

J. Harvey Rodgers School

BOARD REPORT

December 2024

Principal - Melanie Sweeney



PERSONNEL

- Appointments:
 - Teresa Brown (Preschool Aide) - 12/9/24
 - Dolores Diaz (Kindergarten Aide) - 1/16/25
- Resignation/Retirement:
 - N/A
- Staff Evaluations to Date:
 - Tenured: 13
 - Nontenured: 24
 - Non-Certificated Staff: 0

COMMITTEE MEETINGS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Dept/Level
 - December 3rd - District Character Council Meeting
 - December 4th - Character Champion Team Meeting
 - December 10th - Attendance Meeting
 - December 11th - Staff Meeting
 - December 13th - I&RS
 - December 16th - New Teacher Academy
 - December 17th - Behavioral Threat Assessment Team Meeting
 - December 18th - School Based Leadership (SBL) Team Meeting
- Safety & Security
 - N/A
- SciP - December 12th
- PD
 - December 13th (2-Hour Delay): All staff participated in a two hour training with Montclair State University on Pyramid Model Training & Tier 2 Supports.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION (C&I)

- Pacing Guide for Wit & Wisdom (Module 2)
- Revisions to Pacing Guide for Eureka Math (MP 2)

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Athletics - N/A
- Visual & Performing Arts - N/A
- Community Events - N/A



OPERATIONS

- Safety & Security Meeting
 - December 5th
- Safety & Security Drills
 - December 3rd - Fire Drill
 - December 17th - Secure

FACILITIES

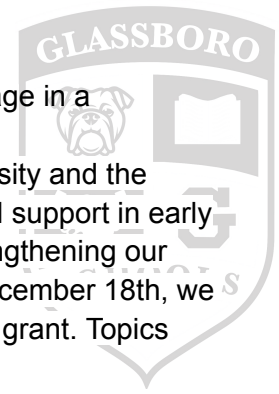
- Needs Assessment: See Miquel Olivo's Report, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds

PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES (Guidance/SAC/CST)

- Bulldog PRIDE lessons on integrity from Mrs. Jacobs, Preschool Intervention and Referral Services and Mrs. Brice, School Counselor. They utilized the text, *That's Not Fair: A Book About How Fair is Not Always Equal* by Courtney Butaroc, which is about a boy named Henry who starts to notice that kids in his school get to do different activities, have different privileges, and even seem to follow different rules. He wonders why and even gets frustrated because he thinks it isn't fair. Then, his mom helps him understand that everyone has different needs. Preschool students completed a "Help Me Feed My Pets!" activity and kindergarten students completed a "Band-Aids for Everyone!" activity.

BULLDOG PRIDE

- From December 3rd to 6th, we held parent-teacher conferences for all preschool and kindergarten students. On Tuesday, December 3rd, we also held evening conferences. During this time, we hosted our Annual Book Fair. Students had the opportunity to shop with their parents during school hours, during the evening conferences, and each afternoon throughout the conference week.
- On December 19th, we held our preschool and kindergarten concert, titled "A Holiday Extravaganza." The concert featured music and art celebrating various holidays and cultures. Students from the GHS Select Choir performed the *Star Spangled Banner* as well as one of their holiday concert selections. To accommodate our families, we also offered a hybrid option by live-streaming the event on YouTube.
- We are pleased to continue our successful partnership with Glassboro High School's Early Childhood Education Class, under the direction of Nancy Brown. This collaboration provides high school students with valuable, hands-on classroom experience in our Kindergarten classrooms. Each Kindergarten classroom has been assigned a high school student to assist from 12:05 to 1:05 pm daily for the remainder of the school year. The students are involved in a variety of responsibilities, including:
 - Working with individuals or small groups of students.
 - Assisting with bulletin boards and classroom organization.
 - Observing classroom instruction to gain practical insights into teaching.
 - Setting up classroom equipment and materials.
 - Escorting students to the nurse or office as needed.
 - Introducing segments of lessons.
 - Supporting individual students during "seat work."
 - Reading stories to groups of students.
 - Currently, we have 18 high school students divided across the Kindergarten classrooms, providing valuable support to our teachers and enriching the learning experience for our students. This partnership is a wonderful opportunity for both



our Kindergarten students and the high school students to engage in a meaningful educational exchange.

- We are continuing our valuable partnership with Montclair State University and the NJIETA Sustainability Grant, which promotes access, participation, and support in early childhood inclusive education. This is a four-year project aimed at strengthening our preschool classes and enhancing inclusive education practices. On December 18th, we held a productive meeting to discuss important initiatives related to the grant. Topics covered included:
 - PLC Trainings: Deposits; PDF Transitions; Building Relationships with Families
 - Behavior Goals: Reduce discipline referrals; Monitor data on ethnicity
 - Creative Curriculum Inclusion Training
 - Pyramid Model Training Module 2

This ongoing collaboration is a critical part of our efforts to “level up” our early childhood education programs, ensuring we continue to provide inclusive, high-quality learning environments for all students.

- We are excited to continue our partnership with Rowan University through their Adaptive Physical Education Program. Seventeen of our Special Education students in Kindergarten and Preschool are participating in this program, working once a week for 8 weeks during the fall semester. Each student has been paired with a Rowan University student, under the direction of a Rowan professor, who administered the Test of Gross Motor Development (TGMD). This assessment is followed by tailored lessons focused on the fundamental movement skill categories: locomotor, manipulative, and stability. This program provides our Special Education students with valuable opportunities to develop essential motor skills in a supportive and structured environment, enhancing their overall physical development. We are grateful for the continued collaboration with Rowan University, which enriches the educational experience for our students.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- December 3rd - December 6th: Parent Teacher Conferences & Book Fair
- December 3rd - District Character Council Meeting
- December 4th - Character Champion Team Meeting
- December 10th - Attendance Meeting
- December 11th - Staff Meeting
- December 12th - ScIP Meeting
- December 13th - 2-hour delay (Professional Development): Tier 2 Supports with Pyramid Model provided by Roseanne Yezzo at Montclair State University
- December 13th - I&RS
- December 16th - New Teacher Academy
- December 17th - Behavioral Threat Assessment Team Meeting
- December 18th - School Based Leadership (SBL) Team Meeting
- December 19th - PreK and Kindergarten Winter Concerts
- December 20th - Early Dismissal