**Teaneck Public Schools**

**Superintendent Report**

**December 6, 2017**

Our teachers and administrators had a half-day professional development session on Monday, December 4, 2017, with Border Crossers. Ms. Reese previously provided an overview of implicit bias at each school. This was the first session with Border Crossers, who focused on race and racism. The feedback I have received from principals, so far, has been mostly positive. I’ve heard that some teachers took what they experienced in the session and had conversations in classrooms about bias and race, with one high school teacher asking students to write about their experiences around race. So, the conversation has started and we will continue the conversation through the remainder of the school year. The next session with Border Crossers is on March 19, 2017.

Last night, I attended the inaugural National Junior Honor Society induction ceremony at Whittier Schools. Congratulations to the students who were inducted and also to Mr. Valdes, principal, and Ms. Lionetti, Ms. Choi, Ms. Aster, and Ms. Friedman, who were willing to start the chapter at Whittier School.

At next week’s public board meeting, we will have a presentation about the Heroes and Cool Kids program and we will also have a showing of the winning short films from the SmartPhone Short Film Contest. The winders, Elyjah Jackson and Amanda Kearney, have been invited to attend.

Tomorrow night, Thursday, December 7, 2017, there will be an Information night about Naviance, which is a college and career readiness software that is used at THS, for Freshman and Sophomore students and parents. The event will be held in the third floor student center at 7:00 pm.

Whittier School will hold a Family Math Night tomorrow, Thursday, December 7, 2017, at 6:30 pm in the Whittier School cafeteria. It promises to be a night of math fun for the whole family that will include hands-on learning activities and games. Whittier School families are invited to attend.

Hawthorne School will hold its Winter Concert on Wednesday, December 13, 2017, at 9:00 am. Whittier School will hold its Winter Concert on Wednesday, December 20, 2017, at 10:00 am. All are invited to attend both concerts.

Over the past few weeks, we have experienced difficulty with Skyward, our student information program. Our Information Systems staff, along with PeggNet, has worked with Skyward to get the system back online. As of today, Skyward is back up and running. I want to thank everyone for their patience and understanding while the program was offline and for the team that worked on restoring it. Here’s hoping that the technical issues are behind us.