

Woodland Park School District e-Newsletter

Sept. 13, 2019

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Building the road to success

Welcome to the Woodland Park School District e-Newsletter, which will be sent out weekly when school is in session. This will serve as a glimpse of some of the wonderful things going on in our schools, as well as a point of reference for upcoming events.

Your Partner in Education,
Michele R. Pillari, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Important dates to note

Tuesday, Sept. 17, 7 p.m. -
CO HSA meeting

Thursday, Sept. 19, 7 p.m. -
BG HSA meeting

Friday, Sept. 20, 6:30 p.m. -
CO HSA first grade social

Monday, Sept. 23 to Friday,
Sept. 27 - Start With Hello
Week at CO and BG

Monday, Sept. 23, 7 p.m. -
Board of Education regular
meeting at Memorial School

Tuesday, Sept. 24, 6:30 p.m. -
BG Back to School Night

Wednesday, Sept. 25, 7 p.m. -
CO Back to School Night

Thursday, Sept. 26, 6:30 p.m. -
Memorial Back to School
Night

Friday, Sept. 27 - Green Out
Day at CO - wear green

Friday, Sept. 27, 6:30 - sCO
HSA second grade social

Monday, Sept. 30 - Memorial
School photo day

Monday, Sept. 30, 6:30 p.m. -
BG HSA social event

Tuesday, Oct. 1, 6:30 p.m. - CO
HSA pre-k welcome event

Friday, Oct. 4, 7 p.m. -
CO HSA storytime

Monday, Oct. 14 - District
schools are closed

Never Forget



The Borough held its annual 9/11 Remembrance Wednesday evening. Woodland Park Cub Scouts and Daisy Scouts lent a hand by passing out programs and candles, as well as singing "God Bless the USA" and "God Bless America." Students from Memorial School also read a poem to attendees.



Facilities offer a number of bright, fresh new spaces for students

Over the summer, a number of spaces were renovated in the three district schools.

At Memorial Middle School, the media center was painted and reconfigured to better meet the needs of the students. The main office also had a makeover and now houses both of the school's secretaries.

Beatrice Gilmore School's hallways were painted with a lighter color, the main office had a complete makeover and the gym windows were replaced.

At Charles Olbon, five classrooms, two bathrooms and one office space were reconstructed. The new classrooms, which serve all of the second graders, were created with collaborative learning spaces in mind. They were designed to be learning spaces that can meet the needs of students in an ever-changing society. A variety of different types of work spaces fill the room, replacing traditional desks. LED lights create a bright space as well. The rooms also include new Smart TVs.



In Service



The Board of Education recently presented a plaque to Thomas Bolen for his nine plus years of service as a Board Trustee. We wish Mr. Bolen all the best in his future endeavors! The Board subsequently selected Christine Tiseo to serve out the remainder of Mr. Bolen's terms. She is shown, being sworn in by Mayor Keith Kazmark.

Ripples of Kindness



Mrs. Wilson's class at Beatrice Gilmore did a lesson on symbolism, kindness, and empathy last week. They read "Each Kindness" by Jacqueline Woodson, discussed what symbols were, and did an artistic activity dropping paint into water to symbolize how a kind act spreads like ripples in the water. They then reflected in their notebooks and brainstormed ways they could spread kindness at BG. What are some ways to show kindness? Help someone pick something up. Respond to a "Hello" or "Good Morning." Ask someone on the Buddy Bench to plan. Shown is Mrs. Wilson with Ms. Gina DiLuccia and Francesca Inzone from PVHS in front of their class door

BG's Mr. Krakower achieves two technology education certifications

Congratulations to Beatrice Gilmore technology teacher Mr. Krakower, who has achieved the distinction of becoming an International Society for Technology in Education certified educator. ISTE standards define the skills needed to transform teaching practices with technology. In addition, Mr. Krakower recently obtained Google Level 2 certification. This certification is for educators who are super users and enthusiasts of Google tools in the classroom and validates their advanced technology skills.



Accomplishments of summer readers celebrated by Library

The Alfred Baumann Library's "Universe of Stories" summer program went out with a "big bang!" Over 350 children, parents, and grandparents celebrated last Saturday all of the children's reading accomplishments and participation in Library programs over the summer. The celebration included a bounce house, games, ice cream, ice pops, cotton candy, a rocket ship for photos, face painting, spin art, and lots of prizes. There were sack races and a water balloon toss, even the parents had a water balloon toss. This year, Cub Scouts Pack 31 and their leaders created a giant dice game for children to play.



Many thanks to the local businesses that supported the program: Sip 'n Swirl, Bromilow's Chocolates, Santangelo's Funeral Home, ShopRite of Little Falls, Chef Calvin from the Office in Ridgewood and Pizza City. Donations were also received from The Montclair Art Museum, Liberty Science Center, Floyd Hall Arena, The Red Bulls Soccer Team, and the National Radio Astronomy Observatory. Additionally, many thanks to the WP Municipal Alliance for their partnership in reading by providing "Fly Guy Presents Space" books, an inflatable planetarium, and the Movie Under the Stars at the Library. Finally, the Library thanks Mrs. Ficarra, Mrs. Seavy, and Mrs. Castrovincci for volunteering to judge the Space Spelling Bee and for the overall support from Superintendent Dr. Pillari and the school district.

The preliminary numbers are in. The summer reading program this year had 2,846 children and 554 teen participants in 107 summer programs. They read approximately 3,500 books and 179,760 minutes (or 2,996 hours.) Additionally, the Library staff attended 14 outreach events throughout the community engaging over 1,100 children. The Library was fortunate to have 24 Junior Ambassadors and Teen Volunteers assist with programs, technology, program preparation, and a Passaic Valley High School student created, planned and assisted with the Kids Mindfulness program. Collectively, they volunteered 106 hours over the summer and did an outstanding job running all of the games at the End of Summer Celebration.

