

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION QUARTERLY PUBLICATION



Spotswood Public Schools

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Curriculum Highlight—Marketing/DECA

Spotswood students have the opportunity to complete a 4-year marketing study through the high school Business Department. The sequence includes Introduction to Marketing, Honors Advanced Marketing, Honors Principles of Business, and Honors College Marketing. Students taking Honors Principles of Business and Honors College Marketing are able to earn college credits through Middlesex County College. Participation in the marketing sequence offers students the opportunity to compete in local, state, and national Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) competitions, where our students have historically received top honors. This year is no different with 62 students advancing to the state competition after receiving top honors at the local competition.

Governor's Educator of the Year Recipients

The Governor's Educator of the Year Program recognizes the outstanding contributions of teachers and service providers across the State of New Jersey. Congratulations to our 2019-20 local recipients!

Teacher of The Year

Schoenly—Jackie Cassidy

Appleby —Paige Besthoff

Memorial—Tanya Schamper

Spotswood High School—Amelia Cater

Educational Services Professionals

Schoenly—Helen Maldonado

Appleby—Maria Chludzinski

Memorial—Christine Santiago



Pictured L to R:
Maria Chludzinski,
Tanya Schamper,
Helen Maldonado,
Paige Besthoff,
Jackie Cassidy

Not Pictured:
Amelia Cater,
Christine Santiago

Students Inducted into Honor Societies

Middle school students who demonstrate and maintain outstanding scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship, and character are eligible for membership in the National Junior Honor Society. During the 13th annual ceremony, 55 new members were inducted into Memorial's Chapter of NJHS. The Chapter is active in the Spotswood community where they work with the PTA and other local groups. They also raise funds for Ronald McDonald House, Friends of Kids with Cancer, the Middlesex County VFW, and the American Heart Association.

High school students who demonstrate and maintain outstanding scholarship, leadership, service, and character are eligible for membership in the National Honor Society. This year's induction class contained 37 members. Each inductee selects an Honor Teacher who is recognized at the ceremony. The Honor Teacher is someone who has been influential in the student's life and has helped them develop the ideals and characteristics expected of a NHS member.

Congratulations to our students on this prestigious honor, and thank you to our advisors, Kristen Rice, Sue Fredricks, and Michelle Robbins.

District Bands Night

January marked the 15th anniversary of District Bands Night, a collaboration between students, staff, and community members from Milltown, Spotswood, and Helmetta. This yearly event, coordinated by band directors Christina Restine, Lauren Hengeli, and Sarah Carino-Koza, creates a musical experience that impacts students in an incredible way. This year's concert featured John Higgins' composition *Serengeti - An African Rhapsody* as the combined piece for the SHS Honors Wind Ensemble and 7th and 8th grade students from Memorial Middle School and Joyce Kilmer School.

Students Shine in Geographic Competition

In January, eighth grader Andrew Capran won the 2020 Memorial Middle School Geographic Bee for the second time in three years. Seventh grader Shyami Craig was the runner up and eighth grader Kyle Chigas was the third place finisher. This was Memorial's 5th Annual Geographic Bee.

The competition was open to all 6th, 7th and 8th graders. Two preliminary rounds produced the top 10 finalists who competed during a school wide assembly. Students, parents, and staff attended the competition, showing their support for the contestants with loud applause. Andrew did not answer a single question incorrectly during the competition. He recently competed at the next level which was a 70 question online test produced by the National Geographic Bee. He hopes to qualify as one of New Jersey's top 100, in order to compete in Trenton in April. The National Championship will be held in Washington D.C. in May, where Andrew can win a college scholarship and grand prize trip.



Geographic Bee Contestants with Mrs. Jackie Martinez, Coordinator