

# **J. Harvey Rodgers School**

## **BOARD REPORT**

April 2025

Principal - Melanie Sweeney



### **PERSONNEL**

- Appointments:
  - Patricia Scappa (Nurse) - 5/1/25
- Resignation/Retirement - N/A
- Staff Evaluations to Date:
  - Tenured: 27
  - Nontenured: 48
  - Non-Certificated Staff: 10

### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- Dept/Level
  - April 1st - District Character Council Meeting
  - April 2nd - JHR Character Champion Team Meeting
  - April 2nd - Staff Meeting
  - April 8th - Attendance Meeting
  - April 11th - I&RS Meeting
  - April 14th - JHR New Teacher Academy
  - April 15th - Behavioral Threat Assessment Team Meeting
  - April 16th - School Based Leadership Team Meeting
  - April 28th - I&RS Meeting
  - April 28th - School Leadership Team Meeting
- Safety & Security - N/A
- SciP - April 17th
- PD
  - April 2nd - Inclusive Practices with Creative Curriculum

### **CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION (C&I)**

- Pacing Guide for Wit & Wisdom Revisions (Module 4)
- Revisions to Pacing Guide for Eureka Math Revisions (MP 4)

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

- Athletics - N/A
- Visual & Performing Arts - N/A
- Community Events
  - April 29th - Preschool Workshop #4 (Fine Motor Skills)

### **OPERATIONS**

- Safety & Security Meeting
  - April 3rd
- Safety & Security Drills
  - April 28th - Evacuation Drill

- April 30th - Fire Drill

## **FACILITIES**

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

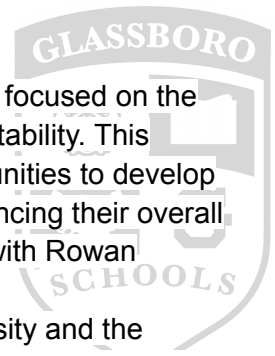
## **PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES (Guidance/SAC/CST)**

- The March Monthly Virtue was humility, which is defined as being confident without thinking you are better than someone else. To help students understand this important character trait, the classic story of *The Tortoise and the Hare* was used as a visual representation. In addition, students read *The Big Cheese* by Jory John during their Character Education lesson. In this story, the Big Cheese is used to being the best at everything and isn't shy about bragging. But when the quiet new student, Wedge Wedgeman, unexpectedly wins the annual Cheese-cathlon, the Big Cheese is faced with a lesson in humility. Students reflected on the idea that sometimes, being humble is even better than being the best. As a follow-up, students participated in a compliment activity, practicing humility by uplifting others through kind words. The monthly phrase, "Friendship is gained through humility and actions of the heart," served as a guiding reminder of how humility strengthens our connections with others.

## **BULLDOG PRIDE**

- The 3rd Marking Period for Kindergarten concluded on April 7th. Report cards were distributed to families on April 11th.
- Class pictures were taken on April 30th.
- 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 excited to continue our partnership with Rowan University through their Adaptive Physical Education Program. Thirty of our Special Education students in Kindergarten and Preschool are participating in this program, working once a week for 7 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.

- 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 March 19th, we held a productive meeting to discuss important initiatives related to the grant. Topics covered included:
  - ECAC & Kindergarten Collaboration Update
  - Professional Development for the 2025-2026 school year
  - Tracking students with IEPs vs. Non-IEPs
  - Looking at data deeper for Math and Literacy strands

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**

- May 2nd - MERT Team Meeting
- May 6th - District Character Council Meeting
- May 7th - JHR Character Champions Team Meeting
- May 7th - Staff Meeting
- May 8th - Early Childhood Advisory Council Meeting
- May 13th - Attendance Meeting
- May 14th - Grade Level PLC
- May 15th - I&RS/PIRT Meetings
- May 19th - JHR New Teacher Academy
- May 20th - Behavioral Threat Assessment Meeting
- May 21st - PreK and Kindergarten Spring Concerts
- May 22nd - SciP Meeting
- May 23rd - Early Dismissal
- May 27th - School Leadership Team Meeting
- May 29th - Annual School Plan Committee Meeting