



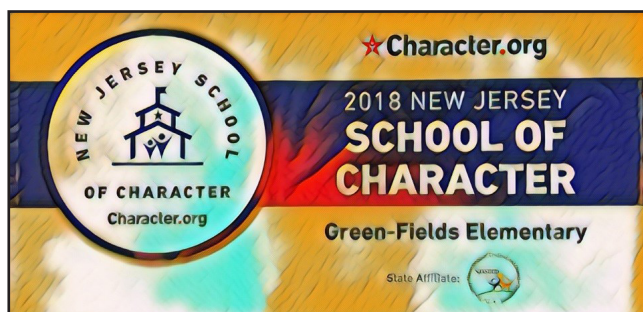
WEST DEPTFORD SCHOOLS

West Deptford High School Presents *Evita*



“Don’t cry for me Argentina” is not typically heard on high school stages. Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice’s *Evita* is a challenging musical most schools choose not to tackle. However, this year, the cast and crew of West Deptford’s spring musical, under the direction of Bill Yerkes, embraced the challenge and worked diligently to bring the historical characters to life on stage. The story, which is told entirely through song, tells the tale of Argentina’s beloved Eva Peron. Starting with a funeral is not a typical way to begin a musical, but the flashback aspect of *Evita* works to show audiences Argentina’s adoration for Eva. Che, the narrator, who represents the everyday person of Argentina, begins the tale describing Eva’s humble beginnings. A tango singer named Magaldi, who she meets at a young age, tries to convince her not to leave home in “On This Night of a Thousand Stars,” but she is determined to leave suburbia; and

in “Buenos Aires,” we see how much her ambition drives her to do more with her life. As the story progresses, we see her meet and marry Juan Peron, which thrusts her into the spotlight as the First Lady thus singing to her countrymen on the Casa Rosada, “Don’t Cry for Me Argentina”. In this position, she battles the unwelcoming aristocrats in “The Chorus Girl Hasn’t Learned” and embraces the adoring working class in “And the Money Kept Rolling In”. However, Che points out things aren’t always what they seem as what goes on in front of the camera may be entirely different than what goes on behind it. By the end, Eva’s efforts to help her people more are hampered by her sickness, which ultimately causes her death. The funeral at the end brings the musical full circle. As the Argentineans mourn her loss, the audience is left wondering what could have happened had this beloved leader lived.



Green-Fields Named as an Honorable Mention New Jersey School of Character

.....see page 2

Green-Fields Named as New Jersey School of Character

The New Jersey Alliance for Social, Emotional, and Character Development (NJASECD) is proud to announce that Green-Fields Elementary School is one of 64 schools in the nation to be named as a 2018 New Jersey School of Character. This year, New Jersey once again has the highest number of State Schools of Character in the nation. These schools are now eligible to be named 2018 National Schools /Districts of Character through an additional evaluation process by Character.org, a national character education advocate. Since the Character.org's Schools of Character programs inception, more than 620 schools have been designated as State Schools of Character, impacting more than a million students.

Green-Fields has made a conscious and deliberate effort over the years to emphasize quality character through specific daily practices and routines. Criteria for the designations are based on Character.org's 11 principles of effective character education, which includes providing students with opportunities for moral action, fostering shared leadership, and engaging families and communities as partners in character-building efforts. "You can feel the positive climate in

these schools the minute you walk through the door. The students, staff and community are respectful and care about each other, and the academic scores improve," states Nina Kemps, New Jersey Schools of Character Coordinator.

The Green-Fields Character and Climate Committee is comprised of a combination of teachers, parents, administrators, and guidance counselor. The members for this year include: guidance counselor, Kelly Hansbury; teachers Kim Dupper, Jodi Purvenas, Lauren Uzdavinis, and Jill Schwantes; parent Lynn Herbst; and building Principal, Mr. Corbitt. Many hours of preparation and discussion went into the application process and the committee should be commended for their efforts on behalf of Green-Fields School. This team will attend the NJASECD Conference at Rider University on May 18th and will present two workshops sharing our ongoing character strategies, specifically in regard to service learning.

Congratulations once again to the staff and students of Green-Fields Elementary School for their hard work and commitment to quality character through their words, acts of kindness, and daily practices.

11th Annual People's Choice Award



West Deptford Middle School hosted its 11th Annual People's Choice Award program on Thursday, April 12, 2018. This award is given to students nominated by staff members of West Deptford Middle School for an outstanding achievement or act of kindness towards others. In a time when so much focus is placed on the negative actions of

teens, it is an evening dedicated to praising those students who have exemplified compassion and goodness in their daily lives.

