



Superintendent's Report

April 27, 2022

*This report is posted monthly on our district website -
"District: Superintendent's Updates/Monthly Reports to BOE": [BOE Monthly Reports](#).*

NJSLA Testing Message

NJ Student Learning Standards Assessments (NJSLA) testing began this week and will run through Friday, June 3. Last week, I released a special phone message to parents on why these State assessments are important and what parents can do to help prepare their children for the actual testing days. Principals have notified parents/guardians of the specific testing dates per school.

- English-Language Arts and Mathematics - grades 3-9
- Science grades 5, 8 and 11
- *No testing for grades 10 and 12*
- As with all State testing, students who are permitted extra time or other accommodations as per their 504 or IEP plan will have access to those accommodations on the NJSLA assessments.

NOTE: Please contact your child's principal should you have any questions or concerns about your child's performance on district and/or state assessments.

Teacher Appreciation Week - May 2 - May 6, 2022

Next week is Teacher Appreciation Week and I want to take a moment to thank all our hard working teachers and support staff for their compassion, patience, and dedication to the children in our eight schools who are under their care and guidance 180 days per year. Please note that at the May 18 Board meeting, we will be recognizing our 2021-2022 Governor's Educators of the Year.

Friday, May 6 is also National Nurses Day and I would be remiss if I didn't offer a special "thank you" to our school nurses who have worked tirelessly to help us manage through this pandemic. Please know that we appreciate your hard work and efforts very much!

Family Engagement Workshops

Over the past two months, the District has held four of its five planned virtual workshops for our parents/guardians. All of the "Family Engagement Workshops" have been presented in English & Spanish simultaneously. The last session for this school year is focused on "Understanding and Responding Affirmatively to My Child's Behavior" and will be held on Wednesday, May 25 at 7:30 pm. The Zoom link information will be posted on the district website. Planning for next year's workshops is already underway.

Revised & New District Calendar

Please note that this year's district calendar has been revised regarding the upcoming Eid ul Fitr holiday – and we will now be closed on Monday, May 2 with a delayed opening on Tuesday, May 3. Also, the

2022-2023 district calendar is now posted on our district website (below the 2021-22 version):

<https://www.teaneckschools.org/DistrictCalendar.aspx>

Community Scholarship Fund of Teaneck - Memorial Dedication

The Community Scholarship Committee will be planting a tree on Friday, April 29 at 10:00 am at Teaneck High School in memory of Carol Otis and Theresa Delaney, former community leaders. Donations are welcome at <https://www.communityscholarshipfund.org/>

2022-2023 Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration for the 2022-2023 school year is ongoing through May 31 and it's highly recommended to register early. Your child must be 5 years of age on or before October 1, 2022, to qualify for Kindergarten. For more information, visit the district's website: [Kindergarten Registration](#)

Student Representatives

This evening, I am pleased to welcome our Teaneck High School Student Liaisons to the Board:

Angela Fletcher -Senior

Kasai Sanchez - Junior

Ronaldo Martin -Sophomore

Reem Abouganba - Freshman

Curriculum & Instruction

The 2021-2022 ACCESS 2.0 testing for the 121 students in the district has been completed. Score reports will provide data from the four domains of language acquisition which includes reading, writing, speaking and language. Additionally, the score reports provide data for the following composite areas: Oral Language, Literacy, Comprehension, Overall Achievement.

The Curriculum & Instruction supervisors were glad to participate in the Teaneck High School Open House which took place in early April. Parents and families asked important questions about course descriptions, enrollment, career and college readiness and content taught. We are looking forward to welcoming the class of 2026 in September of 2022.

