



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



February is Black History Month. Since 1976 when President Gerald Ford officially recognized Black History Month and called upon the public to “seize the opportunity to hone the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history.” Since then, every American president had designated February as Black History Month and endorsed a specific theme. This year’s theme is “Black Resistance” which explores how African Americans have resisted historic and ongoing oppression. 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.

February 2nd is always Groundhog Day. What most people don’t realize is that Groundhog Day is actually rooted in astronomy and the movement of the Earth around the sun. In the Northern Hemisphere, this date marks the midpoint between the winter solstice in December and the spring equinox in March. Let’s hope Punxsutawney Phil, the most famous groundhog, does not see his shadow, then early spring weather is around the corner.

On Monday, February 20th, Bayonne Public Schools will be closed to mark the recognition of Presidents’ Day. Since 1971, the third Monday in February is designated as a way to honor all presidents. Again, our Social Studies department will be incorporating this recognition into their lessons.

Important Bayonne Public School District Events in February 2023 are:

Bayonne High School report cards distribution will take place on Wednesday, February 15, 2023. Mid-year parent conferences and report cards distribution will also be taking place on February 15th for all community schools.

Also, February 15th marks the 100th Day of School. Many exciting activities are planned as celebration of this yearly milestone.

Our monthly Board Meeting is in the Alexander X. O’Connor Auditorium at Bayonne High School on Wednesday, February 22, 2023.

As we leave February.... we begin celebrating Women’s History Month in March.

Sincerely,

John J. Niesz
Superintendent of Schools