For this year's award ceremony, fifty-five West Deptford Middle School staff members participated in the event. Each staff member nominated one student from the Middle

.....Continued on page 10

Red Bank Joins National “One Book, One School” Craze

“One Book, One School” is a nationally designed reading project created through the readtothem.org family literacy group. Every family receives a copy of the same book and asked to read it together at home over the course of a few weeks. The “One Book, One School” project helps educate families and schools on the benefits of reading aloud at home. Research has found that children who are read to learn to read more easily and become better, more effective readers. Evidence also supports the notion that books we read to our children should be at a higher reading level, one that promotes strong conversation and builds “grit” necessary for reading success.

It is also a fun, worthwhile family activity. The resulting goal of the “One Book, One School” project is to build a community of readers at Red Bank School and a culture of literacy in every home. Everyone—students, parents, teachers, support staff, and administrators all follow along together reading the same book.

The book selected, “The One and Only Ivan,” by Katherine Applegate is a Newberry Medal winner for the most distinguished contribution to American literature for children. It is based on the real life story of Ivan, the mall gorilla. Through Ivan’s unique ability to communicate with humans through his art, he was able to convince the groups of animal advocates to close down the mall animal shows and transfer them to a more authentic and humane environment in the zoo. This author uses many different moods: humor, hope, and heartbreak. While reading the



are important to keep. They learned to stand up for what is right. They learned to be helpful leaders. Our children are never too young to learn that compassion and empathy are qualities we should all show each other.

We began the reading project with a kick-off assembly to create enthusiasm and motivate our young readers. Ms. Bradshaw piqued their interest by pretending to be Julia (the only MAIN character in our story) and answered questions from the audience. Julia loves to draw, especially the animals that live at the Exit 8 Big Top Mall. She loves all the animals, but Ivan is her favorite. After Ms. Bradshaws’ performance, each child received his or her very own copy of the novel.

The highlight of the project was the daily “Ivan” trivia question. Each morning during the announcements, the previous night’s reading was briefly summarized. This allowed everyone to keep up with the gist of the book even if they missed one night of family reading. After the morning recap, one trivia question was asked. The students then wrote the answer on slips of paper and classroom teachers forwarded the names to the office. At the end of each day, names were randomly selected from each classroom. Students excitedly headed to the main office to pick out of the prize box. One parent said that her child and family had so much fun trying to predict what the question of the day would be. As a supplemental activity to extend our appreciation of the book and the themes it taught, Red Bank took part in a school-wide supply drive for the Camden County Animal shelter. Teaching our children to make connections with reading and connections



story, our students began to understand that animals share similar qualities with humans; therefore, they must be treated with love and respect. They learned that promises

to the world around them is vital to their social/emotional and academic learning. Red Bank has one more book on tap that is perfect to lead us into reading over the summer months. Stayed tuned for the big reveal!

Oakview Family Literacy Night

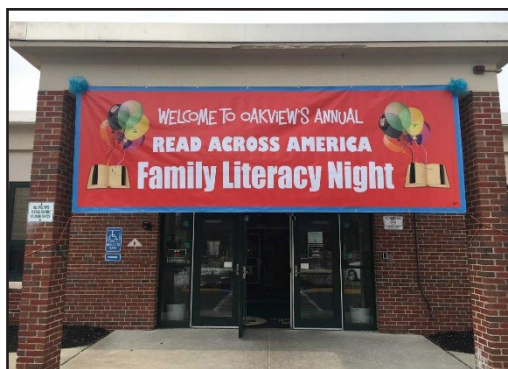
As part of our Read Across America activities, Oakview hosted its first annual Family Literacy Night to help promote the love of reading with our students, their families, and the school community. This event exceeded all expectations and we had over 300 people attend! Students, parents, siblings, teachers, aides, Board of Education members, PTO, and local organizations in Gloucester County were all present to experience this memorable occasion.

Our two fantastic literacy coaches, Mrs. Cirone and Mrs. Zlatkin, were the brains behind this operation, organizing every little detail. A committee was established months ago to begin the planning process of this unprecedented evening. As the ideas began to surface and the overwhelming support from staff and local organizations poured in, this event quickly escalated to the biggest night of the year for our students and their families!



Family Literacy Night was planned to perfection, accounting for all ages of students, making several adjustments to accommodate such large numbers and ensuring a positive experience for everyone involved. The night began with families entering Oakview in bunches, greeted by our wonderful West Deptford Middle School students and their music teacher, Mrs. Manzano, in the main hallway singing various tunes from their recent performance of “Seussical Jr.”

