

Teaneck Public Schools
Superintendent Report
February 8, 2017

February is Black History Month! Our students are involved in many lessons and activities to learn about the contributions of Black people in every field of human endeavor throughout history. Students at Lowell School presented their annual Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) tribute assembly today to parents and the community. Hawthorne School will hold their annual MLK Assembly at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 28, 2017. Whittier School students will present their MLK assembly on Friday, March 17, 2017. At Benjamin Franklin Middle School the students are working on creating Black History Month exhibits which will be shown during a “Night at the Museum,” date to be announced.

The Central Park Zoo visited Hawthorne School on Tuesday, February 7, 2017, to present “Polar Opposites!” This theatrical presentation taught students about the amazing wild things of the Arctic and Antarctica. Also on February 7th, the PTA provided every family and staff member with a copy of *Friendship According to Humphrey* by Betty G. Birney. The entire school community will be reading a few pages of this book each night and will then answer trivia questions and have discussions about the book’s themes of friendship, family, forgiveness and problem-solving.

Whittier School is hosting a Family Math Night on Thursday, February 23, 2017. During this event, parents and students will engage in fun math activities. Parents will learn ways to support and continue math learning at home. More information will be available on the Whittier School website.

The Benjamin Franklin Middle School Student Council facilitated a school spirit week last week. The week showcased deeds of kindness, which included students creating art work for and writing uplifting messages to students in the Tomorrow’s Children program at Hackensack University Medical Center. On February 2, 2017, a group of BFMS sixth and seventh grade students attended the Path to Leadership Conference in Long Branch, New Jersey. The students learned about leadership through keynote address and interactive workshop. BFMS will hold a college fair for the eighth grade students on Thursday, February 16, 2017. This was arranged by Mr. Kleinman, Supervisor of Guidance, to raise students’ awareness of college and life beyond high school.

The district website contains information about Register Ready, which is New Jersey’s special needs registry for disasters. This program allows New Jersey residents with disabilities and their families, friends, caregivers and associates an opportunity to provide information to emergency response agencies so emergency responders can better plan to serve them in a disaster or other emergency. Please check out www.teaneckschools.org for this information, listed in the headlines section.

On Monday, February 13, 2017, Ray & Associates will be holding stakeholder input sessions for everyone in the community. There is a community forum for the public from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in the Cheryl Miller Porter Center at Teaneck High school. For those who cannot attend, there is online survey posted on the district website. We strongly encourage everyone’s input!

