

DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

VOLUME XXVI, FEBRUARY 2008



SCHOOL #14 DEDICATION

On Sunday, January 13, 2008, the Bayonne Board of Education held a dedication ceremony for the new School 14 building located at 24th Street and Avenue E. School Business Administrator Clifford G. Doll stated, "There were many hours, months, and days of tedious planning and tireless efforts for new School 14 to be officially completed. I am extremely grateful and proud that everyone here today can witness first hand the final creation of School 14! Classrooms are enhanced with the latest technology, including "smart-boards" which are linked to computers that enable students to learn through seeing, touching and hearing. School 14 also generates 20 percent of the electricity it uses through solar energy panels."



Pictured (left to right) are: Dr. Gary Maita, School Board Secretary; Brian O'Connor, School Board Trustee; Clifford G. Doll, School Business Administrator; James P. Flynn, Esq., School Board Trustee; Janice Lo Re, School #14 Principal; Vincent Lo Re, Jr., Bayonne Council President; Nina Dobkin, School Board Trustee; John Halecky, Bayonne Councilman; Mayor Terrence Malloy; Architect Michael Zemsky; William Lawson, School Board President; Dr. Patricia L. McGeehan, Superintendent of Schools; Joseph V. Doria, Jr., Commissioner of New Jersey Division of Community Affairs; Dr. Doreen DiDomenico, Hudson County Freeholder; Gary LaPelusa, Sr., Bayonne Councilman; Jose Casais, School Board Trustee; and Robert C. Craig, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel.

School 14 Principal Janice Lo Re added, "Before the new School #14 opened, we were housed at the former Our Lady of Assumption School for a little over three years. School 14 currently houses pre-kindergarten through grade eight students, in addition to a fourth through eighth grade gifted and talented program. Our school offers a challenging and innovative academic program highlighted by the integration of multiple disciplines. P.S. #14's mission is to create a learning environment that encourages individual, as well as interpersonal growth, a love of learning and a commitment to improving and caring for our community. Our goal is to make today's learners, tomorrow's leaders."

Mayor Terrence Malloy stated, "This school represents that the city of Bayonne is truly committed to education."

Michael Zemsky, School 14 architect, stated, "We envisioned the school to be one that is light, bright and highly conducive to education, and I feel that we were indeed successful in achieving our goal."



Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Patricia L. McGeehan added, "Today is a very special day in the history of both the Bayonne Board of Education and the city of Bayonne. I especially extend my most sincere thanks to School Board Administrator Clifford G. Doll, Assistant Superintendent of Schools Lou Pacyna, Architect Michael Zemsky, School Board President William Lawson, all Bayonne Board of Education Trustees and Principal Janice LoRe for making the new School 14 a reality!"

ASTRONAUTS LAND AT BAYONNE HIGH SCHOOL



Pictured (left to right) are: School Business Administrator Clifford G. Doll, BHS Principal Richard J. Baccarella, Astronaut Scott Carpenter, Astronaut Charlie Duke, Science Director Robert Dawson, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Patricia L. McGeehan, and BHS Vice Principal Leo Smith.

On November 29, 2007, Astronauts Charles Duke and Scott Carpenter visited Bayonne High School students and staff as part of a lecture series sponsored by Omega Watch Company who made the watches that the astronaut wore into space. In 1969, Charles Duke was a member of the astronaut support crew for Apollo 10. He then served as Capcom for Apollo 11, the first landing on the moon. Duke's famous first words to the

Apollo 11 crew on the surface of the moon were, "Roger, Twank... Tranquility. We copy you on the ground. You got a bunch of guys about to turn blue here. We're breathing again. Thanks a lot!" Duke served as lunar module pilot of Apollo 16 in 1972

where he and John W. Young landed at the Descartes Highlands and conducted three EVA's, making Charles Duke the 10th man to walk upon the surface of the moon. In addition to sharing his space experiences, he spoke to students about the great importance of getting an education. "When I was a kid, no one thought we could go to the moon," Duke said.



Astronaut Scott Carpenter signs autographs for BHS students.