Upon checking in at our registration tables, students received lanyards designating what color literacy rotation group they would be in which included a schedule of their rotations. Older siblings attended our STEAM activity room, led by Mr. Ortega and Ms. Petito, where they were engaged in hands-on, activities based on Dr. Seuss’ book, “If I Ran the Zoo.” They were given the task to recreate a scene from the book and build a zoo cage with specific materials to see who could build the strongest cage. Toddlers were supervised by our always supportive West Deptford High School students, representing the National Honor Society and Key Club. Pre-K, kindergarten and first/second grade students all participated in three



literacy rotations, led by Mrs. Cross, Ms. Feigenbaum, Mrs. Lex, Ms. Morina and Mrs. Newshel in Pre-K and Mrs. Maska, representatives from the West Deptford Free Public Library, and the FURever as Friends organization. Parents of students in grades K-2 also had the opportunity to participate in literacy workshops led by our amazing teacher volunteers, Mrs. Barney & Mrs.

Bauer in kindergarten and Mrs. Ardito & Mrs. Habina in grades 1-2.

These rotations and workshops culminated in everyone gathering in our all-purpose room for a big celebration, highlighted by a buffet of Dr. Seuss themed treats, a photo booth, visits from a few famous book characters in costume, sponsor tables, and raffle baskets with all proceeds supporting our new outdoor reading garden initiative. Most importantly, all student left with new books, swag bags and smiles on their faces!



What a memorable night for our students and we could not be more grateful for all the efforts of our staff, parents and community members for all their donations. Thank you to all our sponsors: Ciconte’s of West Deptford, Cross Brothers Apparel, Cetei & Connell Insurance, Mattie Enterprise, West Deptford Energy, Deptford Skating Center, Safe Haven Farms, Woodbury Breakfast Rotary and to Mr. T.J. Habina & Mrs. Donna Galdo for volunteering as our photographers. Way to go Team Oakview!



West Deptford Aide of the Year...*Mrs. Erica Harmon*

Mrs. Erica Harmon was selected as the West Deptford School District "Aide of the Year" due to being a professional, capable, and caring person in and out of the classroom.

Mrs. Harmon has been a one-on-one aide in our Career Based Instruction (CBI) classroom for the past three years. Her dedication to her student's education, as well as her impeccable educational knowledge, makes Mrs. Harmon a wonderful asset to this program. Mrs. Harmon has a calming presence that helps in making the most stressful situations seem minor. The love for not only her personal students, but the entire classroom, shines through her demeanor and attitude. Mrs. Harmon offers support, suggestions, and valuable input to ensure student success occurs.

In addition to her aide responsibilities, Mrs. Harmon attends various activities that occur within the West Deptford High School environment. She assists with our Fine Arts Concerts, chaperoned our Homecoming dance, and supervises sporting events, graduation ceremonies, and our prom. Mrs. Harmon is an intelligent, capable and personable person. She is always quick on her feet with sensible reaction times in any crisis situation. We are proud to honor Mrs. Erica Harmon as our West Deptford nominee.



Educational Professional Services of the Year...*Mrs. Nicole Brizill*

Working as a Literacy Support Coach, Mrs. Brizill works with children who find reading a struggle. When one sees children working in her classroom or group, you see children who feel confident as they attack the task. Mrs. Brizill inspires her students to persevere through difficult tasks and encourages them to work through challenges instead of backing down from them. Students leave her groups each day feeling proud of their achievements. Mrs. Brizill is also quick to help children who are not in her Literacy Support Coaching groups. If she is in the classroom and sees a student who is struggling with a skill, she will consult with the classroom teacher in order to provide support for that student. Mrs. Brizill will research a particular skill deficit for a teacher, find materials or strategies for teachers to use, model lessons for teachers, or work with a student on a particular area of weakness. Mrs. Brizill is also quick to work with parents who may inquire as to how they can support their child at home.

Mrs. Brizill's knowledge of reading is impressive, but even more so is her willingness to continue to learn. It is evident that she considers herself a lifelong learner. Mrs. Brizill is always looking to collaborate with peers, attend workshops, read up on current research, findings,

programs and technology, all to help students. Furthermore, she always shares that knowledge with her colleagues.

It is evident that the students, staff, and parents all respect and admire the work that Mrs. Brizill does for the Red Bank community. Students smile and wave to her in the hallway, even if they are not one of her coaching students. When parents are in the building, they will often stop in to talk with Mrs. Brizill. I do not think I have ever seen her alone in the hallway, usually she is flanked by a teacher or principal all seeking guidance on how to best help students.

