Melysa Wilson, Tyler Barnes, Annie Cook, Liz Dunham, Emily Everett, a commitment to tell the survivor’s story in a public setting. In addition, each student makes connections with the survivor through discussions about life before, during and after the Holocaust. Participating in the Adopt-a-Survivor program was introduced to the Trenton area at Ewing High School. Six Holocaust survivors were adopted by the students of Ewing High School. Their January canned food drive is a big benefit to a local food pantry and during the 5th annual Martin Luther King Days of service the school created and delivered 108 lunches, 62 breakfast bags and 70 toiletry bags to local charitable organizations.

In February, the school creates cards for veterans for Valentine’s Day and last year, the 2nd annual “Say Yay for Pajama Day” to benefit Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia raised over $300 in December for CHOP. In a neat activity, throughout the year Parkway sends used markers back to Crayola as part of the “Color Cycle Program.” Color Cycle allows schools to send dried out markers back to Crayola to be turned into clean fuel! To date, Parkway has sent close to 3,000 markers!

Finally, the physical education department annually has students participate in “Jump Rope for Heart” in order to raise money for the American Heart Association and the school hosts a student change drive and staff Denim Days to benefit Autism Awareness Month.

“From the time a child joins us in kindergarten, to the day they leave us to go to middle school, we hope that a Parkway student really develops an appreciation of the joy of helping people and making the community better,” Principal Harris commented.

The Parkway Elementary School has always had close ties with the Ewing community, and it is a tradition that continues as Panther after Panther makes their way through the hallways of the warm and friendly school.

“We believe deeply in developing the whole child,” Parkway Principal Nicole Harris stated. “A large part of that mission is promoting an appreciation of being compassionate citizens who give back to the community.”

Each school year, Parkway hosts a student change drive and staff bake sales as well as staff Denim Days to benefit Breast Cancer Research. Another fun event is the school’s support of “Color A Smile,” an organization out of Northern New Jersey that sends the collected drawings and colorings of Parkway students to people who need a smile, such as nursing home residents and hospital patients.

The Parkway Spirit really emerges during the holidays, as Parkway Thanksgiving food baskets are donated to 16 families, the Holiday Giving Tree provides presents to needy families, and the Junior Paws Clubs decorate foam holiday and winter shapes that are turned into ornaments for hospital patients who are unable to go home during the holiday season.

When the calendar turns, the giving continues at Parkway. Their January canned food drive is a big benefit to a local food pantry and during the 5th annual Martin Luther King Days of service the school created and delivered 108 lunches, 62 breakfast bags and 70 toiletry bags to local charitable organizations.

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The Ewing Public Schools...
Senior Spotlight: Meet Lawrence Boadi

Who is your favorite teacher? My favorite teacher is Mrs. Masterson. Mrs. Masterson has only ever embraced me with love and open arms since the starting point of my high school career. She has been with me every step of the way (senior year being the only year I did not have a class with her). She has encouraged me, motivated me in all aspects of my life: whether it be to not give up on an assignment or test, a hard class task or even just advice during my lesser moments in life. I see Mrs. Masterson as my second mom and I’m very thankful to have met her in my life.

In which activities do you participate in school? I am a National Honor Society member, a Key Club Executive member, the newspaper and I tutor.

What activities do you participate outside of school? I work at the Soup kitchen, am the Treasurer at my church, and also am the Youth/Sunday School Activities Manager. I do additional tutoring outside of school.

What accomplishments are you most proud of? The gradual push academically from starting at college prep level classes my freshman year to now being in AP and Honors classes as my high school career progressed. I never thought, as a freshman that I would in the future be in the National Honor Society, be nominated both my junior and senior year as an EHS Student of the Month or be chosen to be highlighted in Observer - GoodNews as the Senior Spotlight. I am also proud of the Tutoring Certificate I received.

What is your favorite memory of high school? My freshman year Algebra 1 class with Ms. Salviety was a class I especially enjoyed. My friends and I all happened to be in that class my freshman year, and during the school year it was filled with amazing moments; laughter, joy and happiness.

Who has impacted your life in a positive way? Mrs. Masterson: for encouraging me to believe that the sky’s the limit as well as any dream I have is tangible.

How do you define success? I define success in working as hard as you can till you reach a moment in time one could not imagine possible three to four years prior.

What are your plans after you graduate? I am majoring in Pre-Medicine and will attend Medical School.

What is your favorite quote or book? My favorite book is all the Game of Thrones books. (I would not recommend watching the last season of Game of Thrones.)

If you were walking down Parkway Avenue and found $100 in cash, what would you do with the money if you could do anything you wanted with it? I would intend in focusing that money in any charity suitable in the aim of the betterment of global warming.

Random Acts of Reading

Across the district, we are delighted to dedicate time to develop a community of readers. Teachers and Administrators are working behind the scenes to plan a variety of activities for students of all ages and their families. Throughout the year, we will be advertising events and activities to foster a love of reading.