Scott Carpenter was selected as one of the original 7 Mercury astronauts on April 9, 1959 from more than one hundred eligible test pilots by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. Astronaut Carpenter was the backup pilot for John Glenn and the first manned space mission. Carpenter then flew the second American manned orbital flight, Aurora 7, on May 24, 1959.



Pictured in the BHS Planetarium are students and Sal Iannaci, District Television Channel Production Studio Manager; Anna Fencik, science teacher; Astronaut Scott Carpenter; Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Patricia L. McGeehan, and BHS Vice Principal Leo Smith.

He talked to the class about his love for space and sea. He says that both are still important to mankind's future. He spoke of his work on the navy's SEALAB II project and then became Director of Operations for SEALAB III. He is responsible for the navy's development of deep-ocean search, rescue, and salvage and engineering. He was very instrumental in developing programs aimed at enhancing ocean resources and said our number one priority is to keep our planet healthy. When asked how it feels to be in space, Scott Carpenter

replied, "There is no feeling like that on earth. It's great!" Carpenter also informed students, "You need to study and stay in school as long as possible. Today, if you want to go into space, you need to study any area of science you like. The space program is not only for astronauts but for doctors, engineers, researchers, and teachers."

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Patricia L. McGeehan adds, "Astronauts Charles Duke and Scott Carpenter truly marked a special day in Bayonne High School's history. I would like to thank Astronauts Duke and Carpenter for their extraordinary lecture, Omega Watch Company, BHS Principal Richard J. Baccarella, Science Director Robert Dawson, and BHS faculty, staff, and students for their interest, enthusiasm, and participation regarding this "once in a lifetime experience."



Pictured (left to right) are: Science Director Robert Dawson, Astronaut Charles Duke, and BHS Principal Richard J. Baccarella.

AUCTION AT WASHINGTON COMMUNITY SCHOOL

In December, 2007, Mrs. Provaire's class at Washington Community School held its annual Christmas Auction. The Auction is part of the behavior plan used in Mrs. Provaire's class. The students earn "reward money" for good behavior, good grades and reading books. The money they earn can be used monthly at the class store or saved to use at the auction, which is held three times a year, Christmas, Mother's Day, and end of the school year. The students bid on items they want and the item goes to the highest bidder. Students are able to get gifts for family, friends, or themselves.

The students use calculators during the auction to keep track of their money. Some students may use all their reward money to purchase one item, while others may purchase several smaller items. This program reinforces math skills in addition and subtraction while also teaching the value of money and the benefits of saving.

This program has afforded the students an opportunity to increase their math and calculator skills. By allowing the students to take an independent role in earning their rewards, the teacher has noticed a significant increase in academics as well as behavior and self-esteem. The students more readily participate in class and are anxious to earn their reward dollars.

The auction was developed by Washington Community School Special Education teacher Judy Sander and implemented in Mrs. Provaire's class for the last six years. The entire Washington School faculty is very excited about this classroom program, and they donate all items for Mrs. Provaire's auction. In 2004, Ms. Sander and Mrs. Provaire earned a New Jersey "Best Practice" award for the auction. To-date the auction still proves to be very successful and motivational for all students involved.

WOODROW WILSON SMART BOARD

Last year, Woodrow Wilson School received two electronic Smart Boards through Title One funding. One of these boards is located in the 3rd grade inclusion class of Virginia Baranok and Sara Crotty. With the assistance of Title One teacher Melissa Polowy, the class regularly uses this impressive piece of technology. Students actively participate in solving problems displayed on the board, both individually and in small groups. This enhances differentiated instruction to meet the individual needs of all learners. The children are then given the chance to show their work on the interactive white board. Students of all levels and abilities enjoy engaging in this type of hands-on learning. An effective use of team teaching, along with the advanced technology available today, has created a stimulating environment where students are more willing and able to learn.

BAYONNE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS NAMED BLOUSTEIN SCHOLARS



Pictured (standing left to right) are: Richard J. Baccarella, Bayonne High School Principal; Bloustein Distinguished Scholars Muhammad Zahid, Hamza Mohamed, Agustin Paniagua, Eric Delgado, and Mena Eskander; and Mary Moloney, Director of Student Personnel Services. Seated (left to right) are Bloustein Distinguished Scholars Mariam Nematalla, Hadir Fahim, and Morena Tan.