Mrs. Brizill is an integral member of many committees such as Students First, NJTSS, PLCs, and Curriculum Writing. Again, it is her passion for students and learning, tireless effort, great knowledge, and willingness to share that make her such a valued member of these committees and the Red Bank community.



Educational Professional of the Year...*Mrs. Stefanie Paglione*

West Deptford Middle School would like to congratulate guidance counselor Mrs. Stefanie Paglione for being honored as the Educational Service Professional for the 2017-2018 school year. Mrs. Paglione earned her Bachelor's Degree from Rutgers University in Psychology, her Master's Degree in Counseling from The College of New Jersey, and is a nationally certified counselor.

Mrs. Paglione was nominated by her peers due to the tremendous impact she has had on West Deptford Middle School since joining the District in 2014. Mrs. Paglione is responsible for coordinating teacher/parent/student conferences as the need arises and individual student meetings focused on a variety of topics such as: grades, organization, study skills, emotional/mental health needs, family dynamics, and parent/student relationships. Mrs. Paglione conducts these sometime emotionally difficult meetings with such care and tenderness that the respect and admiration of her students, their parents, and her colleagues are a natural result.

Mrs. Paglione also collaborates consistently with outside providers such as mental health agencies, child welfare agencies, and child advocacy groups to ensure the school and community supports are aligned to best assist the child's needs. Her vast knowledge

of her students' needs, as well as community and school resources, provide invaluable insight that is integral to her constant collaboration with the Child Study Team members, school nurse, cafeteria staff, administration, transportation staff, teachers, aides and others.



In addition, Mrs. Paglione sits on the I&RS (Intervention and Referral Services) committee which meets to create interventions for students struggling in academic, emotional and/or behavioral areas. During the meetings, her insight and relationship with the at-risk student is drawn upon to create an appropriate plan for the struggling student to find success.

Mrs. Paglione demonstrates great poise, eloquence, and the ability to maintain "being everywhere at once" in ways only a magician can. But that's truly what a middle school guidance counselor is - a trusted, respected magician, who makes the problems seem a little more manageable. For all of these reasons, Stefanie Paglione is our Educational Service Provider of the Year!

Educational Professional of the Year...*Mrs. Stephanie Soltner*

Green-Fields Elementary School would like to congratulate Mrs. Stephanie Soltner on being honored as our Educational Services Professional of the Year. Mrs. Soltner serves as an Occupational Therapist throughout the District, but spends most of her time at Green-Fields. She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to our building, and is often called upon to share her expertise and innovative ideas for intervention. Mrs. Soltner is always thinking outside the box to find the best ways to support her students and they enjoy working with her to strengthen the skills needed to be successful in the classroom.

It is obvious that students trust Mrs. Soltner due to the likeable rapport she has built with each individual. This trust has led to a successful home and school connection through which strategies are provided for parents to support their children at home. Her experience and expertise is instrumental in the success of many students who struggle on a daily basis, and the results are amazing.

When asked about the most enjoyable parts of her

job, Mrs. Soltner's response is predictable. She simply appreciates the fact that she can use play as a therapeutic modality, while observing the ongoing progress of her students throughout each year. Beyond this, Mrs. Soltner is a fun-loving, energetic personality by nature, which is certainly obvious through her interactions with children...and adults.



Throughout her sixteen years in the West Deptford School system, Mrs. Soltner has not only gained the respect and admiration of her students, and their parents, but her professional colleagues as well. Her recommendations for student intervention are often solicited and well received. She is a valued member of our intervention team and is highly deserving of her recognition as Educational Services Professional of the Year.

Educational Professional of the Year...*Mrs. Karen Zlatkin*

We could not be more proud to honor Mrs. Karen Zlatkin as our Educational Services Professional of the Year. Mrs. Zlatkin has served as a Title I literacy coach in District for the past five years, providing both push-in and pull out services for identified students in need of literacy support. She collaborates with teachers on a daily basis to target instruction to best meet the needs of all students.

Mrs. Zlatkin possesses a tremendous work ethic and her positive enthusiasm radiates throughout our school. She always goes beyond the call of duty and is willing to help anyone in need. Mrs. Zlatkin serves as a mentor to many colleagues through her expertise as a reading specialist and the extensive knowledge she possesses in helping teachers understand how to effectively instruct students with reading difficulties. She employs a variety of research-proven instructional methods to meet the varying needs and learning styles of all students.

