



Readington Township School District Parent Newsletter

February 2017 Edition

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FEBRUARY GREETINGS!

We're excited to share that three of our schools were awarded individual \$2000 grants from the NJEA for Sustainable Jersey for Schools projects.

- * Holland Brook School will direct this funding toward enhancing an outdoor classroom space, composting, and a water bottle filling station.
- * Whitehouse School will fund a Green Club for students and install another water bottle filling station.
- * Three Bridges School will enhance the school grounds with a pollinator garden and a rain garden that students will help plan, research, and implement.



*District Energy Efficiency Coordinator Jodi Bettermann
WHS Enrichment Teacher Lori Yukniewicz
District Facilities Supervisor Don Race
WHS Media Center Specialist Valerie Zanardi*

Holland Brook musicians will hold their concert on Monday, February 27th. I've watched some of the 4th grade classes as they've practiced singing, dancing, and instrument/recorder playing. They truly are the triple threat of the performing arts world! This will also be the world premiere for our 4th and 5th grade orchestra students. Don't miss it!

PreK and Kindergarten Registration has begun. Please alert your friends and neighbors, especially if they do not have children already enrolled in our schools. Early registration helps us to plan appropriately for staffing, materials, bus routes, etc. In-person Kindergarten registration begins at the end of the month.

Please read further for information on our upcoming Police vs. Faculty Charity Basketball Game, Tech Tips, Parent Enrichment, and more!

PASSWORD MANAGEMENT TECH TIPS

Jim Belske, District Technology Coordinator

Google, Microsoft, Yahoo, Twitter and Facebook - the list goes on and on. Many of us have online accounts and subscriptions to these and other popular websites. These sites often require separate logins and passwords that each user must manage and remember separately. As one can imagine, multiple login IDs and passwords can be a big challenge and sometimes very frustrating to organize and remember.

To help address this challenge, a number of free password management solutions are available. *LastPass* is one of these more popular password management services. *LastPass* utilizes a popular security technology called "salted hashing" that protects and secures all of your passwords online. With salted hashing, only the subscriber has access to their online information and security credentials.

Once a subscriber has set up an account with a password management service, they will have the option to add all their favorite websites, along with the login credentials needed to access those sites. Many of these sites also offer mobile apps and browser extensions that allow the users to easily and securely access their favorite websites on any device or platform.

Some additional features password managers offer include: Selective password sharing (useful for managing children's online credentials) secure password generation, and advanced website and credential organization. Save those sticky notes! Check out password managers to see if they fit into your needs and requirements to make your online presence more organized and secure.

Readington Police vs. Readington Teachers Friday, March 31st 7:00 p.m.

If you happened to miss this sometimes comical, always exciting Charity Basketball Game last year, the Readington Police have graciously agreed to another game of basketball against our faculty. All proceeds benefit the *Mark Cleere Memorial Scholarship*. Ticket information has already been provided through our *Genesis* blasts.

NJ School of Character

Congratulations to Whitehouse Elementary School for being selected as a NJ School of Character. The New Jersey Association for Social, Emotional, and Character Development (NJASECD) is proud to announce that 23 schools and 2 districts have been named 2017 New Jersey Schools of Character. These schools have been forwarded to Character.org (formerly the Character Education Partnership), a national character education advocate and are in the national evaluation process for consideration to be named 2017 National Schools/Districts of Character.

This year New Jersey has the highest number of State Schools of Character in the nation. Dr. DeRosa will share some of her school's Character Education initiatives at the March 14th Board of Education meeting.

PARENT ENRICHMENT EVENING

This year's Parent Enrichment Evening will be held on Tuesday, March 21, at 7:00 p.m. Please be on the lookout for Genesis blasts containing information about workshop sessions and registration. Our current line-up includes:

Hour of Code with awesome RMS Teacher Lora Petersen

What Tweens Wish Adults Knew with talented Emily Bengels

Mindfulness with calm WHS Teacher Anthony Tumolo

The Importance of Being Little with not-so-calm Barb Sargent

NEW NOVELS FOR 8TH GRADE

The following novels were approved by our Board of Education at their December meeting for use in the 8th grade curriculum:

Superman vs. The Ku Klux Klan by Rick Bowers (Nonfiction)

A Teen's Guide to the 5 Love Languages: How to Understand Yourself and Improve All Your Relationships by Gary Chapman (Nonfiction/Speeches)

What Do You Really Want? How to Set a Goal and Go for It: A Guide for Teens by Beverly K. Bachel (Nonfiction/Speeches)

Eyes Wide Open: Going Behind the Environmental Headlines by Paul Fleischman (Nonfiction – Argument)

The Good The Bad and The Barbie by Tanya Stone (Nonfiction - Argument)

The Mindful Teen: Powerful Skills to Help You Handle Stress One Moment at a Time by Dzung X. Vo (Nonfiction)

Lincoln's Spymaster: Allan Pinkerton, America's First Private Eye by Samantha Seiple (Narrative Nonfiction)

Irena's Children: The Extraordinary Woman Who Saved thousands of children from the Warsaw Ghetto by Tilar Mazzeo (Narrative Nonfiction)

Design our Holiday Card Student Art Contest

Your students are invited to participate in a contest to design a non denominational holiday card depicting peace and children.

You only need to share the information with your students!

Open to all grades K through High school.

Original artwork only, any medium, as long as it can be reproduced as a card. Must be submitted to a.condo@casashaw.org or to the address on back, by April 14th 2017. Include name, phone number, email, grade, & school.

Prizes awarded to winning entries in multiple age groups.

CASA SHaW provides trained advocates for abused and neglected children in our community.

April is child abuse prevention month. Join CASA in standing up for an abused child by wearing a blue ribbon during April for National Go Blue for Children.

Address:

Court Appointed
Special Advocates
150 Boulevard Ste. 3
Washington, NJ 07882

Or

a.condo@casashaw.org