Special Services

- Extended School Year Program (ESY) services are designed to support a student with a disability as documented under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to maintain the academic, social/behavioral, communication, or other skills they have acquired as part of their Individualized Education Program (IEP).
 - Application for Teaneck Public Schools Extended School Year Program have been sent to the families of students who qualify per their IEP.
 - The Extended School Year Program will be in session Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM, starting on June 27, 2022 through August 5, 2022.
- Dynamic Learning Maps Alternate Assessment- Spring Testing Window: April 1, 2022 - May 27, 2022
 - Testing Subjects: English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science
 - Testing Grades: Grades 3-8 and Grade 11

School Counseling Department

- May is Mental Health Awareness Month. During the month of May, the American Counseling Association (ACA) joins the national movement to raise awareness about mental health. Established in 1949, Mental Health Month sought to put a spotlight on the importance of mental health and wellness. More information can be found on [American Counseling Association \(ACA\)](#). Resources are also available on the [School Counseling](#) page
- *Spring Assessments- Teaneck will be administering assessments as indicated below:*
 - NJSLA - April 25 through June 3
 - English-Language Arts - grades 3-9,
 - Mathematics grades - grades 3-9
 - Science grades 5, 8 and 11

Note: Students in grades 10 and 12 do not test this year.

Please contact your child's principal should you have any questions or concerns about your child's performance on district and/or state assessments.

- *High School*
 - Seniors - Scholarship opportunities can be found in the "Senior Guidance Info" Google Classroom and on the [Scholarship](#) tab. For more information please see Ms. Dockery in the School Counseling office.
 - Bergen Community College Admission Day - On May 5, 2022, seniors will have the opportunity to meet with an admissions counselor from Bergen Community College to explore additional post-secondary options.
 - A list of college acceptances thus far can be found at <https://www.teaneckschools.org/CollegeAcceptances.aspx>
- *Communication -*
 - "[THS Connections](#)" Newsletter - THS Counseling Department will publish a monthly newsletter to share information with students and families.
 - YouTube Channel- All webinars will be posted for viewing. (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDw7prx6aDcxJmeyAo5sgQw>)
 - Follow @TeaneckSchoolCounseling on Instagram and Facebook

Communications & Community Relations

Family Engagement Workshops

The last virtual workshop of this school year - "Understanding and Responding Affirmatively to My Child's Behavior"- will be held on Wednesday, May 25th at 7:30 pm. During this workshop, parents will learn that all behavior is a form of communication - and these behaviors can be expressions of frustration, fear, physical pain, and even detachment from a situation where comfort or emotional security is lost. Strategies will be taught so that parents and family members can understand and respond to these behaviors using positive behavior support techniques. Zoom log-in information will be forthcoming. We hope you will join us!

Camp K Registration Open

Summer camp registration is now open! This year's camp will run from Monday, June 27 through Friday, August 5. Two, four and six week sessions are available. To register, visit: [Summer Camp K Registration](#).

Community News

Congrats to Ms. Davis' 4th grade Whittier class who had their writings recently published in the second edition of the "Teaneck Tomorrow Junior" online newsletter. This time, our fabulous students had lots of

questions for a town councilwoman, shared reflective thoughts on why they love this great Township, AND let us know what they would do if they were Mayor for a day! We will recognize these children at an upcoming Board meeting. To view the full newsletter, visit: [Teaneck Tomorrow Junior](#)

District Communication Tools

Get Connected with Teaneck Public Schools: Download our Free Mobile App on Apple & Google Stores: *Teaneck Public Schools* and be sure to "Like Us" on Facebook: *Teaneck Public School District*

You can also subscribe to our YouTube Channel: *Teaneck Public Schools*

NEW: *Teaneck Public Schools* is now on LinkedIn! Follow us there for all of the latest information on employment opportunities and district happenings. And please share our posts with your contacts.