Random Acts of Reading has been implemented throughout the district. Students should be on the lookout for a Random Act of Reading book. They may spot books in the hallways, on the playground, in the cafeteria, or somewhere unexpected. Random Acts of Reading books will be in a plastic bag with a note. The lucky recipient can enjoy the book, share the book, or perhaps, pay it forward and hide another book!

Students, keep your eyes open; you never know when and where you’ll come across a book!

ESL Family Night

ESL families from across the district celebrated the new school year with a graduation ceremony. This year, fifteen students earned the distinction of scoring above a 4.5 on the ACCESS for ELLS assessment, which is administered in schools across the country. A composite score of 4.5 or above indicates that students have achieved a proficient rating and no longer need ESL services. Our graduates will continue to receive support from the ESL teachers for two years, in order to assist with the transition out of the ESL program.

Additionally, new families were welcomed to the Ewing Public Schools community. ESL teachers met with parents and students to highlight their programs and review supports we have in place for students.

We look ahead to two more family events this year: January 23, 2020 at 6:30PM in the Parkway School cafeteria and April 22, 2020 at 6:00PM in the Fisher Middle School cafeteria.
At the October Board meeting, the Special Education Leadership Team of Harold Louth, Maria Petsos and David Hauserman presented on the district’s Community Transitions Program.

“We have exceptional teachers, strong leadership and a wonderful curriculum for our Life Skills Program,” Mr. Louth stated. “But we realized we needed a better way to integrate our students into the workplace and the community, which was the genesis of the Community Transitions Program.”

The Ewing Public Schools have partnered with several community stakeholders to build the program, and integrate positive, relevant life experiences for Ewing students. These groups include the ARC of Mercer, Parents of Autistic Children, Rider University, the New Jersey Travel Independence Program and Advancing Opportunities.

“We recognized the importance of transitioning our students into adult services with meaningful work and life experiences,” Mr. Hauserman commented. “The Community Transitions program allows us to provide a dynamic curriculum and tangible, meaningful experiences for our students.”

According to Mr. Louth, the main focus of the program is to integrate the students into the community, provide opportunities to enhance and practice social skills, and to provide career exploration that will help the student transition to job post-schooling.

The program offers functional experiences, such as using HomeFront’s state of the art kitchen to build culinary skills, and students have the opportunity to take music lessons, art courses and develop technology skills. Community based activities and structured learning experiences are centered around the results from each child’s “Person Centered Planning” (PCP) and the program’s commitment to follow each student’s interests. Students investigate a variety of employment interests, such as janitorial, culinary, supermarkets, horticultural and technology.

Internships and work experiences have included Subway, IHOP, ShopRite, Santander Bank and Home Depot.

Post-School Outcomes for the 2016-17 Ewing Schools exiters shows the value of the program. After graduation and moving on from the Ewing Schools, 45% of former students are enrolled in higher education and 24% are engaged in competitive employment.

“Active participation in our community means not only creating opportunities for our students but also encouraging engagement with local businesses and organizations through meaningful employment experiences,” Mr. Louth stated. “This emphasis on equity and inclusivity builds self-confidence and self-advocacy in our students.”

(The October Presentation on The Community Transitions Program is available online.)

FMS Students Meet Acclaimed Author, Jacqueline Woodson

On October 16th, a group of 7th grade students from Fisher Middle School traveled to The College of New Jersey, where they attended a talk given by acclaimed author Jacqueline Woodson. Ms. Woodson was named the 2018-2019 National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature, a title given to her by the Library of Congress, which has only been held by six people to date.

Students began their day in the Mildred & Ernest E. Mayo Concert Hall, where Ms. Woodson spoke about her young adult novel Harbor Me as well as her experiences as a young woman growing up in Brooklyn. Ms. Woodson also delivered her ambassador message to young readers: “Reading = Hope x Change”. She chose this equation in hopes that it would spark dialogue about the importance of reading, and how reading can change a person for the better.

School Weather Emergency Information

By Michael Nitti, Superintendent

As December begins and memories of beach visits and campfires are long gone and replaced by thoughts of the holidays, I wanted to take a moment to remind the Ewing School community about our weather emergency procedures.

Having navigated many weather emergencies over the past several years, I can tell you that each event has its own ‘personality’ and we do our best to handle the situation appropriately; student safety is always our paramount concern, as well as communicating effectively with the school community.

Remember, our official communication portals are as follows: Instant Alert, the School District Website, and Ewing Public Schools Television (Channel 19-Comcast/Channel 31-Verizon). We also notify Channel 6-ABC (WPVI) television. Our Ewing Public Schools Twitter Feed is designed more for public relations news, but we will use it to communicate weather-related information. Always confirm with the official communication portals, as social media outlets can be easily manipulated. Also, please make sure your Instant Alert profile is up to date with your current contact information.