Mrs. Zlatkin is kind, loving, encouraging and genuinely cares about each student. She develops a strong, trusting rapport to build positive relationships with her students and invests herself in the whole child. Mrs. Zlatkin develops confidence in her students and builds upon their strengths to help them overcome their struggles. She

believes in them and empowers them to believe in themselves as well.

Mrs. Zlatkin is an exceptional listener. She is patient and always makes herself available to help fellow colleagues, students, and their families. In addition to her classroom responsibilities, Mrs. Zlatkin volunteers for various committees and initiatives. Just this school year, she has served on a District leadership team for a state-level literacy grant, has developed an online spelling inventory assessment to streamline data and use as a universal screener, and has led our Read Across America campaign and inaugural Family Literacy Night, which was a huge success! Mrs. Zlatkin's positive energy and passion for reading has helped create a school culture where all students come to school each day excited to learn. She is a consummate professional who is completely dedicated to student success. Mrs. Zlatkin is incredibly deserving of this award and we are so proud she represents Team Oakview each day!



Governor's Teacher Recognition...*Mrs. Jo Ann Kiessling*

It is an honor to recognize Mrs. Jo Ann Kiessling for Governor Educator of the Year. Mrs. Kiessling has been with the West Deptford School District for approximately eight years. In that short time, she has proven herself as a leader, not only at Oakview Elementary School, but also in the West Deptford School District and local community. Jo Ann is an innovator, a problem solver, and a true dynamic teacher. Her dedication, passion, and love for teaching are evident each day.

Mrs. Kiessling possesses the experiences as a master of her craft and volunteers for various committees throughout the District. She is a quiet leader, one who is sought out for guidance by her peers to support students of all ages and ability levels. Mrs. Kiessling is driven in educating the "whole child," which is evident the moment you step into her classroom. She does not work or serve in education for awards or accolades, but simply to inspire and influence all those she encounters each day. She appropriately differentiates instruction

to best meet the needs of her students, while exuding love, acceptance, and grace for each child. She possesses strong knowledge of each student's strengths and weaknesses and has the keen ability to provide all students with the necessary tools to experience success.

Mrs. Kiessling's clear calling in life is teaching, which she exquisitely balances with her beloved roles as a wife and mother. She teaches her students to strive for excellence, to love learning, and to respect each other, while also teaching her peers explicitly and through her modeling to always put the students at the forefront of every decision, both big and small. Mrs. Kiessling is a true hero that positively impacts our future generation each day and is an invaluable asset to the West Deptford community.



Governor's Teacher Recognition...Mrs. Dawn Corino

Red Bank School is proud to announce that the recipient of the 2018 New Jersey Governor's Teacher of the Year is Mrs. Dawn Corino. Mrs. Corino is a first and second grade, teacher who previously taught kindergarten at Green-Fields Elementary School. Mrs. Corino's selfless nature allows her to volunteer and serve on various school committees. Her insightful perspectives and excellent collaboration skills make her an integral member of the Red Bank Students First Committee. She has taken on the role as the team's unofficial recording secretary taking copious notes and documenting recommendations to guide classroom teachers in providing the highest quality instruction and interventions for students. Mrs. Corino is a mentor to her peers sharing her expertise in helping staff build lessons and develop their practice. She willingly invites them into her professional world as a role model in teacher leadership. Mrs. Corino also serves as the teacher representative on our New Jersey Tiered Supports in School grant leadership team. As a lifelong learner, Mrs. Corino is always exploring new ideas and initiatives to make her instruction meaningful and effective.

Mrs. Corino is one of those teachers you come across once in a great while. She is charismatic and creative;

she thinks outside the box. Mrs. Corino demonstrates excellent classroom management skills and develops a positive rapport with students, colleagues, and parents. These bonded relationships are characterized by mutual respect. Students love Mrs. Corino because she is kind, loving, fun, and cares about every one of her students. Her innate ability to create a classroom environment that is warm, inviting, and nurturing allows her students to be academic risk-takers. She practices inclusivity at all times and is determined to find ways to meet the needs of all her diverse learners. Mrs. Corino gets to know every student in her class as a whole person. She is able to see exactly what each child brings to the community, and her whole teaching approach involves finding and using children's unique strengths to help them overcome their struggles and develop a positive self-concept.

It is so true that Mrs. Corino makes Red Bank a place for our students and staff to shine and we are very lucky to call her our Teacher of the Year!



