



Superintendent's Message

December, 2018

December is an exciting and unique month. Many people celebrate holidays such as Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa. It is a time for celebration, reflection, and spending quality time with family and friends. On the 21st day of this month we say goodbye to fall and welcome winter as this is the day of Winter Solstice.

Decembers of past: On December 21, 1620, Mayflower Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, Massachusetts, the United States Bill of Rights went into effect on December 15, 1791, and New Jersey was admitted to the Union on December 18, 1787,

December present: On December 6th, the BHS Jazz Ensemble will be performing at the Uptown Tree Lighting Celebration at 7:30 pm on 47th Street & Broadway. With over 100 students, ranging from 8 to 18, *Elf, Jr.* will help usher in the holidays December 7th, 8th, and 9th. As we have done previously, the BBOED staff and families are donating NEW unwrapped toys for a child between the ages of 6 to 13 through the Bayonne Housing Authority Homework Assistance Program. Also, in our ongoing efforts to assist our veterans, we are collecting games, books, and puzzles for hospitalized veterans through mid-December. Don't miss BHS' Holiday Pops Concert at 6:30 pm on December 13th in the Alexander X. O'Connor Auditorium. All public schools will be closed for Winter Recess from December 24th to January 2nd. Students will return on January 3rd. Many of our students work hard as members of clubs or as individuals to give of their time to ensure that the holidays are enjoyed, and I extend our sincere gratitude to our students and faculty.

As our winter recess approaches, I would like to remind everyone that we have had an extremely productive start to our school year. This was only made possible by the sincere commitment of our students and staff to the teaching and learning process.

Coupled with our athletics and activities, we have created an atmosphere of excellence for the Bayonne Public School District. As I have said on numerous occasions, striving for excellence is our goal. Students, staff, parents, and community members, I thank you for your commitment.

As you enjoy the recess, I bid you the best of health and happiness. I wish everyone a happy holiday season and a superb New Year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael A. Wanko".

Michael A. Wanko, Ph.D.
Superintendent