We have a Weather Emergency Team which assembles during these events. This team consists of key Ewing Public Schools administrative, facilities and technology/communications staff. During a typical overnight weather event, we will begin our work at 4:30AM, consulting with other school administrators and local authorities about weather and road conditions. We like to make our decision at about 5:00AM and begin communicating that decision to the community about 5:30AM through our official communication portals. I realize that is early in the morning to receive phone calls; however, the high school staff begins at 7:15AM and we have many employees who have significant commutes.

We like to make ‘delayed opening’ announcement as soon as possible, as we know that it has a big impact on a working family’s morning arrangements. We really strive to avoid ‘early dismissals’ as we recognize that it is not an ideal situation to have students coming home before their parents but, sometimes, especially in rapidly-deteriorating conditions when it looks like things will be far worse at the regular school ending, it is unavoidable.

We have two ‘weather emergency days’ built into the school calendar. After that, a plan to take away previously-scheduled ‘days off’ is publicized on our school calendar. By law, we must have 180 days of school for students.

Follow us on twitter: www.twitter.com/TheEwingSchools
## December 2019 Schedule in Ewing Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec 1</td>
<td>Ewing Township Tree Lighting @ 5-7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 3</td>
<td>Antheil - Title 1 Math/ELA Night Parent Info @ 6:30pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Antheil - Title 1 Math/ELA Night @ 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 4</td>
<td>EHS - College &amp; Career Night @ 6:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 5-6</td>
<td>Lore - LPA Holiday Store (During School Hours)</td>
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<td>Dec 5</td>
<td>FMS - 8th Grade Naviance Training Night @ 6:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 6</td>
<td>Antheil - PTO Holiday Shop @ 6:30pm</td>
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<td>Parkway - Winter Wonderland @ 6:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 9</td>
<td>Parkway - PTA 5th Grade Community Meeting @ 6:30pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Parkway - PTA Meeting @ 7pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Antheil - “Meet the Principal Night” @ 6:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 10</td>
<td>Lore - 5th Grade Instrumental Concert @ 6:30pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Fisher - FPA Meeting @ 6:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 11</td>
<td>Parkway - 5th Gr Vocal &amp; Instrumental Concert @ 6:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 12</td>
<td>EHS - Progress Reports S1 T2 Q3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Antheil - 5th Grade Winter Concert @ 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>POAC Event (Sexuality and Safety for Autism and Development Disabilities) - 6:30pm @ EHS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 16</td>
<td>Elementary Schools &amp; FMS Progress Reports</td>
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<td></td>
<td>BOE Meeting - 7pm @ FMS Media Center (Public Session @ 8pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 17</td>
<td>EHS - Accuplacer</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Parkway - 5th Gr Vocal &amp; Instrumental Concert Snow Date</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 18</td>
<td>EHS - Ring &amp; Sing @ 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 19</td>
<td>Lore - Winter Vocal Concert @ 7pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 20</td>
<td>K-12 Early Dismissal - NO PM EDP</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NO PM Integrated Preschool</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lore - Winter Vocal Concert Day Performance @ 9:30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 23-</td>
<td>School Closed - Winter Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 1</td>
<td>HAPPY NEW YEAR! Welcome Back to School!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Instant Alert

Instant Alert is an important communication tool for The Ewing Public Schools. A link is available on our website under Parent Information/School Closings. It is the responsibility of the parent/staff member to manage the profile for receiving alerts. Please update your profile.

If you are receiving alerts and are not a member of the Ewing Schools community, please notify us (538-9800 X1102 or thullings@ewingboe.org).

### The Ewing Public Education Channel

The Ewing Public Education Channel (FIOS31/Comcast 19) displays district and school information, concerts and awards presentations.

### Virtual Backpacks, Calendars and Headlines

Virtual Backpacks, Calendars and Headlines pages on the website are where you will find up-to-the minute information on district-wide events, deadlines, fundraisers and interesting stories about our schools, students and staff. Ewing Recreation and other area events are posted in the VBP under Community Information.

### Residency Investigation Hotline

- 538-9800 X8999

### Anonymous Tip Hotline

- 538-9800 X1199

### Policies and Regulations

Policies and Regulations: All current policies and regulations for The Ewing Public Schools are available on our website under the Board of Education/Board Policy/Regulation tab.

### Community Connector

Community Connector: Contact Lauren Zablow at lzablow@ewingboe.org.

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Each year for the past 23 years, the Ewing Public Education Foundation follows its important mission of raising funds to support teacher grants for innovative programs and scholarships benefiting our Ewing students. EPEF is an independent non-profit organization and every year we continue to meet our goals of giving back to our community. To date we have raised over $750K, but we couldn’t do it without you! We are grateful that you take the time to invest in our students, helping to provide them with experiences and opportunities above and beyond. So, thank you for helping us help our students! As our board president Karl Clark says, ‘We are grateful for every dollar because every dollar counts!’ To support this giving cycle, please go to www.EPEF.org.