1. Once again, the students of Elementary #1 participated in the American Heart Association’s “Jump Rope for Heart” Jump-A-Thon during the week of February 25th in their physical education classes. In addition to learning the benefits of being heart healthy, the boys and girls raised $6,985 bringing our grand total to $150,094. Thank you to Chris McMullen, Andy Ludman, Chris Hagan, and Linda Camp for coordinating the event and to the PTO and Aaron’s of Rio Grande for providing the students with snacks and bottled water after they jumped.

2. Elementary #1 celebrated Read Across America during the week of February 25th. Each day had a theme, in honor of Dr. Seuss, and the students participated in numerous literacy activities. On Friday, March 1st, Lisa Mericle’s Junior National Honor Society students visited every classroom and read various Dr. Seuss stories to the children. A special thank you is extended to Karen Ortman for being a guest reader, and to Theresa Clark for coordinating the week’s events.

3. An extremely productive professional development day was held on Friday, March 8th. The staff at Elementary #1 was involved in a number of activities including: Standards-based report card revisions, sensory integration with Paula Berrodin, co-teaching training with MaryAnn Joseph, CPI training with Don Robertson, speech/language intervention with Sara Huang, and more.

4. On Friday, February 22nd, the MTPD along with Scott Webster and SRO Ruiz conducted a live security drill at Elementary #1. An undercover police officer walked the perimeter of the building to evaluate awareness and response time, and attempted to gain access into the building through all exterior doors. We were very pleased with the results. A staff member reported the suspicious person within 3 minutes of the start of the drill. The officer was unable to gain access into the building. He was also confronted by a staff member on the playground and by our security staff. A special thank you to the MTPD, SRO Ruiz, Scott Webster, the Elementary #1 staff, and Assistant Principal Don Robertson. Our performance in this drill is a reflection of Mr. Robertson’s leadership with regard to security procedures and expectations.
Middle Township Elementary School #2

"Igniting Every Child’s Thirst For Knowledge"

Sunshine Moments- March, 2019

- Elementary #2 celebrated Read Across America this month and participated in a variety of activities coordinated by Megan Bramble, our media specialist. Along with having several guest readers, the students a participated in many special activities including Silly Hat Day, Oh The Places You’ll Go Day, Wacky Wednesday, Crazy Sock Day and Cat in the Hat Day. As a culminating activity, Nate Unsworth presented his lively magic show entitled Reading Rocks. Mr. Unsworth entertained the students with exciting magic tricks as he showcased specific reading books and emphasized the importance of reading. Many thanks to the PTO for sponsoring this assembly and the entire staff for coordinating all of the exciting activities throughout the month.

- Many thanks to the students and families who donated to our “Pennies for Patients” campaign in support of The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. This year Elementary #2 raised 1,331.15 for this all-important cause. A special thank you to Lisa Novsak, our school’s counselor, for coordinating this worthwhile endeavor.

- On Tuesday I received a letter from the County Clerk, Rita Fulginiti. The county ran a “My County Poster Contest” and had 351 entries. From those entries, twelve winners were chosen from an independent panel of judges. One of those winners is Colin Russell, a 3rd place winner and 4th grade student from Mrs. Coupland’s class. He will be recognized at an award ceremony on April 10th. Congratulations to Colin.

- This is the 20th year our school has participated in the Jump Rope for Heart Program, which is now called the “Kids Heart Challenge”. This year we raised $6,119.30. In the 20 years Middle Township students have been jumping rope to support the American Heart Association, the total money raised is $122,865.58. I am humbled by this number and by the tremendous support of our families and this community. Many thanks to Ms. Hockenberry for her years coordinating this most worthwhile endeavor.
SCHOOL: Middle School  PRINCIPAL: Mr. Jeff Ortman
DATE: Thursday, March 21, 2019

Six groups of MTMS students participated in the National History Day regional competition through Rutgers-Camden on March 2nd. Parker Lengle and Maleah Moore's website project, "The Tragedy Shrouded With Mystery: What Happened to the Lost Colony of Roanoke?" qualified for the state competition which will be held at William Paterson University on May 4th.

Congratulations to student Rylee McFadden who represented Middle Township Middle School on Monday, March 11 at the Cape May County School Boards Association annual "8th Grade Dialogue and Reception." This student recognition program honors the 8th grade students whose character, determination, school spirit, leadership and community service inspire all of us. It provided an opportunity for students to discuss pressing issues in education and answer questions regarding their home district.