Become a part of The Teaneck Advantage! Go to:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/teaneck-public-schools>

Bryant School

- Teaneck Public Schools is proud to present the PreSchool Informational Video! The video showcases the TPS Preschool Program and provides useful information to parents. To view the video, please click [HERE](#)
- Bryant School students and staff kicked off the month of April with the first Fun Themed Friday on April 1 by lighting up the School **BLUE** for Autism Awareness Month.
- On April 7, we celebrated baseball opening day by wearing our favorite sports jerseys to school and on April 8, we celebrated Tie-Dye Day! For a complete list of our April Fun Themes and photos of our staff and students celebrating the themes, please click [HERE](#)
- Bryant School celebrated Earth Day on April 22 by cleaning and planting in our garden courtyard area. Please enjoy photos of our students practicing their green thumbs for Earth Day
- April is Autism Awareness Month. During the week of April 18th, Bryant School/TELC recognized Autism Awareness Week. We began the week with Pajama Day on Monday, April 18. For the complete list of our Autism Awareness daily themes and photos, please click [HERE](#)
- On April 22, a few of the Bryant School classes participated in Spring Fitness Fun in the Sun! The children participated in a series of mini-field day events which got them moving and grooving outdoors. Please click [HERE](#) for photos of the event.
- Bryant School celebrated Earth Day on April 22 by cleaning and planting in our garden courtyard area. [HERE](#) are some photos of our students practicing their green thumbs and creating new things with recycled items for Earth Day!
- On Friday, April 29 at 1 PM, Bryant School/TELC will close out Autism Awareness Month by holding an Autism Awareness Walk. Families are encouraged to join our students and staff to a fun and inclusive walk to raise awareness for autism. More details on the event may be found [HERE](#). **DON'T FORGET TO LIGHT IT UP BLUE BY WEARING BLUE TO SCHOOL!**
- The full April Bryant School Calendar may be found [HERE](#)
- Our scholars are currently on the Pet Vet Theme. They continue to create props and engage in make-believe play as veterinarians. They will soon wrap up their roles as veterinarians and move on to either the Camping Theme or a classroom theme of their choice.
- Save the date for the Bryant School PTO SPRING FESTIVAL! The Spring Festival will be held on Thursday, May 5th from 4 pm to 7 pm. Please click [HERE](#) for more information. We are also looking for Parent Volunteers to help with the event. If you are interested in volunteering, please click [THIS LINK](#) to sign up
- The Bryant School PTO is on social media. Click [HERE](#) to join us. LIKE us on Facebook and FOLLOW us on Instagram. Stay connected with all things Bryant School and all things PTO.

- Our partners at AUCC will be holding their 4th Annual Festival and EID Event on Saturday, May 7th. All are welcome to attend. Please click [HERE](#) for more information.
- The Schoolstore.com Fundraiser, sponsored by the PTO will take place for the remainder of the year. Bryant School/TELC earns money when families and friends shop in SchoolStore. com. Please click [HERE](#) for more information.

Theodora Smiley Lacey School

- Lacey School students came camera ready on Monday, April 4 for our annual spring picture day.
- The Lacey PTA held its April meeting (virtual) on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 6:30 PM via Zoom. Click [HERE](#) to see the agenda. Our May PTA meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 10.
- Students enjoyed our annual Helping Drew Antibullying Assembly on Wednesday, April 20.
- Our kindergarten classes are planning a trip to the Van Saun Park Zoo on May 17th (pending board approval).
- Lacey School will host our Express Your Health event again this year on May 24 @ 6 pm. Families will be invited for a night of fun, food, health and wellness.
- Lacey School field day will take place Thursday, May 26. All students will participate in outdoor physical activities with help from our parent volunteers.
- Lacey School is planning a virtual Pre-K4 visit to our school for all incoming students, date TBD.
- Our outgoing kindergarten students will visit their next school on Wednesday, June 1.

