



MANVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

410 Brooks Boulevard
Manville, New Jersey 08835

Anne R. Facendo
Superintendent of Schools
Phone (908) 231-8500 x8545
Fax (908) 707-3963

Kimberly A. Clelland
Business Administrator /Board Secretary
Phone (908) 231-8500 X 8504
Fax (908) 704-0510

Family and Community Update –Autumn 2016

Welcome Back to All of the Families and Friends of the Manville Public School District!

As our district prepares for the 2016-2017 school year, we are very proud to share our upcoming plans and initiatives, while also sharing our springtime and summer successes with you in this Early Autumn Update for the Manville Public School District.

Here are some of the highlights:

Welcome Assemblyman Ciattarelli! Manville Public School District is pleased to welcome NJ Assemblyman Jack Ciattarelli (16th Legislative District) to our next Board Meeting!

Date and Time: Tuesday, September 13, 2016 – 7PM

Location: ABIS Cafeteria

Topic: A Plan for Fair Funding of NJ Public Schools

Please join us for this special event!

Welcome Principal Maroun! Special Welcome to our new Roosevelt Principal, Mr. Jamil Maroun! Mr. Maroun was approved to serve as the new Principal of Roosevelt School at the July 12, 2016 Board meeting, following a highly competitive Principal Search by the Manville Public School District. A total of seventy-three (73) applications were reviewed for the position. The pool of candidates was then narrowed to fifteen candidates in Round 1, with four finalists entering into Round 2 interviews.

Mr. Maroun is formerly the Supervisor for Science, Social Studies and Library Media K-12 in the North Plainfield Public School District. He is a certified Level 2 Google Educator and teaches regular state-wide workshops on Learning and Technology through NJ Ed-Camps. Mr. Maroun has much to offer our district in terms of Science-Technology-Engineering and Math, and is a contributor to new Next Generation Science Standards for the New Jersey State Department of Education. He will be graduating next June with his Doctorate in Educational Leadership from Seton Hall University.

A special Ice Cream Social was held to welcome our newest Principal on August 25, 2016.

www.manvilleschools.org

Family and Community Update –Autumn, 2016

Pictured below:

RES Principal Jamil Maroun, Guidance Counselor Ryan McNally, and Superintendent Anne Facendo serve up ice cream for a hungry group of students...



Next Generation Science Standards Come to Life at ABIS! Did you know? Three of our ABIS Teachers helped the State of New Jersey write the new “Next Generation Science Standards” which will be introduced to schools across the State in September 2016. Special congratulations to Ms. Lauren Kurzius, Ms. Kara Vredenburgh, and Ms. Anabela Bentzinger for their tireless efforts in this regard.

More in Science News! Our Eighth Grade Science Teacher, Ms. Lauren Kurzius, is the proud winner of the Duke Farms Statewide Lesson Planning Competition for Science. Ms. Kurzius and her students were honored by the Manville Board of Education on June 3, 2016 for their Eagle Cam Lesson Presentation, in which students used problem solving, reading, writing, speaking, listening, and real-life hand-on science in order to follow the birth and tagging of baby eagles in Somerset County. This brilliant lesson of study will be shared with educators across the state. We are very proud of this amazing accomplishment! 8th Grade “Eagle Cam” Presenters at June 3, 2016 BOE Meeting:

Melanie Ojeda Emily Tarnovetchi Melissa Angulo Piotr Bunkowski Kayla Burke Devin Colucci	Sebastian Cubero Emillee Diaz Jasmeen Gualtieri, Jason Jablonski Anabella Jaime Natalia Jimenez	Kaylee Pfeiffer Jacqueline Pineda-Aguilar Caroline Rzeszutek Sara V. Sobkowicz Ma Ziheng
---	--	--

Adoption of Three Year Technology Plan: Ms. RoseMary Perrotti, Mr. William Wright, and Dr. Barbara Popp worked closely this year with the NJDOE County Office and school districts across Somerset County to draft a standardized, County and School Based Technology Plan to run from 2016-2019. The NJDOE has a host of new requirements for the plan; and as a result, the districts in Somerset worked together to streamline a format that would work for all schools in the county, while still individualizing for each district. On Thursday, May 12th, Ms. Perrotti, Mr. Wright and all Building Principals shared the district final plan along with four school-based technology plans with a committee comprised of

www.manvilleschools.org

Family and Community Update –Autumn, 2016

Board Members, Parents, Teachers, Students, and Central Administrators. Approval of the Three-Year Technology Plan was granted by the Manville Board of Education on June 14, 2016.

Genesis Parent Portal: Last Year, the Manville School District launched the new Genesis Parent Portal in order to provide parents and secondary students with a digital platform for checking grades, receiving report cards, etc.

