

J. Harvey Rodgers School
BOARD REPORT
January 2024



Principal - Melanie Sweeney

PERSONNEL

- Appointments:
 - Dolores Diaz (Kindergarten Aide) - 1/16/25
 - Caitlin Wawrzyniak (ABA Special Education Aide) - 2/18/25
- Resignation/Retirement:
 - Christa Taylor - 1/31/25
- Staff Evaluations to Date:
 - Tenured: 15
 - Nontenured: 30
 - Non-Certificated Staff: 4

COMMITTEE MEETINGS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Dept/Level
 - January 3rd - MERT Team Meeting
 - January 7th - District Character Council Meeting
 - January 8th - Character Champion Team Meeting
 - January 8th - Staff Meeting
 - January 14th - Attendance Meeting
 - January 17th - I&RS & PIRT Meetings
 - January 21st - Behavioral Threat Assessment Team Meeting
 - January 21st - JHR New Teacher Academy
 - January 22nd - School Based Leadership (SBL) Team Meeting
 - January 27th - School Leadership Team (SLT) Meeting
 - January 29th - Grade Level PLC
 - January 30th - MP2 Ends (Kindergarten)
 - January 31st - MAP Window #2 Ends
- Safety & Security
 - N/A
- SciP - January 23rd
- PD
 - Canva & AI Professional Development (Sue Kornicki) - January 29th

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION (C&I)

- Pacing Guide for Wit & Wisdom (Module 3)
- Revisions to Pacing Guide for Eureka Math (MP 3)

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Athletics - N/A



- Visual & Performing Arts - N/A
- Community Events
 - January 7th - Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) Meeting
 - January 23rd - Prek Parent Workshop #2
 - January 28th - Preschool Cookies and Cocoa Social Event
 - Objective: To boost parent involvement by exposing parents to the many resources in our community and relaying information that will enhance the PreK experience.

OPERATIONS

- Safety & Security Meeting
 - January 8th
- Safety & Security Drills
 - January 13th - Fire Drill
 - January 29th - Evacuation Drill

FACILITIES

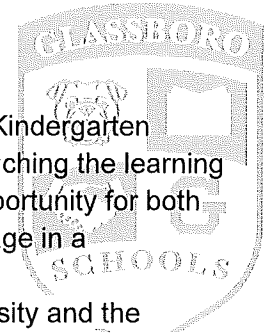
- Needs Assessment: See Miquel Olivo's Report, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds

PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES (Guidance/SAC/CST)

- The January Monthly Virtue was fortitude, which is defined as "sticking with it" and doing the right thing, even when faced with challenges. To illustrate this virtue, the story *The Little Engine that Could* by Watty Piper was used, where a small engine bravely pulls a train full of goodies over a mountain, showing that size doesn't determine one's ability to succeed. In the classroom, students engaged in a gross motor activity designed to help them practice fortitude as they work through the task. The monthly phrase to remember was, "I think I can, I think I can!"

BULLDOG PRIDE

- In January, we were excited to learn that we earned a 4-star rating in the Grow NJ Kids rating process. This rating reflects the observed quality of our child care and early learning program. As a rated program, we have shown our dedication to providing high-quality child care and supporting school readiness. We are proud to be one of only six schools in the county to receive the 4-star designation. We will be re-rated in three years.
- 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 January 22nd, we held a productive meeting to discuss important initiatives related to the grant. Topics covered included:
 - Creative Curriculum Inclusion Training (Upcoming)
 - Feedback from December Professional Development on Tier 2 Supports
 - Site Visits to J. Harvey Rodgers School

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- February - Black History Month Activities
- February 3rd to February 7th - National School Counseling Week
- February 4th - MP Grades Due (Kindergarten)
- February 4th - District Character Council Meeting
- February 4th - Multicultural Meeting
- February 5th - Character Champion Team Meeting
- February 6th - Annual School Plan Committee
- February 10th - 2-hour Delay (PD)
- February 11th - Attendance
- February 13th - Preschool Sweetheart Reading Event
- February 14th - Valentine’s Day Celebrations & 100th Day (Kindergarten)
- February 14th - Early Dismissal (PD)
- February 18th - Random Acts of Kindness Day
- February 19th - School Based Leadership (SBL) Meeting
- February 21st - I&RS & PIRT
- February 24th - School Leadership Team (SLT) Meeting
- February 25th - Behavioral Threat Assessment Team Meeting
- February 26th - JHR New Teacher Academy
- February 27th - SciP Meeting