**Teaneck Public Schools**

**Superintendent Report**

**December 13, 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.

Whittier School held their inaugural National Junior Honor Society induction ceremony on Tuesday, December 5, 2017. 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.

Hawthorne School had a successful winter concert this morning! Everyone in the community is invited to attend one or all of the upcoming winter concerts (senior citizens attend free):

* Benjamin Franklin Middle School – Thursday, December 14, 2017, at 6:30 pm
* Thomas Jefferson Middle School – Thursday, December 21, 2017 at 7:00 pm
* Whittier School – Wednesday, December 20, 2017 at 9:00 am

The Teaneck Organization for Public Schools (TOPS) will sponsor a USATF sanctioned 5K Run on Sunday, May 6, 2018. There will also be a 1 Mile Color Run. Walkers and wheelchairs are welcome. I am grateful that TOPS will share the funds raised with the Teaneck Public Schools. More information and registration forms can be found at <https://runsignup.com/teaneck5k>

Teaneck Public Schools will be closed for the holiday recess from Monday, December 25, 2017 through Monday, January 1, 2018. Schools will reopen on Tuesday, January 2, 2018.

I wish everyone a joyous holiday season! Best wishes for a healthy and happy new year!