Mr. Richard Baccarella, Bayonne High School Principal has just been notified that 8 students have been named Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars in the Class of 2008. The Garden State Scholarship Program, which includes The Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholars, is administered by the Higher Education Student Assistance Authority, an independent agency of the State of New Jersey.

Each year more than 7,000 students statewide receive scholarships in recognition of their high level of achievement of which approximately 5,000 receive Distinguished Scholar status. Students may use these awards to continue their education at New Jersey institutions of higher learning.

“These scholarships are given based on SAT scores and a student’s rank in class,” stated Mary Moloney, Director of Student Personnel Services. “We are proud of the students who receive these scholarships because they are based on academic achievement,” Moloney continued.

The students selected as Bloustein Distinguished Scholars include Hadir Fahim, Eric Delgado, Agustin Paniagua, Mariam Nematalla, Muhammad Zahid, Mena Eskander, Morena Tan, and Hamza Mohamed.

BAYONNE HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS GIVE COMFORT

BHS teacher Chickie Panaccione states, "We always knew that Bayonne was a very caring community. This caring and sharing blanket and scarf program exemplifies the theme "give back to your community."

BHS teacher Cathy Donohue adds, "I read an article in Better Homes and Garden magazine about making "no sew" fleece blankets for needy children.



Pictured are Maryanne Giovinnazzo and Pat Kaczka.



Pictured (left to right) are BHS teachers Chickie Panaccione, Jamie Arlington, Maryanne Giovinnazzo, and Mary Rose Appel.

Edward J. Kaczka, CFO of the Bayonne School Employees Federal Credit Union, states, "We agreed to support this project by providing food for the teachers and fleece materials to make the blankets and scarves. The BEOF is an organization involved with the city of Bayonne's charitable work. We decided to give the scarves and blankets to the BEOF to distribute to those who are in need."

BHS Principal Richard J. Baccarella adds, "I commend all BHS teachers who participated in the exemplary program. Thus is truly a fine example of Bayonne High School teachers promoting our theme, ***"Building a Caring Learning Community... Everyone Counts In Our Success!"***



Pictured are Bayonne High School teachers Catherine Donohue, and (seated left to right) Chickie Panaccione and Pat Kaczka.

My friends and I thought it would be a great holiday project, so this is how it all began."

This past December, prior to BHS Open House Night, approximately 20 teachers decided to give their time prior to Open House to make blankets and scarves

for those who are in need. BHS representative Patricia Kaczka adds, "This idea truly blossomed, and the results were overwhelming! There was so much enthusiasm among the teachers to complete the blankets and scarves."



Pictured is EHS Guidance Counselor Sydney DeAllypo.



Pictured are BHS teachers (left to right) Regina Blaszuski, Catherine Donohue, and Mary Rose Appel.

JOHN M. BAILEY 2008 RESOLUTIONS

Did you make a New Year's resolution? The students in Anna Comodromos, Betty Zywicki, and Mary Jane Stanul's fourth grade classes at John M. Bailey School made their 2008 resolutions. Some of them promised to make initiatives: to study more; to stop eating junk food, to exercise regularly, and to get more sleep. Claudia Perez said, "I will stop watching so much television." Alla Kravtsiv resolved, "to read more books and improve my reading skills."

Several students made resolutions to improve relationships with family and friends. The Vales children resolve, "to help out our mom around the house in the new year." Alexa Borkowski resolved to, "help my cousin with his homework and to be nicer to my family." Marcella Traina's resolution was a wish for her family to be safe. Kathleen Tyminski and Elizabeth Young made resolutions to be nicer to their brothers and help them with their homework.

