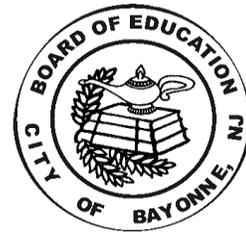


Superintendent's Message



February is Black History Month. Each year there is the theme for the month. This year The Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) chose as the theme, "Black Migrations." This topic will not only emphasize physical movement to new destinations, but it will focus on movement to new social realities as well. Our Social Studies Department will be incorporating Black History Month subject matter within their lessons and using pull out time to highlight key figures in American history. We will also conduct workshops for teachers on the New Jersey Amistad Curriculum, and will highlight notable African-American women.

On February 5, 2019 at 7:00pm, the Bayonne Public School's Social Studies Department, in conjunction with the Bayonne Board of Education and the Bayonne Public Library, will be hosting a showing of *Fair Game: Surviving a 1960 Georgia Lynching*. This searing portrait of Jim Crow America tells the story of Bayonne resident and Navy veteran, James Fair, and the heroic efforts of his mother and others to save him from death row! The acclaimed filmmaker of *Fair Game*, Clennon L. King, will join us for a discussion and a Q&A session following the screening. Please spread the word and please join us on February 5th at the Bayonne Public Library.

Monday, February 18th marks our recognition of Presidents' Day. The acknowledgment was originally established in 1885 in recognition of President George Washington. However, it was moved as part of the Uniform Monday Holiday Act in 1971, as a way to honor all presidents. Again, our Social Studies Department will be incorporating this recognition into their lessons.

Additionally, February 5th marks the beginning of Chinese New Year - Year of the Pig. Also, on February 20, 1962, John Glenn became the first person to orbit the Earth in the Friendship 7 space capsule.

Important Bayonne Public School District events in February, 2019 are:

Our 100th day of school falls on February 15th. Many exciting events are planned as celebration to mark this milestone.

Our mid-year parent conferences and marking period two report card distribution, will take place on February 12th at Nicholas Oresko School and February 13th at all other elementary schools.

Bayonne High School report card distribution, will take place on Wednesday, February 20, 2019.

Good luck to all our schools' elementary spelling bee champions as they compete in the Hudson County Spelling Bee on Saturday, February 23rd at 10:00 AM at Secaucus High School's Arthur F. Couch Performing Arts Center.

Sincerely,



Michael A. Wanko, Ph.D.
Superintendent