



THE EWING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Immediate Release

The Ewing Public Schools Board of Education BOE Briefs: January 25th, 2021

The Ewing Township Board of Education held its monthly meeting this January virtually as it continues to navigate the COVID-19 public health crisis.

Board President Lisa McConnell opened the virtual Board of Education meeting at 7:00PM and the only action the Board took at that time was to move to a closed session where it reviewed a limited number of confidential items.

The public session of the Board of Education meeting was live-streamed to the public beginning at 8:00PM. The livestream link was widely communicated to the community via Instant Alert, Twitter and posted on the district website.

Board President McConnell recognized Ewing High School student ambassador Gabrielle Gregg who updated the Board and public on events and developments at Ewing High School during the month of January and touched on some upcoming events in February.

Ms. Gregg shared that Ewing High School is very excited to start the winter athletic season with Basketball games scheduled against Hightstown on Friday and Bowling opening its season against Burlington Township on Wednesday.

Ms. Gregg shared that the Ewing High School Nurses launched "On Call with Care!" On Wednesdays from 1:00PM-2:00PM, the school nurses are now available on Google Meet to answer student questions about general health, mental health and immunizations. It isn't telemedicine, but a great resource for students to be connected with information regarding both their physical and mental health.

Ewing High School also announced its Black History Month initiatives which include a virtual Black History Month Art Showcase on February 25th, a virtual panel discussion with EHS alumni who are currently attending historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and the ASYST program hosting a movie night every Friday during the month of February.

Board President McConnell then recognized Superintendent Michael Nitti, who began by sharing his gratitude and appreciation to the entire Ewing School Community for their support and understanding during this challenging school year.

Superintendent Nitti then introduced the principal of Parkway Elementary School, Nicole Harris, who joined the meeting virtually to provide an update on her school to the community.

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Principal Harris shared that the school year is full of challenges, but at Parkway School, home of the Panthers, land of the Blue and Gold; Parkway has embarked upon taking this year and approaching everything in a positive “Panther-demic” style.

Parkway’s in-person students have worked to navigate daily school expectations wearing masks, practicing physical distancing and emphasizing safe and health practices. Remote students have learned how to thrive in the virtual classroom while striving to be in a school mindset while at home.

“Whether it is from behind a mask or over a screen, the smiles, enthusiasm and happiness of the Parkway Panthers cannot be hidden or contained,” Principal Harris remarked. “We tell our students that when the challenges of COVID have you thinking, ‘I cannot do that,’ just remember always work to be safe and then spin it “Panther-demic” style.”

Principal Harris then shared a slide show of Parkway life created with the help of teacher Howard Taylor.

Principal Harris closed by stating that there are still tickets available for the Parkway School Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, February 6th. You can find ticket information on all of the school websites’ virtual backpacks and the Parkway School main page.

The Board then moved into the “**Superintendent Recommendations**” section of the Agenda. Some items of note:

Finance and Operations

The district awarded the bid for the Ewing High School auditorium renovations. School Business Administrator Dennis Nettleton stated that he was very happy with the amount of interest in the project and the selected bid. Construction on this Referendum ’18 project is slated to begin in early March.

Personnel

Ewing Public Schools Welcomes New Staff

Daniel Czepiga is returning to Ewing High School as a Teacher of Science Special Class Programs. Mr. Czepiga graduated from The College of New Jersey with his Bachelor’s degree in Health and Exercise Science and his Master’s degree from Rider University in teaching and Biological Sciences. Mr. Czepiga is a former teacher and coach for the Ewing Public Schools.

Renee Gadsby is joining the 2099 Administration Building as a Human Resources Assistant. Ms. Gadsby graduated from West Virginia University with her Bachelor’s degree in Sociology and Anthropology. Ms. Gadsby has prior experience working in various roles within Human Resources departments including administrative and operational responsibilities.

The next meeting of the Board of Education will take place on Monday, February 15th, 2021 at 7:00PM. The format and location of that meeting has not been finalized, but it is the Board’s intention to return to “in-person” meetings in the Fisher Middle School auditorium. Once finalized, the format and location of the meeting will be widely publicized and communicated.

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