In addition, other students wrote resolutions about organizational skills and to get to school on time. A few students felt a concern for their neighborhood. They proposed not to litter or tease the neighbor's dog. The resolutions were written on decorated paper and displayed on a bulletin board outside their classrooms. The students concluded their assignment with an open class discussion of other resolutions to be considered. Here are some that the children came up with as a group: try something new; read for fun; recycle products we use; play outside more; spend more time with their family; eat as a family. What would New Year's resolutions be without a New Year's party? The teachers rewarded the students with treats and drinks to usher in 2008.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – TESTING DATES

Elementary Schools:

Grade 2

NJ PASS 2 - April 1, 2, 3, 2008

Grade 3

NJ ASK 3 - March 10, 11, 12, 2008

Grade 4

NJ ASK 4 - March 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 2008

Grades 5

NJ ASK 5 - May 5, 6, 7, 8, 2008

Grade 6

NJ ASK 6 - May 5, 6, 7, 8, 2008

Grade 7

NJ ASK - April 28, 29, 30, May 1, 2008

Grade 8

NJ ASK 8 - April 28, 29, 30, May 1, 2008



Bayonne High School & Adult High School: HSPA

March 4, 5, 6, 2008

End of Course Biology Test

May 19, 2008

Biology Performance Assessment

May 21, 2008

BAYONNE HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR, ERIC DELGADO, RECOGNIZED BY NJ BOARD OF EDUCATION

The New Jersey State Board of Education recognizes outstanding achievement for a student or a group of students who worked as a team, at each state board public meeting. The purpose is to honor students who have made a significant contribution to school, community, family, or other groups. Dr. Patricia L. McGeehan, Superintendent of Schools, states, "I am extremely proud to announce that Bayonne High School senior, Eric Delgado, has been selected for this outstanding recognition award. I would like to commend and congratulate Eric on another prestigious award. I would also like to extend my special thanks to New Jersey State Board of Education Commissioner Lucille Davy and Hudson County Superintendent of Schools Robert Osak for this worthy honor given to Eric. I also would like to thank Bayonne High School Principal Richard J. Baccarella, Director of Science Robert Dawson, BHS science teacher Marie Aloia, staff, and Eric's family for their support and encouragement."



Pictured (left to right) are: Robert Dawson, Director of Science; Lucille Davy, Commissioner of Education for NJ; Virginia Davila, Eric's mom; student Eric Delgado; Arcelio Aponte, Vice President of the NJ State Board of Education; and Marie Aloia, science teacher at Bayonne High School.

24TH ANNUAL SPELLING BEE

This school year's Spelling Bee was held on December 4, 2007 in the John C. Josefowicz Auditorium in Washington Community School. The winners are: 1st Place: David Somers, #14; 2nd Place: Jeffrey Jerschina, #14; 3rd Place: James Ryan, #14. Each student received savings bonds in the amount of \$150.00 for 1st Place, \$100.00 for 2nd Place, and \$75.00 for 3rd Place. They were given ribbons and Certificates of Participation on the night of the Spelling Bee. The bonds and Certificates of Excellence were presented to the winners by their principals at their respective schools.

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, Dr. Ellen M. O'Connor, states, "I congratulate and commend every student who participated in the Spelling Bee, and the winners of the Spelling Bee. I also want to thank Deborah Whitney for coordinating this exciting educational program."

BAYONNE HIGH SCHOOL MATHEMATICAL SNOWFLAKES



Bayonne High School mathematics teacher, Dawn McGinnis' Geometry Honors classes had some fun with their math lesson involving fractals. Over the past 20 years, fractal geometry has increased in importance as a way to describe real world phenomena.

Fractals are the most complex and beautiful of computer patterns. Fractal patterns are made with a mathematical equation that the computer uses to create regular and irregular shapes. Fractals may involve complicated geometric ideas, but they are built in

stages, starting with basic geometric figures such as segments and polygons.

The class project was to complete a Koch Snowflake. The snowflake is the third stage of a fractal designed by mathematician Helge von Koch. The fractal is called the Koch curve and is used to model coastlines. The snowflake is edged with many triangles, because of the second stage being a triangle. Each stage after that just grows with more triangle edges.

Ann Marie Palmieri-Monahan, Director of Mathematics, adds, "The snowflakes were hung on classroom windows. This project shows that mathematics can be fun and exciting. Projects such as these stimulate the mind and motivate our students to learn."

MURDER BY POE

Directed by Tim Craig

As presented by the Bayonne High School Drama Club

on November 2, 3, 4, 2007, in the Alexander X. O'Connor Auditorium



*"I had been
walking through
a dark wood and
became lost."*

