1. Elementary #1 hosted its Annual Family Movie Night on Tuesday, January 29th at the PAC. Participants enjoyed an evening out with their families and were treated to free water and Philly Pretzels while watching the movie, “Small Foot.” There were over 300 attendees, a record for this event. Thank you to Lynsey Venturini and the committee for organizing such an incredible event.

2. Our annual Family Reading Night, held on Tuesday, February 5th was a huge success. Guests had an opportunity to listen to a story, make a bookmark, visit the Book Fair, take selfies at the selfie station, and participate in a variety of dinosaur-themed activities in the cafeteria. A special thank you to Nancy Simmerman and the Reading Night Committee for organizing the event. We would also like to thank our guest readers Dr. Salvo, Dr. Lehman, Mayor Donohue, Committeeman Clark, Kim Krauss, Chief Leusner, Chris Paskalides, Don Robertson, Katie Schoyer, Sam Douglass, Allison Logan, Kim Banks, Mike McGowen, Amy Nagel, and our sponsors Anderson Family, Bellevue Tavern, CMCH McDonald’s, Middle Township Ocean First Bank, PTO, and Sturdy Savings Bank. Family Reading Night is one of many community outreach programs in line with our strategic plan.

3. Under the direction of Andrea Davis, Crystal Holmes, and David Farrow, the Middle Township Step Team and United Young Generation presented their annual Black History Month Program to the students of Elementary #1 on Thursday, January 31st at the Performing Arts Center. This year’s program entitled, “It’s Yours!,” was another masterpiece. A special thank you to everyone who helped make “It’s Yours!” a memorable show. Throughout the month, the students have been learning about famous African Americans through their social studies lessons, literacy center activities, and by reading short stories and biographies.
Middle Township Elementary School #2

"Igniting Every Child’s Thirst for Knowledge"

Sunshine Moments- February, 2019

- On January 22 our 3rd Grade was treated to a presentation about the mighty Titanic from the Mid Atlantic Council for the Arts, many thanks to Mrs. Ford for facilitating such a wonderful assembly. On January 25, special passengers (our students) began arriving to our school. The Titanic was ready to off to the high seas. We had passengers from first class to those from steerage, cruising our halls. Many thanks to the entire third grade staff for providing such a magical day for our students.

- On January 30th approximately 50 of our 4th grade students were selected to participate in the National Assessment of Educational Proficiency or NAEP Testing. This annual National test assesses where we stand as a Nation. Many thanks for Melanie Lisitski who worked closely with the NAEP representatives to ensure all our technical data was uploaded, timely and accurate.

- Elementary #2 has been recognizing Black History Month in various ways. On February 1st our students travelled to the Performing Arts Center and were treated to an extraordinary program presented by the Middle Township Step Team. The program, entitled A Living Museum, took the students on a historical trip through a living museum in which they heard factual accounts about significant individuals and events. The show included wonderful dance numbers along with oration. Many thanks to Christal Holmes, Andrea Davis, and David Farrow for providing this wonderful experience for both the performers and student body.

- Recently, the students of Elementary #2 participated in the Valentine’s for Troops Project. Over 350 Valentine’s Day cards were made for our troops serving overseas. Additionally, cards were made for our local military veterans living within the area nursing homes. Many thanks to everyone who helped make this special project so meaningful.

- Our students have continued with their Thumbs-Up for kindness Project with our third grade creating Random Acts of Kindness gifts to our fifth grade classes. We will continue to focus of the pillar of kindness as the school year progresses.
Thank you to Monica DeRose and LeeAnn Kane for organizing this year’s Girl’s Overnight Lock-in held on Friday night February 8. The 5th annual lock-in gave an opportunity for Middle School girls to spend the night at school with their peers to promote self-esteem and health and wellness in a fun environment. 181 out of 259 girls from the Middle School attended this well-run event.

Congratulations to Kiara Molenkopf who was the winner of the 2019 MTMS Spelling Bee held on Friday, February 8. Taylor will represent MTMS at the regional spelling bee to be held later this spring in Vineland. Congratulations to second place winner Kaleigh Teasenfitz and third place winner Nicole Cozzi. Thank you to Mrs. Chabok for organizing this event.