Governor's Teacher Recognition...Mrs. Jill Schwantes

Mrs. Jill Schwantes truly represents the qualities reserved for a Governor's Teacher Recognition Award recipient. These characteristics include the ability to foster excellence in education as demonstrated by ongoing contributions to the enhancement of student achievement and the academic environment. In addition to this, Mrs. Schwantes has established a strong commitment to creating a climate of caring and respect conducive to effective teaching and learning. She consistently contributes to Green-Field's reputation as a welcoming school where kindness is emphasized. Her positive interactions with both the children in her Kindergarten classroom, their parents, and staff throughout the building demonstrate a genuine love for children and a caring concern for the well-being of those around her. As mentioned in her nomination for Teacher of the Year, she has a classroom filled with positive energy combined with an atmosphere where students are eager to learn. Students love her because she makes them feel loved. Mrs. Schwantes has created an environment where independence and open communication is encouraged. Her daily themes

touch upon concepts related to differences, diversity, kindness, positive interactions, personal responsibility, and self-direction. Mrs. Schwantes has embraced these ideals for her students and these life-skills are always evident and encouraged within her classroom. She openly shares these thoughts with her teaching peers in conjunction with her ongoing contributions through her work with our Green-Field's Character and Climate Committee. Finally, Based on her nomination for this award, it is truly evident that Mrs. Schwantes has gained the trust and respect of her peers. She teaches all of us to give our best to our students, wear a smile, and look for the best in every situation. In this regard, Mrs. Schwantes continues to demonstrate excellence daily on behalf of the children in her care, and is well deserving of this award.



Governor's Teacher Recognition...*Ms. Kelly Schwering*

West Deptford Middle School is honored to announce Ms. Kelly Schwering as the Governor's Educator of the Year Honoree for the 2017-2018 School Year. Ms. Schwering holds a Bachelor's Degree in Arts from LaSalle University, has a minor in English and is dually certified in Elementary and Special Education. Ms. Schwering joined the West Deptford Township School District in 2012 when she became a special education teacher for Red Bank Elementary School. Ms. Schwering has taught in West Deptford Middle School since 2013. Over the past four years, she has served on the data team and the School Improvement Panel. She has mentored students after school in our STAMP Mentoring Program and served as an advisor for both the Homework Club and Study Skills Club.

Ms. Schwering is a nurturing and energetic teacher who connects with students of all backgrounds and abilities. Whether she is teaching to a small group or the entire class, Ms. Schwering is able to make each and every student feel like they are part of the lesson by differentiating tasks to promote engagement. As part of a co-teaching partnership, Ms. Schwering has proven to be highly professional, collaborative and creative. She ensures all students have opportunities for success by researching strategies, designing leveled activities, exploring technology, and generally embracing trends in education in an effort to make all participants in a lesson be as successful as they can be.

Ms. Schwering's philosophy is student-centered. As an educator, she believes that each and every student brings something extraordinary and vital to the classroom. In the safe learning environment she creates in her room, mistakes are encouraged. Ms. Schwering believes there

is nothing more refreshing than witnessing students take chances and risks when learning without fear of being wrong. She feels it is crucial for students to get accustomed to working hard, building stamina, and surpassing their own beliefs about what they are capable of. As their teacher, Ms. Schwering advocates and supports her students. The direct result of her care and encouragement is the students' knowledge that they are loved and supported by their teacher. In addition to her regular teaching duties, Ms. Schwering was a mentor for our Student Teacher After School Mentoring Program. She welcomed students that were at-risk academically and students who needed support with self-regulation skills. Ms. Schwering made herself available to these students in true mentor-form as she guided them to find success in subjects in which they were struggling as well as coached them on handling social situations. She is unfazed by behavioral outbursts and effortlessly steers students to the task with self-control.

A special education teacher like Ms. Schwering is truly one of a kind. Ms. Schwering exemplifies the delicate balance that is required of special educators in today's culture - to be encouraging, constructively critical, empathetic, supportive, non-judgemental, and trusted. West Deptford Middle School is proud to have Ms. Schwering as their Governor's Educator of the Year Honoree.



Governor's Educational Service Professional Recognition...*Mrs. Emily Gill*

Mrs. Emily Gill was selected as the Governor's Educational Service Professional Recognition Honoree for West Deptford High School due to her many personal connections that she developed and created with the staff and students in West Deptford High School. Mrs. Gill transferred from WDMS to WDHS at the start of this year.

Mrs. Gill serves as West Deptford High School special education aide for various classrooms. It has been witnessed how Mrs. Gill fosters relationships with some hard to reach students. She exhibits a sense of caring and compassion while she redirects students and challenges them to complete their assignments. Never

once does she give students the answer, but rather probes them with cues and questions much like the lead teacher would do as they look for any way for students to succeed. Mrs. Gill spends extra time with those who may need additional academic and emotional support as she is equally as gifted in providing both.