Hawthorne Elementary School

- Hawthorne is pleased to announce their fourth grade MLK essay contest winners. The fourth grade class, teachers, and Principal Pitt had the pleasure of celebrating the work of these winners this week. Every year, fourth grade students submit remarkable essays about a specific topic. This year's theme was about issues they could address to uphold the integrity of our democracy. The winners of the essay contest were as follows: 1st place- Justice Lindskoog, 2nd place (tie)- Adrian Carrion and Ella Agosto, 3rd place- Amy Ibrahim, Honorable Mention- Lana Obry. Congratulations again to our students and their families!
- National Elementary Honor Society members have started a peer academic support initiative. The school community is proud of the initiative that the members have taken and look forward to hearing all about their work.
- Hawthorne's teachers are busy with ongoing review of student's data and planning for their instruction to provide additional support for previously taught content, where necessary, and teach new content.
- On April 1, we wore blue in honor of Autism Awareness Day which was on April 2.
- April 4 was National School Librarian Day. We thank Mrs. Rosegren for all of the support she provides to our students and staff. The staff held a breakfast in her honor.
- We Sprung into Spring with our Spring Dance on April 7. What a celebration it was!
- The PTA held their meeting on the same evening with a wonderful turnout.
- Speaking of wonderful things, our PTA collected 20 gently used and recycled sneakers during our sneaker drive.
- The PTA healthy snacks took place on April 22.
- April 27 is Administrative Professionals Day. Please feel free to reach out to our secretaries to share your appreciation for the way they keep our school running smoothly.
- Please come out to support the PTA Mathnasium night on April 28. This is a remarkable opportunity to learn more about family engagement through STEM.

- Our greenhouse trips begin on April 18. They will take place until April 28. Each class will be able to visit the greenhouse.
- School spirit day is April 29 and the school colors are red and white. The PTA will be selling smencils on that date, as well.
- Please be sure to read the weekly Thursday Tidbits.

Lowell Elementary School

- It was announced at the beginning of April that Mrs. Connolly's 1st grade won PE's Golden Sneaker Award for March.
- Our Math and Lit Enrichment Coaches held a parent's night on Thursday, April 7 to inform them about NJSLA testing.
- Lowell celebrated the Greg Tang March Madness Pizza Party on Friday, April 8. We had 109 student winners!
 - Next Greg Tang party will be on May 5.
 - There was a Greg Tang virtual help session on Wednesday, April 20.
- Lowell was happy to announce the return of an in-person Scholastic Book Fair. The first day was April 27 in the library with the preview date happening on the 26. The last day of the book fair is Friday, April 29. More information can be found [HERE](#)
- The virtual book club for third and fourth graders will host a virtual event on Thursday, April 28 at 6PM. The book club has reached the final chapter of the book. It has been a success with both students and parents. The students love the chance to win prizes.
- STAR Testing has been moved to start on May 4.
- There was no PTO meeting this month. The next and final meeting of the school year will be on Tuesday, May 24 at 6:30PM. Nominations for the 2022-2023 Board will be held. If you are interested in joining the PTO Board next year, please attend this meeting!
- The Kindergarten visit for upcoming first graders will occur on June 1st.

Whittier Elementary School

- Family Math Night was a success! More than 92 students and 74 families attended and enjoyed a night full of fun games while learning important math facts. Thank you to Ms. Sullivan who arranged the event and for the staff who assisted in making the evening such a success.
- *Teaneck Tomorrow, Jr.* online newsletter featured some of Whittier School's fourth grade students. Some students were able to interview Teaneck Councilwoman, Ms. Gervonn Romney-Rice, while others wrote what they would do if they were mayor for a day, or what they love about Teaneck. Please click on this link to view the newsletter - [Teaneck Tomorrow, Jr.](#)
- On April 25, Whittier's second grade students attended a field trip to Sea Life Aquarium/Legoland at the American Dream Mall.
- On April 26, the Whittier PTO held a fourth grade parent meeting via zoom to discuss upcoming events and end of year activities for our fourth grade students.
- April is National Poetry Month. Whittier School is celebrating the importance of poets and poetry in our culture by having students read from all different poetry genres during the morning announcements.
- Whittier School fourth grade students give back!! The students organized for students/staff to donate medical supplies for the people of the Ukraine.