On Friday, March 1, 2019 student members of the Middle School PAWS program were invited to the cafeteria for water ice and music. Students are admitted to the PAWS program on different levels based on academics, attendance and behavior. This is the first year of the program which has been positively received by students and staff. The number of students in the program has increased from 318 members after the first marking period to 354 for the second marking period. We look forward to continuing to grow this program through continued discussion and focus on academics, attendance and behavior.

Please join us this upcoming weekend for the Middle School Musical- You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown. The talented group of Middle School students has three shows this weekend: Friday, March 22 at 7 pm and Saturday, March 23 at 2 pm and 7 pm.
Sunshine Moments March 2019

The Seal of Biliteracy is awarded to graduating seniors who have mastered standard academic English as well as a second language at the high school. This year, Gladys Avila will earn the seal for being proficient in English, Spanish, and French, our first multilingual student. There were only three students in the state who received the seal in three languages. This puts Gladys in elite company.

Senior Sofia Lomax’s public service announcement was named first runner up in the Artists Alike Film Festival at Washington Twp. High School. The prestigious red-carpet event highlighted work of high school filmmakers and promotes positive and powerful messages through media and art. Sofia is an extremely talented student who excels at her ability to shoot and edit video.

Mr. Urbanski’s Physics class was selected to receive a 2018 Hess Toy Truck STEM Kit. The kit included twelve 2018 Hess RV’s with ATV’s and Motorbike toys to be used to supplement our STEM curriculum and enhance our students educational experience.

Special Education Teacher, Angela Mattera, was voted by her colleagues as our Staffulty of the Month recipient for the month of February. Also, our Renaissance Committee recognized 74 above and beyond students for the month of February for their exceptional behavior. Plus, our Renaissance Committee implemented perfect attendance Thursdays to reward a class of students that have perfect attendance. Each class with perfect attendance on Thursday is applauded for their efforts and given a prize.

Mr. Moore's AP Environmental Science Classes won a Kids to Parks Day National School Contest. We are the only winners from the state of New Jersey and one of only 68 winners nationwide. As winners of the contest the students will have a fully funded field trip to the Pinelands National Reserve; including a guided hike, a stewardship project, and a guided canoe adventure.

Hailey Urbaczewski's artwork named "Phono Phobia" was selected and recently displayed in a High School Art Show at Rutgers University called "New Visions."

Our Indoor Percussion team led by Stefan Griffin, Quinton Thomas, and Amy Lord took 1st place at a recent competition held at Gateway Regional High School.

Over 100 parents and students attended our Dual-Credit/Early College Program on Wednesday, March 13 in the High School’s cafeteria. A big thank you to Dr. Salvo, Dr. Lehman, Ms. Donna Vassalo (ACCC), Ms. Holmstrom, and Ms. McAnany for making this such a successful event. It was an
informative session, laying out the necessary steps parents/students will have to complete to be part of this prestigious program.

Important Reminders:
   Blood Drive- Tuesday March 26th in the B-gym
   Senior Citizens Prom- Sunday April 7th in the Cafeteria (2pm to 5pm)

Sports Update as of 3/14/19

* Panthers girls basketball upset the top seed to land in the SJ Group 2 final at Manchester Twp., where they fought hard in a loss to a very tough team and eventual Group 2 state champion. Two busloads of student fans and many more traveled to Manchester to cheer on the girls, who appreciated the support!

* Junior Kira Sides scored her 1,000th point on 2/16.

* The following Panthers athletes were named Cape Atlantic League All Stars and will be recognized in a ceremony 3/27 at ACIT:

   Romeo Rodriguez (Wrestling 126) Natali Ilieva (Swimming 200 IM) Sophia Braun (Swimming 50 Freestyle) Ishika Patel (Swimming 100 Butterfly) Sophia Bosacco (Swimming 100 Backstroke) Samantha Braun (Swimming 50 Freestyle) Kira Sides (Basketball) Katie Herlihy (Basketball) Bridget Donohue (Swimming 500 Freestyle) Maddie Deane (Swimming 200 IM) Travis McCray (Swimming 50 Freestyle)

Receiving Honorable Mention: Wrestlers: Carson Haas (145); Kyle Matthews (182); Marcus Hebron (195) Swimmers: Brendon Bartha (200 IM); Elaina Nelson (100 Breaststroke); Catherine Bostard (50 Freestyle) Basketball: Marcus Pierce

* Spring sports are in full swing! scrimmages started week of 3/11! * Spring sports schedules are available at www.capeatlanticleague.org. Stay up to date by downloading RSchoolToday app.