As one of the new members of the Special Education Department, she has adapted well to the High School. She is regarded highly by her colleagues as all of her



.....Continued on page 10

...Mrs. Emily Gill *Continued from page 9*

teachers are extremely appreciative to have her support them and the students in the classroom. They have come to rely on her knowledge and skills to assist them with the content and instructional supports.

Mrs. Gill comes to work each and every day with

Governor's Teacher Recognition...Mr. William Yerkes

Mr. William Yerkes was selected as the Governor's Teacher Recognition Honoree for West Deptford High School due to his excellent teaching style, active school leadership within the Fine Arts Department, and his dedication to our school community. Mr. Yerkes directs all of the vocal programs of West Deptford High School and served as the lead director of the spring musical. He began teaching at West Deptford Middle School in 2000 and has been in West Deptford High School since 2001.

Mr. Yerkes has had an overwhelming amount of inspiring interactions between himself and his students. He continuously seeks new experiences for his classes as he is truly passionate about teaching and music. His teaching reaches every student in his classroom regardless of any challenges the students may have. Mr. Yerkes is one of those people that staff and students connect with because of his welcoming, humorous and friendly

a broad smile and is happy to be working with her West Deptford students. She has definitely become a prominent supporter, motivator and influential person to our students at West Deptford High. With this, we are proud to honor Mrs. Emily Gill.

demeanor.

Mr. Yerkes' professional expertise is sought out in many capacities. He currently serves West Deptford High School as a member of the National Honor Society Selection Committee. He has recently served the school music community by serving as President of the South Jersey Choral Directors Association, a group who promotes and enriches vocal music education in our area. In his time away from WDHS, he directs professional productions for local community theatre companies. Congratulations Mr. William Yerkes for an honor well deserved.



...People's Choice Award *Continued from page 2*

School for a People's Choice Award, with each award presentation uniquely personalized with the specific reasons for the staff member's selection. The nominations were secured in complete confidence leading up to the big event, leaving the award recipients to eagerly anticipate the announcement of their names during the ceremony to learn which staff member selected them.

Students, staff, and family members gathered for a brief reception at the conclusion of the award show to enjoy refreshments and take photographs together. It was truly an unforgettable evening for one and all. These deserving award-winners will now be retired in the PCA Hall of Fame, honorably cemented in West Deptford Middle School history.

We are so proud to announce the following award-winning students of the 2017 People's Choice Awards, along with their respective teachers: Michael Amoriello (Mr. Jakubowski), Jibril Barksdale (Mrs. Mason), Darby Blades (Mr. DiLorenzo), Aedan Bonner (Mrs. Manzano), Camille Brown (Mrs. Sperduto), Carly Campbell (Mrs. Rooney), Elis Candelaria (Mrs. Rullo), Julia Chiomento (Mrs. Leaf), Meredith Citrone (Mr. Cottone), Brady Clark (Miss Redkoles), MaLonnice Concepcion (Ms. Cech), Ashley Craig (Ms. Schwering), Jane Cross (Mrs. Mullin), Jason DiMat-

tesa (Ms. Proffitt), Isabella Dolbow (Mrs. Paterna), Katelyn Eastlack (Ms. Donahue), Andre English (Mrs. Lattanzio), Robert Fox (Mr. Clark), Thomas Hart (Mrs. Ricci), Ryan Heenan (Mr. Schwantes), James Helder (Ms. DeGroat), Emily Hickman (Mrs. Thurston), Jack Levensgood (Mrs. Donocoff), Emma Lyons (Mrs. Bennett), Teresa Maahs (Mrs. Seher), Benjamin Marraffa (Ms. Stephens), Victor McCloud (Mr. Greene), Natalie McGivern (Mrs. Headley), Jaymis Miller (Mr. Badt), Eric Mizner (Mrs. Jones), Hayley Moffett (Mrs. Zola), Marissa Morozewicz (Mrs. Rappo), Caley Morrone (Ms. Argo), Colwyn Moser (Mrs. Trampé), Michael Mundell (Officer Jiles), Jaden Nelson (Ms. Huepfel), Dianni Rey (Mrs. Anderson), Nicholas Richardson (Mr. B. Cross), Morgan Riley (Ms. Lecher), Miranda Rocco (Mrs. Baldwin), Gabriela Rodriguez (Mr. Stanwood), Alicia Schiavo (Mrs. Drewes), Alexis Schlagle (Mr. Britt), Nathaniel Schultes (Ms. Ramagli), Michael Seddon (Ms. Lee), Hope Siner (Ms. Dearlove), Robert Smizer (Mr. Shown), Zachary Steward (Mr. T. Cross), Carter Sturgis (Ms. Moyer), Nicolas Titano (Mrs. Romeo), Kasey Todd (Mrs. Melcher), Patrick Viereck (Mrs. Gottschling), Daniel Weer (Mrs. Sandy), Michael Wilson (Mrs. Breece), Ava Yates (Mrs. Capocci), Braydon Yearicks (Mrs. Cardillo), Katsiaryna Zavuholnik (Mrs. Weber).