- In collaboration with the Whittier PTO and in celebration of Earth Day, a spring clean up of the Whittier courtyards was held on Saturday, April 23 and Sunday, April 24. Thank you to everyone who donated their time to help. Students will now be able to enjoy these open spaces.
- Whittier School hosted an assembly "Bullyproof Your School" on April 22. The focus of the assembly was learning to be people of good character, practice respect, responsibility and caring. These character traits were embedded into an interactive magic show for students of all grade levels.
- Upcoming field trips for Whittier Students:
 - On May 6, National Honor Society members and TAG students will participate in workshops with BFMS students to learn about biodiversity and how to help our environment.
 - On May 16, National Honor Society members will take a field trip to the Hackensack Riverkeeper where they will learn about the relationship between human actions and the environment and how we can protect/conservate our environment.

Benjamin Franklin Middle School

- April 1:
 - Benjamin Franklin Middle School (BFMS) launched National Arab Heritage Month with a daily presentation of a prominent Arab American citizen that is shared during HR/Morning Announcements.
 - The Student Council hosted a movie day for students. The event was held immediately after school.
- April 4: Students and Staff who are fasting for the month of Ramadan began filming for a presentation to present to the school community to share their experiences about fasting.
- April 6: BFMS partnered with IDE (Innovative Design by Educators) to hold a Coaching Day to support the work around building Executive Functioning Skills in learners. Apart from classroom visits with an IDE Consultant the leadership at BFMS, IDE met with staff members to discuss how they can support incorporating Executive Functioning Skills into their work.
- April 8:
 - Students from Mrs. Gorant's Biodiversity class presented their ideas/proposals for projects they are interested in doing at BFMSI. Some of the projects including recycling initiatives and planting pollinators, and creating a butterfly garden that will support nearly 3 dozen butterflies that the students will launch into the world when the 4th graders from Whittier Elementary School visit in early May.
 - Heroes and Cool Kids visited Benjamin Franklin Middle School to continue the work of assisting the 6th graders with understanding their own transition into high school. The students from Teaneck High School shared their experiences as high school students.
- April 15: 3 students were sponsored by Dr. Joyce Bayne and Dr. Jason Bayne (former BFMS Student and THS Graduate) to attend an early college preparatory program at New Jersey Institute of Technology. The program will run for 6 weeks in the summer to support these learners who have shown academic promise to attend college.
- April 20: Our students and staff who are fasting for Ramadan presented a video presentation [Lessons About Ramadan](#) to educate the school community about Ramadan and the many ways those observing the month of fasting also incorporate other aspects of empathy, self-discipline, and charity into fasting.
- April 22:
 - US Representative, Josh Gottheimer -5th District, visited BFMS in support of the state's and district's financial literacy mandate -students in Mrs. Preziosi who have participated

in the [Capital Hill Challenge](#) -a national financial education competition involving some 600,000 students.

- We celebrated Earth Day 2022 by distributing over 500 smart plants to our students and staff; BFMS will also observe a “lights out” day to bring conscious awareness to energy conservation; and BFMS 5th graders will work on a recycling project to promote sustainability.

