great passion for educating children. He has demonstrated his ability to work with all community stakeholders to provide an excellent educational experience for children. We look forward to his arrival and welcome him to our District.

Because there will be a period of approximately two months before Dr. Constantino will begin in Mendham Township, the Board is also pleased to announce that P.J. Ciccone, Ed.D., currently the middle school principal, has agreed to serve as Interim Superintendent until Dr. Constantino arrives. As we all know, Dr. Ciccone is a dedicated and effective administrator, and we are fortunate to have him assume the interim position, as he brings a great deal of experience, stability and knowledge of the District to the position. This will provide a seamless transition for the upcoming school year.

The Board would like to thank Dr. Harrison for his outstanding contributions to the District. Under his leadership, the Mendham Township School District has achieved tremendous success. He is a tireless worker who, in addition to leading our schools, has become an integral part of this community. We will miss him and wish him well in his future endeavors.

Finally, the Board also wishes Deborah Muscara well in her new role as Business Administrator in East Hanover, N.J., and thanks her for her outstanding work. For more than two years, Mrs. Muscara has been a key advisor to the Board, managing our finances and budgeting process in expert fashion. As Mrs. Muscara departs, the Board welcomes Mr. Dominic Butler as Interim Business Administrator, effective July 1. Mr. Butler is a very experienced Business Administrator and has previously served in this position for Mendham Township in 2010. We are grateful to have him return to this role as we conduct a search for a permanent Business Administrator.

MTMS Girls' Lacrosse Capture County Championship



The MTMS Girls' lacrosse team completed a near perfect season (12-1) by beating Harding Township Middle School to capture the County Championship! Congratulations to coach Haggerty and all of our girls for a fine season!

Coincidentally, the girls' victory is the fifth county title earned by MTMS student athletes during the 2011-2012 school year - a new school record for the most county championship banners earned in one year!

MTMS students have also earned county championship banners in boys' soccer, girls' cross country, boys' basketball, girls' basketball, and now girls' lax.

Inside this issue:

New Board of Education Member
Fion Wood **2**

MTMS Students Earn National Honors In Spanish Exam **2**

MTES Green Team Earth Day Challenge **2**

MTMS 6th Grade Celebrate Ancient Greece **2**

MTSD Second Annual Invention Convention **3**

MTMS Musicians Earn Superior Ratings **3**

MTES Team Wins 2nd Place in Social Studies Contest **3**

MTES Math-a-Thon **4**

New Board of Education Member - Fion Wood



I am proud that Mendham residents voted for me to become the newest member of the Township Board of Education. I look forward to serving my three year term and giving my input into continuing to make Mendham schools the best educational experience for our children.

I was born in Christchurch, New Zealand and gained my Bachelors of Engineering degree before traveling abroad. After a couple of years skiing in California and Colorado I became a successful Engineering Recruiter in London, England for 5 years. I then moved to Sydney in 1996 to pursue a full time MBA program where I met my wife Shannon and consequently moved here to New Jersey in 1998. We located to the Mendham area in 2007 and currently have 2 children in the school district. I also became a US citizen in 2005 but still try and keep my New Zealand roots, as anyone who has heard me talk will confirm!

I have been very involved in the schools since our move to Mendham Township. I was on the HSA board for two years as Communications Secretary, spent some time as a substitute teacher in the school district, and co-chaired the Mendham Trivia Bee last year. I look forward to the coming years as a member of the Board of Education but would also like to wish everyone, for now, a relaxing and enjoyable summer break.

MTMS Students Earn National Honors In Spanish Exam



Congratulations to Casey Breen and Thomas Scassellati Sforzolini, Mendham Township Middle School 8th grade World Language (Spanish) students who attained national recognition for excellent performance on the 2012 National Spanish Examinations. These exams are administered each year in grades 6 through 12. Their achievement is very prestigious as these exams are the largest of their kind in the United States with 143,000 students participating in 2012. Congratulations!!!

MTES Green Team Earth Day Challenge



In honor of our earth, MTES Green Team held a **Waste-Free Snack Challenge** for all students. On Monday, April 23rd all student's were challenged to bring a snack to school that omitted zero trash. In other words, we challenged the children to pack a snack using only reusable lunch bags, containers, baggies, bottles, silverware and napkins. The project helped reduce trash for the day, but more importantly, it taught students to connect with the natural world and helped them feel like they were making real contributions to our earth and community.

MTMS 6th Grade Students Celebrate Ancient Greece



The Mendham Township Middle School sixth grade classes learned about the ancient Greek civilization in social studies, language arts, science, math, physical education, computers, and art. To complement and enrich their studies, the students participated in a Greek Festival. This 13th annual multi-curriculum Greek Festival furthered student understanding of Greek civilization. The festival was held at the Mendham Township Middle School on Tuesday, May 15, 2012. The classes performed Greek plays, participated in games to test their knowledge of ancient Greece, feasted on delicious Greek food catered by the Chester Diner, and competed in the Olympics. The students also created and staged their version of "The Greek Idol." The HSA Cultural Arts program sponsored a presentation of Greek mythological tales: "Chariot of the Sun" performed by Seth Reichgott of Young Audiences of New Jersey.

