

Happy Holidays from your Superintendent and Board of Education members!



FROM LEFT: SUPERINTENDENT DR. MARCIA V. LYLES AND BOARD MEMBERS VIDYA GANGADIN, ANGEL L. VALENTIN, SANGEETA RANADE, CAROL L. LESTER, SUZANNE T. MACK, MARILYN ROMAN, CAROL HARRISON-ARNOLD, GERALD M. LYONS

PS 3 STUDENTS MAKE WISHES COME TRUE FOR LESS FORTUNATE CHILDREN

Shoppers in the Newport Centre Macy's were treated to a free performance on the first Friday in December by students from Frank R. Conwell PS 3. Students in first through fifth grade



PHOTO COURTESY OF REENA ROSE SIBAYAN, JERSEY JOURNAL

performed portions of their production of the musical, "Yes, Virginia." While at the store, students also dropped off their letters to Santa as part of the Macy's "Believe"

IMPORTANT DATES

- 12/23, Winter Recess for schools through 1/1/14
- Schools reopen 1/2/14
- Central office closed 12/24, 12/25, 12/31 & 1/1/14 only

campaign. For every letter deposited, Macy's donates \$1 to the Make-a-Wish Foundation, but the day that PS 3 was at the store was Macy's National Believe Day, and each letter garnered a \$2 donation. In total, Make-A-Wish received a \$5,126 donation in the form of more than 2,500 "Dear Santa" letters from students.

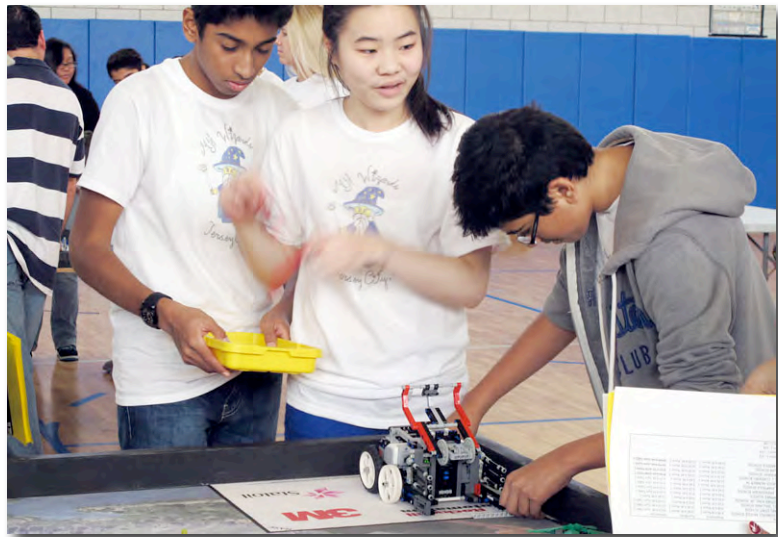
Second grader Tia Montgomery said, “I want them to have a happier life,” referring to the less fortunate and sickly children who will have a wish come true through the Foundation. PS 3 is trying to raise \$20,000 after receiving a \$1,000 grant from Macy’s to help stage two performances of “Yes, Virginia” at the school over the last two days.

“I think it’s important for the students to have a sense that there is a greater good out there and that what they’re doing is really benefiting the lives of children who are not as fortunate,” said Principal Darren Mischel.

Special thanks to PS 3 drama teacher Nicole Oliver and PS 3 parent Felicia Palmer, who made the drive happen.

STUDENTS TAKE ON NATURE’S FURY AT LEGO CHALLENGE

Over 200 middle school students from 12 of our district schools took on the challenge of finding innovative solutions to the *FIRST*® LEGO® League (FLL) 2013 NATURE’S FURY Challenge on December 7 at Frank R. Conwell Middle School 4. Teams explored the awe-inspiring storms, quakes, waves and more that we call natural disasters and designed solutions to limit their potential impact.



TEAM ROBOTICS from Frank R. Conwell MS 4 work together in competition at their school.

Our district has been hosting this event for the past 11 years. The program began with only four teams, but now has grown to 12 teams and hundreds of students. The participating schools were MS 4, PS 5, MS 7, PS 11, PS 12, PS 17, PS 23, PS 27, PS 34, PS 37, PS 38, and Academy I.

For more information about FIRST LEGO LEAGUE, visit: www.firstlegoleague.org

STUDENTS PERFORM LIVE AT NBA GAME IN THE CITY OF BROTHERLY LOVE



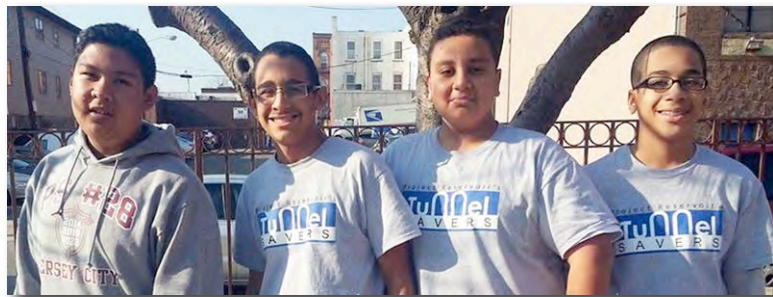
On Saturday, December 14, four sophomores, accompanied by their teachers and chaperones, Music Specialist John Flora and Drama Specialist Michel Malone, made their way on a field trip to the City of Brotherly Love, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This wasn't your typical field trip though. Aside from

visiting historical sites like the Liberty Bell, these vocally-talented students from Dickinson (Jocelyn Vega), Snyder (Maria Jose Salvador and Tsi Shaffer), and County Prep (David Sami) also casually made their way to the Wells Fargo Center in downtown Philly and performed the National Anthem at the Philadelphia 76ers NBA basketball game in front of a crowd of thousands in attendance.

To see a video of the performance, visit: <http://youtu.be/H5R4Vz4EP5s>

PS 28 MAKES FINAL ROUND IN LEXUS ECO CHALLENGE

Christa McAuliffe PS 28 is one of sixteen national finalists in the Lexus Eco Air/Climate Challenge sponsored by Toyota Motor Sales, USA, and Scholastic, Inc. The school received a total of \$3,000 in grants for



making it to the final round. We wish the PS 28 "Project Reservoir Tunnel Savers" team good luck as they compete in the finals and will keep everyone posted on the outcome.

JC KIWANIS PRESENTS NEW KEY CLUB AT LIBERTY HS



The Jersey City Kiwanis Club recently presented the Charter to the newest Key Club at Liberty High School. The purpose of Key Club is to develop student leadership and encourage community service. The JC Kiwanis Club sponsors seven Key Clubs in our high schools.

From left: Student Dennis Trotta; Advisor Monica Garcia; Student President Stephanie Vidal; former Kiwanis President Frank Flaherty; Sponsored Youth Chairman Mark Rowan; Principal Belinda Stokes; and student Melissa Dressler.



Congratulations to Martin Luther King, Jr. School on achieving the best attendance for the month of November! PS 11 boasted a 96.8% attendance rate for the third month of the school year. The school was honored at the December 19 Board meeting with a banner to be proudly displayed at their school.

STUDENTS PERFORM AT DECEMBER BOARD MEETING

Community members and staff in attendance at the December monthly Board of Education meeting were treated to festive holiday performances by Academy I and Franklin L. Williams Middle



Schools under the direction of John Flora, music specialist at MS 7.

Do you have news you'd like to share with our district? If so, please email items for consideration to: communications@jcboe.org.

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