Thank you to the members of the Middle Township Step Team and United Young Generation for their excellent performances for our students and community. Their performance never disappoints and continues to be a well received community event.

On February 7 and February 8, the Middle School held a basket raffle fundraiser to benefit student activities at the Middle School. Thank you to all local businesses and individuals that provided items for our baskets and to the community for the support of this highly successful fundraiser. We look forward to having this event as an annual fundraiser. Also, thank you to the Elementary School PTA for helping to support this fundraiser.

Congratulations to the December Students of the Month at the Middle School. The students are 6th graders: Kaya Fuentes and Hunter Urbaczewski, 7th graders: Julianna Frame and Jake King and 8th graders: Kelley Avila-Nunez and Will Casterline.
Sunshine Moments February 2019

On January 19th and 20th, Ms. Buckingham, Ms. Edwards, Mr. Thomas, and Ms. Hall accompanied 27 of our performing arts students on an overnight trip to the New Jersey Thespian Festival in Robbinsville, NJ. At the festival, the students were able to compete in singing, acting, and dancing. The students also attended educational workshops during the day. The dance academy came as well, performing at the festival, showing off their hard work and choreography. In addition, Lena Dougherty and Alan Rendzak won awards in the area of musical solos.

Thomas Jefferson and Alan Rendzak were accepted into the Open Jar Institute Summer Intensive for Musical Theatre. Only 60 students worldwide were accepted into this program. Because our students take part in the Thespian Festival, doors like this open up for our students.

On February 1st and 2nd, our Step Team and United Young Generation wowed the audience with a rendition of “It’s Yours”. The program highlighted the talents of our students as well as celebrated Black History Month. Thank you to Ms. Davis, Ms. Holmes, and Mr. Farrow for a wonderful show and for educating our students.

On February 6th, our Mock Trial Team won the first round of their regional competition against Camden County, but fell in the second round to a tough law firm from Ocean County. Again, congratulations to our Mock Trial Team and Ms. Moore for their Cape May County Championship.

On February 16th, our Middle Township Indoor Percussion team received first place at their first competition of the season at Gateway Regional High school. Congratulations to the percussion team, Mr. Griffin, Mr. Thomas, and Ms. Lord. Awesome job!

Important Reminders:

Musical “Phantom”- March 1st and 2nd 7pm/2pm in the PAC
Open House- March 5th 6:30pm in the PAC
Blood Drive Assembly- March 7th 8am in the PAC
Anne Frank Exhibit- Week on March 11th in the Media Center
Blood Drive- March 26th in the PAC

Sports Update as of 2/14/19
* Panthers girls swim won its first-ever Cape Atlantic League conference championship and made it to the South Jersey Group C finals for the first time on Wed., Feb. 13. Girls were to be recognized by Middle Township Committee for most successful season in team history on Wed., Feb. 20.

* Panthers wrestling finished the regular season with the highest winning percentage in school history (.857) and tied for the most wins with 18. Senior Romeo Rodriguez is the new season all-time wins leader with 106. Wrestlers were heading in to District 31 Championships and then Regions.

* Lady Panthers basketball was riding a win streak that began in early January into the Cape Atlantic League playoffs, in which they were seeded 4th and hosted 5th seed ACIT on Fri., 2/16. Junior Kira Sides was on target to score her 1,000th point in that game.

* Girls basketball is hosting Point Pleasant Borough at 5:30 Mon., 2/25, in the first round NJSIAA South Jersey Group 2 playoffs. Boys will travel to Pennsauken Tech for a first-round game that same night, 5:30 start.

* Our Panthers Media livestream broadcasts of basketball games and a wrestling match have been very well-received and have offered a learning opportunity for our students. We plan to continue with spring sports where possible.

* Panthers winter and spring sports schedules are available at www.capeatlanticleague.org. Stay up to date by downloading RSchoolToday app.