2018-2019 SCHOOL BUDGET



The West Deptford Board of Education approved the 2018-2019 school budget at the public hearing held on April 30, 2018. The proposed budget includes the adjustment for health care costs and associated tax levy falls within the state-mandated 2% CAP. The budget is currently awaiting final approval by the Department of Education.

Budget Overview

The proposed budget will include funding to support the following programs and services:

- The addition of three Class III officers to enhance school security.
- Staff needed for the High School Business Academy.
- Additional instructional support in the elementary grades.
- Additional child study team member.
- New preschool autistic program.
- Continuation of all the current instructional programs.
- Continuation of one-to-one laptops in grades 5 through 12.
- Continuation of all co-curricular and interscholastic sports.

Tax Impact

The proposed budget results in a 3.32 per hundred (3.17 for the General Fund and .15 for Debt Service) increase in the tax rate. For an average home assessed at \$199,947 this will translate into a \$54.95 per year increase. The overall tax impact was positively impacted by an increase in ratables in West Deptford Township in the amount of \$6,502,554.

<i>Budget Detail</i>		<i>Tax Levy Information</i>	
<i>This year's General Fund</i>	\$ 47,844,558	<i>This year's Total Tax Levy</i>	\$ 33,293,626
<i>Last year's General Fund</i>	\$ 46,892,285	<i>Last year's Total Tax Levy</i>	\$ 32,518,104
<i>Represents an decrease of</i>	\$ 951,708	<i>Represents an increase of</i>	\$ 755,522

Child Find

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

A wide variety of special education programs are available for students between the ages of 3 and 21 who require specialized instruction and/or related services such as speech/language services, occupational therapy and physical therapy in order to meet their educational needs. Educational program options include: instruction in a general education class with all the necessary and appropriate supports, supplemental instruction, resource center programs, special class programs within the school district, special education programs in out-of-district public or private schools, individual instruction at home, in medical institutions or other appropriate facilities.

PRESCHOOL DISABLED PROGRAM

The Preschool Disabled Program provides appropriate educational experiences for youngsters between the ages of 3 and 5 who experience developmental delays in the areas of speech and language, motor development, cognition and/or social/

emotional functioning. The school district offers an educational program, related services, and door-to-door transportation at no cost to parents. The children are placed according to individual needs and developmental levels. In the preschool programs, they are encouraged to explore new materials, develop emerging skills, and interact in a social setting. Speech/language therapy and occupational therapy are offered as an integral part of the classroom program and/or on an individual basis as needed. If warranted, other services such as physical therapy may be initiated.

If you have any questions about either of the programs described above and feel that your child may require services, please call the Supervisor of Special Education and Related Services, Mrs. Cheryl Fairchild, at (856) 848-4300, ext. 4213.

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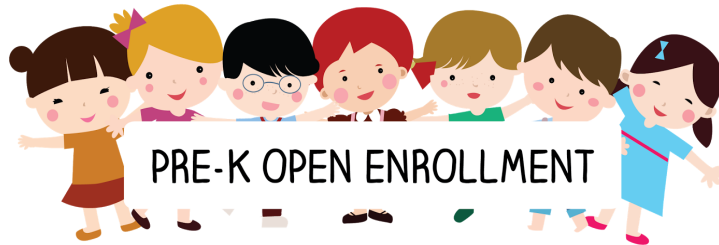
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West Deptford Township School District

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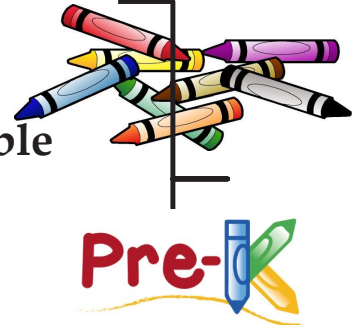
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Located at**



**Oakview
Elementary
School**

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- Open to ages 3 and 4
- AM & PM Sessions available
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- Monthly payment plans



For more information, please contact: Mr. Ryan Dougherty at (856) 845-1856