

MIDDLE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE, N.J.

“SUNSHINE MOMENTS”

SCHOOL: Elementary # 1

PRINCIPAL: Christian J. Paskalides

DATE: October 20, 2016

1. On Wednesday, October 12th, Elementary # 1's Kindergarten held its 13<sup>th</sup> Annual PTO sponsored Pizza Party. The pizza and desserts were delicious, and the entertainment captivated the students with a lively performance by a local musician. He had the students dancing, clapping and playing musical instruments. A big thank you to the PTO volunteers, and Court House Pizza for all their efforts in making the evening extra special for our kindergarten students and their families.
2. In observance of Fire Prevention Week, Elementary #1 held a Fire Safety Day for all students on Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>. Firefighters reviewed safety rules, firefighting equipment, and how to act in emergency situations. Each class had an opportunity to tour the fire trucks during their recess period. A special thank you to the Court House, Goshen, Green Creek, and Rio Grande Fire Departments for making the program a success. This program is aligned with our District strategic plan: Goal 1, Objective C, Action Step #2- Recognizing community members and volunteers.
3. An extremely productive professional development day was held on Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. The staff at Elementary #1 was involved in a number of activities in their PLC's. Don Robertson conducted nonviolent crisis intervention training for our special education staff and their assistants. A special thank you to the staff for their participation and productivity throughout the day.
4. On Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, Elementary #1 held its annual Smart Start assembly. Along with an introduction to school rules, thumbs up, and the Super Citizen program, the students were educated on HIB (harassment, intimidation & bullying). Special guest McGruff the Crime Dog presented an anti-bullying cartoon, teaching students to stop, talk, and walk when being confronted by a bully. Thank you to Don Robertson and Lisa Novsak for organizing the program, and to all the staff members who participated. A special thank you to Erik Teasinfiz, Nate Dickinson, and McGruff the Crime Dog from the Cape May County Sheriff's Department whose participation helped make the program a success.

## Middle Township Elementary School #2

*"Helping Every Child Achieve Success"*

### Sunshine Moments- October, 2016

- Our sincere "thanks" are offered to President Pearline Ross, Francey Burke, and the Mid Jersey Cape Rotary Club for extending their **Dictionary Project** into our school. Mrs. Burke and Ms. Ross visited each third-grade classroom and presented the students with a new personal dictionary. The dictionaries will assist them in progressing through the year as good writers and thinkers.
- On October 6th, Elementary #2 hosted a family reading night for students and parents. This year's theme was "Camp Read S'more." Students and parents traveled to different camping themed locations throughout the building and participated in various reading and writing activities. Linda Chambers, a children's book illustrator, was also on-hand to discuss her craft. Many thanks to special guests Dr. Salvo, Mr. Paskallides, and Mayor Michael Clark who read stories to the students. A special thank you to Megan Bramble for coordinating this exciting event.
- Elementary #2 recognized the **Blue Ribbon Week of Respect** from October 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 6<sup>th</sup>. Each day began with words of wisdom quotes over the PA system, followed by the showing of a specific YouTube video about respect. Additionally, **School Violence Awareness Week** was recognized this week with additional classroom videos along with messages from Kid President, the making of a schoolwide "Peace Chain", the creation of a purple hand display by all of the students, and recitation of the Purple Hand Pledge. Many thanks to assistant principal Mrs. Lisitski for coordinating these activities.



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**SCHOOL:** Middle School **PRINCIPAL:** Dr. T. Lehman  
**DATE:** Thursday, October 20, 2016

The Red Ribbon Campaign is the oldest and largest drug prevention program in the nation, reaching millions of young people during Red Ribbon Week, October 23- October 31<sup>st</sup> each year. Counselor, Monica DeRose has shared resources teachers can use to discuss the dangers of drugs in our society. These activities address the Strategic Plan with regard to school climate and fostering student development.

The Cape Educational Fund has awarded grants to exceptional teachers in Cape May County for the last 33 years. Susan Blood, our science teacher, was awarded a \$500 grant for her project entitled, "Healthy Gardening." Susan attended the awards presentation luncheon at Lucky Bones in Cape May today. We celebrate and recognize district staff as part of goal #4 in our Strategic Plan.

The Middle School looks forward to hosting our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual program on November 8th that will bring several local groups together to celebrate Veterans Day. Our students will have an opportunity to hear stories from local veterans. Our band and choir will be performing an ensemble together. The members of the National Junior Honor Society and Students of the Month for October will be providing refreshments and hosting the event. Teachers Lisa Mericle, Heather Chew, June Camizzi, Evan Weatherby, Donia Mills, Jennifer Parmelee, and Jessica Debiase have come together to help plan this community/ school based program. Three of our local Assemblyman; Andrzejczak, Van Drew, and Land have confirmed their attendance. Our local police officer, Mark Higginbottom will also be an honorary guest. Assemblyman Land and Officer Higginbottom also plan to share their military experiences with our students. As part of the Strategic Plan, the Middle School aims to strengthen our outreach efforts in engaging with community members to meet the needs of our school and district.

During our recent October 7, 2016 in-service, our teachers and staff participated in a Google Classroom workshop. Google Classroom is an excellent tool for maximizing teaching time and improving ways to distribute projects to students. It provides needed flexibility to engage students in collaborative and constructive learning activities. Google Classroom helps to improve class organization. Teachers learned how to can create assignments, provide feedback, and communicate with students using this technological platform.

The 6<sup>th</sup> graders are participating in our 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Experience at Bellplain Forest this week. David Farrow and staff have done an excellent job in preparing for this 18<sup>th</sup> annual event. More info in next month's sunshine minutes.

Update with the Fall Sports stats as of 10/20- info TBD



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### **Sunshine Moments OCT. 2016**

- All sophomores and juniors took the PSAT this past yesterday during the regular school day. An abbreviated school day followed testing with fifteen minute “Breakout Sessions” being used to provide student with important school information and updates. Some of the information provided involved health and safety issues, discipline updates, and class meetings.
- The annual National Honor Society Induction Ceremony was held on Thursday, October 13 in the Performing Arts Center. Congratulations to the 34 students that were recognized and a special thank you to Mrs. Kelly Lasher and the selection committee for planning a wonderful evening.
- Senior Anika Buchanan was recently inducted into the International Thespian Society which is an organization that recognizes student achievement in theatre. Each Thespian inductee has completed over 100 hours of excellent work in theatre arts and related disciplines. Congratulations to Anika, her family, and Theatre Arts instructor and troupe director, Miss Buckingham.

#### Athletic Update (As of 10/17/16)

- The whole school enjoyed a very successful Spirit Week during the first week of October, Some of the activities included class participation competition and contests during an enthusiastic Pep Rally. The week culminated in a great 35-7 win against Triton by the football team in front of a supportive Homecoming crowd.
- As of the beginning of this week, Lady Panthers field hockey remained undefeated with a record of 12-0-1. Jenna Herlihy became the first player in Cape May County to score 100 careers goals on Wednesday. Jenna also broke the assist record. The team was set to host St. Joseph for the conference championship on Wed., Oct. 19.
- Our Boys soccer team entered the week with just 1 loss and was invited to compete in the prestigious Coaches Tournament. The team is set to play at St. Augustine today, Thursday, Oct. 21
- Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Black & Orange Social, our athletics fundraiser, at 6 p.m. Fri., Oct. 21, 2016, at the Bellevue. Tickets are \$25, available from any coach or at the door.
- Fall 2016 sports schedules are available on [www.capeatlanticleague.org](http://www.capeatlanticleague.org).