Recent efforts by the district have increased the total parent usage of Genesis, and our goal is to continue this expansion as the district pursues green and digital options over paper mailings.

This summer, the Genesis Parent Portal provided parents with all of the forms necessary to start a new school year, while also obtaining state-required parent signatures. Student schedules are also available on the parent portal! **Do you still need help signing up for the Parent Portal?** Please call to set up an appointment: 908-231-8500 x 2419

Literacy and Math Initiatives Continue to thrive in the Manville Public School District:

In our Wintertime Update, we shared that the Manville Public School District has invested substantially across the district to ensure that all children in Manville emerge from school as strong readers, writers, mathematicians, thinkers, and problem solvers. We, as a district, are promoting active, problem-based learning in all classrooms, along with strong literacy and math supports at all levels to ensure student progress. Here are some highlights from September to present:

- **Math News:** Manville School District has invested in a new digital platform to specifically encourage ongoing Math Practice, assessment and student improvement in Math and Problem Solving Skills. “Front Row” was piloted by several teachers across the district in 2015-2016 and will be ready to launch to all students in 2016-2017. Stay tuned for more information on this exciting improvement to our school district!
- **Literacy News -** Manville Public School District will be continuing the *Rewards for All* Program during the 2016-2017 school year. *Rewards for All* provides a number of benefits for students in grades K through 5, to include:
 - **Model Classrooms** – It is important for all teachers to know the “best practices” for delivering reading instruction, while at the same time closing student learning gaps. Model Classrooms showcase best practices and provide important professional development to staff members in the teaching of reading and writing. Strong teachers produce strong students through this important initiative.
 - **Intervention Teachers** – Manville students in grades K-5 participate in a “push-in” intervention model of Literacy instruction. Students participate in core instruction in the regular classroom every day during Language Arts Literacy. Students in need of assistance get daily help in small group reading and writing right in their own classrooms as a result of our push-in reading intervention program.

Family and Community Update –Autumn, 2016

- **Literacy Coaches** – In addition to student intervention, Manville provides a team of Literacy Coaches to go into our elementary classrooms. Literacy coaches work closely with groups of students while also demonstrating to classroom teachers the “Research-Based Best Practices” in the field of Literacy. Literacy Coaches also work with parents to provide afterschool and evening classes on how to best assist students at home with reading and writing.
- **Literacy Immersion Classes** - Weston School will also be scheduling *Literacy Immersion Classes* during 2016-17. This is in addition to the *Rewards for All* Program begun in the district two years ago. Students involved in Literacy Immersion will have Literacy taught throughout the day in every subject area in an effort to help students become stronger readers and writers.
- **Reading and Writing in Science and Social Studies** - Manville Public School District has devoted substantial resources in order to continue to develop curriculum that encourages students to read, write, speak, and listen in ALL subject areas, GOING ABOVE AND BEYOND daily Language Arts Literacy instruction. The district has acquired wonderful new novels, nonfiction readers, and other materials to support Language Arts Literacy during Science and Social Studies classes. This means that our students are literally reading and writing ***throughout the school day***. Research shows us that immersing students in the literacy process creates stronger students and better results at school for our students.
- **\$68,000 Literacy Grant** – We are extremely pleased to announce to the Manville Community that Manville Public School District has been selected to receive a Deed Grant in the amount of \$68,000 to continue with our work through the ACHIEVE 3000 digital platform for Literacy. The terms of the grant would allow Manville School District to continue to provide digital licenses to all students in the district while also participating in a national study of student improvement in literacy based on current research in the field. The Manville Board of Education approved this generous donation to our district at the June 14, 2016 Board Meeting.

A Final Note: It was my great privilege to attend Graduation Practices with our Senior Class every day during the last week of the 2015-2016 school year. Following daily rehearsals, our Valedictorians and Salutatorian stayed on to practice their speeches for the big night.

One of our students made a very poignant statement in her speech...“I am standing before you this evening, not because I am the smartest...but because every day, day in and day out, I worked hard.” She went on to describe the value of making small improvements...one step at a time...resulting in measurable differences over the course of her academic career in Manville.

Family and Community Update –Autumn, 2016

I am struck by how many of our wonderful students...and their families...seem to live up to this philosophy. It's what makes Manville a great school system...a small town...with big dreams...and high standards. Ever-growing...ever-improving.

Wishing all of our Manville families and friends a Happy and Healthy New School Year!

Looking forward to seeing our students on Wednesday, September 8, 2016 for the first day of school!

With Sincere Best Wishes,

Anne Facendo

**Anne R. Facendo, Superintendent
Manville Public Schools**