Thomas Jefferson Middle School

- TJMS celebrates World Autism Month by wearing blue shirts with work appropriate jeans on Fridays. <https://www.autismspeaks.org/world-autism-month>
- April 4-6: TJMS counselors completed Encore presentations for 5th, 6th and 7th graders to support their interest selection for next school year.
- April 4-7: TJMS Spring Book Fair hosted by the PTA.
- April 5:
 - TJMS 8th graders participated in a Social Studies trip to Teaneck houses of worship; bringing cultural and religious awareness in such a diverse community.
 - PTA meeting was held virtually via Zoom at 7pm.
- April 6: Teaneck High School Open House was held for all 8th graders.
- April 8: Heroes & Cool Kids presented to TJMS 6th graders
- TJMS used the week of April 11-15 (SPRING BREAK) to rest, relax and restore.
- April 19: TJMS 7th and 8th grade Chorus students participated in the THS Choral festival.
- TJMS celebrates 3rd marking period Honor Roll students on April 28 .
- April 29: TJMS Principal's Honors breakfast will occur to recognize the scholars soaring above and beyond. Also DEAR time will occur during 7th period to encourage staff and students to drop everything and read.
- May 12: TREP\$ Marketplace will be held and is open to the public. Please come support the 6th grade entrepreneurs of Thomas Jefferson Middle School from 4:00-6:00pm in the TJMS Gymnasium. In the TREP\$ program, the students learn how to start their own business, from brainstorming, manufacturing and promoting, all the way to finally seeing their product sold at the marketplace. The students are excited to sell their products and look forward to seeing you there!

Teaneck High School

- Hosted our annual Open House on April 6
- Spring Pep Rally was held on April 8
- Hosted the Choral Festival on April 19, with both BFMS and TJMS
- Earth Day School wide poster contest
- Successful 50th Terpsys Show was held on April 23 and 24
- Our Muslim Student Association are making announcements every day during Ramadan to raise awareness
- The Community Scholarship Committee will be planting a tree on Friday, April 29 at 10:00 am to honor Carol Otis and Theresa Delaney
- Band Concert will be held on Sunday, May 1, from 2:00 - 3:30 in the Helen B. Hill Auditorium.
- Senior Class Fashion Show Thursday, May 5 at 7:00pm in the Helen B. Hill Auditorium
- Honor Roll letter and bumper stickers sent to students
- Senior Service begins Monday, May 9, 2022

Human Resource Management

NEW: *Teaneck Public Schools* is now on LinkedIn! Follow us there for all of the latest information on employment opportunities and district happenings. And please share our posts with your contacts. Become a part of The Teaneck Advantage! Go to:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/teaneck-public-schools>

We are hiring! Staff Vacancy Updates – see attached document

TEANECK BOARD OF EDUCATION Human Resource Management

Christopher C. Irving, Ed. D.
Superintendent

Simone Clark
Executive Assistant, Human Resources & Compliance
sclark@teaneckschools.org



VACANCIES as of 04.25.2022

DISTRICT

Certificated:

English as a Second Language (ESL)
Teacher
Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant
(Special Services) (2)
*Instructional Aide/Braillist (Special
Services)
*Elementary Physical Education Teacher (2)
*Speech Therapist (Special Services) (3)
*School Nurse (Special Services)
*CST School Psychologist (Special Services)

Non-Certificated:

Manager, Human Resources & Compliance
Director of Technology
General Mechanic III / Grounds Foreman
(O&M)

TEANECK HIGH

Certificated:

Special Education (Mathematics) Teacher (2)
Special Education (Science) Teacher (2)
Computer Science Teacher
Mathematics Teacher
*Library Media Specialist
*Business Teacher (*pending offer*)
*Art Teacher
*Special Education, 18-21 Program

Non-Certificated:

Receptionist / Clerk (FORUM) (*anticipated:
May 2022*)

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Certificated:

Special Education Teacher (*pending offer*)
*Mathematics Teacher/Coach
*School Counselor

THOMAS JEFFERSON

Certificated:

Grade 5 Teacher

*Indicates position is anticipated for the 2022-2023 School Year.
Positions listed in **BOLD** have been advertised.

Interim positions filled until recommendations are confirmed for permanent appointment: School
Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Supervisor of Mathematics (District) & Middle School Assistant
Principal (Thomas Jefferson Middle School)

LOWELL

Certificated:

Grade 4 Teacher (pending offer)

***Special Education (MD) Teacher**

***Special Education Teacher**

WHITTIER

Certificated:

***Special Education Teacher**

BRYANT

Certificated:

***Special Education Teacher**