MTSD Holds Second Annual Invention Convention

Mendham Township Elementary School held its Second Annual Invention Convention the evening of March 22nd. Students and their parents/families had the opportunity to see their child's invention, as well as other students' inventions. The convention was open to all K-8 students in the school district. We had 35 entries this year. Judging was completed throughout the day on Thursday the 22nd by experts in a variety of related fields.



Our judges were Hazel England & Laura Kelm/Great Swamp Watershed Association, Marissa Hartzler/Schiff Nature Preserve, Wanda Knapik/My Local Garden and Robert Toronzi Jr./Detective of the Bethlehem, PA Police Department. A ribbon indicating proficiency level was put on each child's invention prior to the convention starting (Good, Excellent & Superior). There were so many great inventions! A special thanks to all judges, participants and their families.

MTMS Musicians Earn 'SUPERIOR' Ratings



On May 25, the Bulldog Band, Wind Symphony, and Symphonic Orchestra participated in their annual Music in the Parks competition. They started the day with a performance in Bethlehem, Pa before a panel of judges. They each played a warm up piece followed by two additional pieces that were judged. They all did a magnificent job. Both the Wind Symphony, and Symphonic Orchestra earned SUPERIOR ratings, and the Bulldog band earned an Excellent rating!

After their performances, they spent a wonderful day at Dorney Park on rides, games and ate fun food.

Special thanks to Mrs. Schaberg, Ms. Yousefi, Mr. Branch, and Mr. Pokryska for their hard work throughout the year, and for organizing such a fruitful AND FUN experience for our student-musicians.

MTES Team Wins Second Place In National Social Studies League Contest



In April all students in second, third, and fourth grades participated in a social studies contest sponsored by the National Social Studies League offered to schools nationwide. This contest consisted of multiple-choice questions (25 for 2nd grade and 35 for 3rd and 4th grade) in various areas of social studies. The top scorers from each grade level formed a "team" which was scored among the other participating schools across the United States. Nancy Fuller, school coordinator, is pleased to report that our 2nd grade team, here at Mendham Township Elementary School, won second place nationally.

In addition, Matthew Accardo and Ian Smith from Grade 2 were winners in the 2012 National Social Studies League Contest. Congratulations to all!

Pictured are Dr. Harrison, Dr. Cullis, Nancy Fuller, Ian Smith and Mathew Accardo.

Mendham Township School District
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Brookside, New Jersey 07926



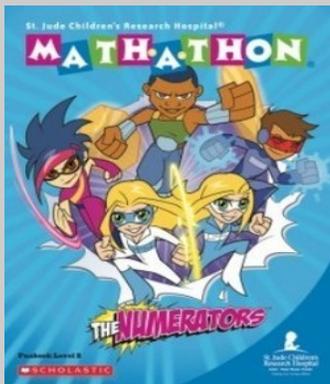
Board Members

Andrew Christmann, President
Jocelyn deGrandpre, Vice President
Carter Abel
Jeffrey Brauner
George Davie
Paul DiMaio
Fion Wood

Board Meeting Dates

Elementary School
Media Center 7:30 p.m.

June 12 & 19
July 17 & 24
August 28
September 18 & 25
October 16 & 30
November 20 & 27



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MTES Math-A-Thon Raises \$16,284.30 for St. Jude's Hospital

Students at MTES for the seventh consecutive year participated in the St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital's Math-a-Thon. Last year, MTES was named one of the top 100 schools in the nation for their contributions to St. Jude's. Our school goal this year was to raise \$12,000 for the children at St. Jude's. Participating students well surpassed that goal. During this year's Math-a-Thon, \$16,284.30 in donations were collected by 216 children. Miss Hornyak's fourth grade students served as Math-a-Thon "ambassadors". Whereby they introduced the program in each classroom, provided students with the materials they would need to participate, collected donations, kept records, and followed up with delivering certificates and prizes. It was their enthusiasm and conscientious efforts that helped to make this year's program such a success.

In addition to our school goal this year, the participants were also striving to reach the \$100,000 mark of total donations over the past seven years. A math magic show was promised to the students when they reached this goal. In this seventh year the accumulated donations from the MTES are \$110,150.77. On June 7th, during a school assembly, Miss Hornyak performed her math magic, but it is really the students who have created magic for the children at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Miss Anne Marie Hornyak, teacher coordinator for the annual Math-a-Thon exclaimed, "I am always amazed by the results of our students' participation in the Math-a-Thon, not just the amount of the donations but some students even asked to complete additional problems beyond their grade level; others enthusiastically promoted and volunteered their services for the children at St. Jude's; and many of the students this year donated their prizes back to the children in the hospital. I am so proud of them for their kindness, generosity, and continued support of the Math-a-Thon!

Miss Hornyak has been invited to a "Volunteer Appreciation Day" this summer at St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital in celebration of the hospital's 50th Anniversary. On her visit, she will have the opportunity to tour the hospital, meet with doctors and patients' families, and interact with other coordinators from around the country.